



Pharmacist Interstate Practice Privilege Model: A New Option for Pharmacist Reciprocity

The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy® (NABP®) was founded on creating a reciprocity model that allowed pharmacists to easily move across state lines. As the Association, and its membership, grew and evolved, so did its reciprocity process, which has long facilitated licensure transfer more easily than any other licensed profession.

The practice of pharmacy has been rapidly changing in recent years, resulting in the need for new options to support licensure portability. At the 118th NABP Annual Meeting held in May 2022, the membership passed Resolution 118-6-22, which called for NABP to “examine the feasibility of creating a system to allow efficient interstate portability through a multistate licensure compact.”

Through extensive research of reciprocity models used across a dozen health care professions, NABP staff developed and presented an interstate practice privilege model to a volunteer work group for review.

What is an interstate practice privilege model?

Privilege to practice is an authorization granted by a remote state to allow a licensee from another member state to practice in the remote state under its laws and rules.

Benefits

The proposed interstate practice privilege model achieves the following:

- Supports licensure portability while maintaining legacy programs (eg, license reciprocity and the Electronic Licensure Transfer Program®);
- Provides flexibility with how member boards of pharmacy track, monitor, and regulate multistate pharmacist practice;
- Enhances the exchange of licensure, investigative, and disciplinary action information between boards;
- Preserves the regulatory authority of states while expediting a pharmacist’s ability to practice across state lines; and
- Increases public access to pharmacy services and specialized pharmacist care.

Next Steps

During the 122nd Annual Meeting, NABP membership will be asked to vote on proposed amendments to the Constitution to support the implementation of this model.

- The proposed amendments will be read during the Second Business Session.
- The proposed amendment to the Constitution will be voted on at the Final Business Session.
- The proposed amendment can be viewed in the Meeting Materials section of the Annual Meeting mobile app.