



The Council  
of State  
Governments

# OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE COMPACTS

CSG PRESENTATION TO OREGON HOUSE BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 18, 2025



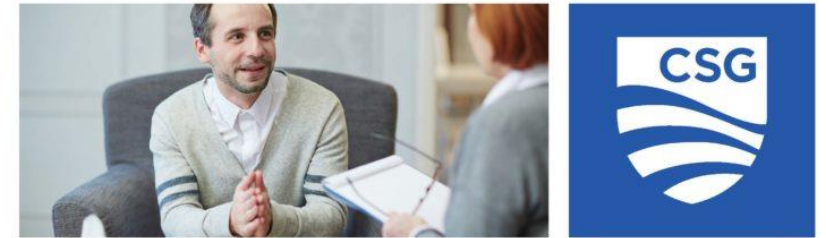
# The Council of State Governments

CSG is a non-partisan, membership organization that fosters the exchange of insights and ideas among the three branches of state governments.

@CSGovts | [csg.org](https://www.csg.org)

# CSG National Center for Interstate Compacts

- Helps states work cooperatively to solve mutual issues and meet shared goals through compacts
- Services include compact education, development, and administration
- **Oregon is a member of 39 interstate compacts**



Multistate Problem Solving  
with Interstate Compacts

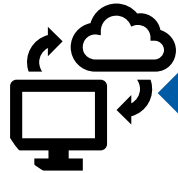
# The Policy Problem



Disparate, complex, and time intensive process for licensure



Duplicative and burdensome requirements to maintain multiple licenses



Information sharing across states may be limited by infrastructure and processes

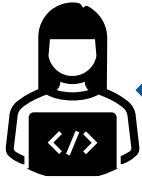


Barriers to licensure can restrict supply of services

# Who is most affected



Highly mobile populations (students, military families, travel practitioners, etc.)



Users and providers of telehealth services



Patients and practitioners living along borders



Patients living in areas with health care provider shortages

# Occupational Licensure Compact Policy Goals

**Facilitate  
Multistate  
Practice**

**Maintain or  
Improve  
Public Health  
and Safety**

**Preserve  
State  
Authority  
Over  
Professional  
Licensing**

# Licensure Compact Basics

- Compact legislation is developed through a stakeholder driven, consensus based process
- The compact legislation “pre-negotiates” the recognition of an out-of-state license through a compact authorization to practice
- A state joins the compact by enacting the model legislation
- The model legislation includes:
  - What a state must do in order to be a participating member
  - How a practitioner can qualify to use the compact
  - How the compact will be governed

# Status of Occupational Licensure Compacts



Currently 18 interstate compacts for occupational licensing



48 states, 3 territories & DC have adopted at least 1 compact.



Over 370 pieces of occupational licensure compact legislation have been enacted since January 2016.

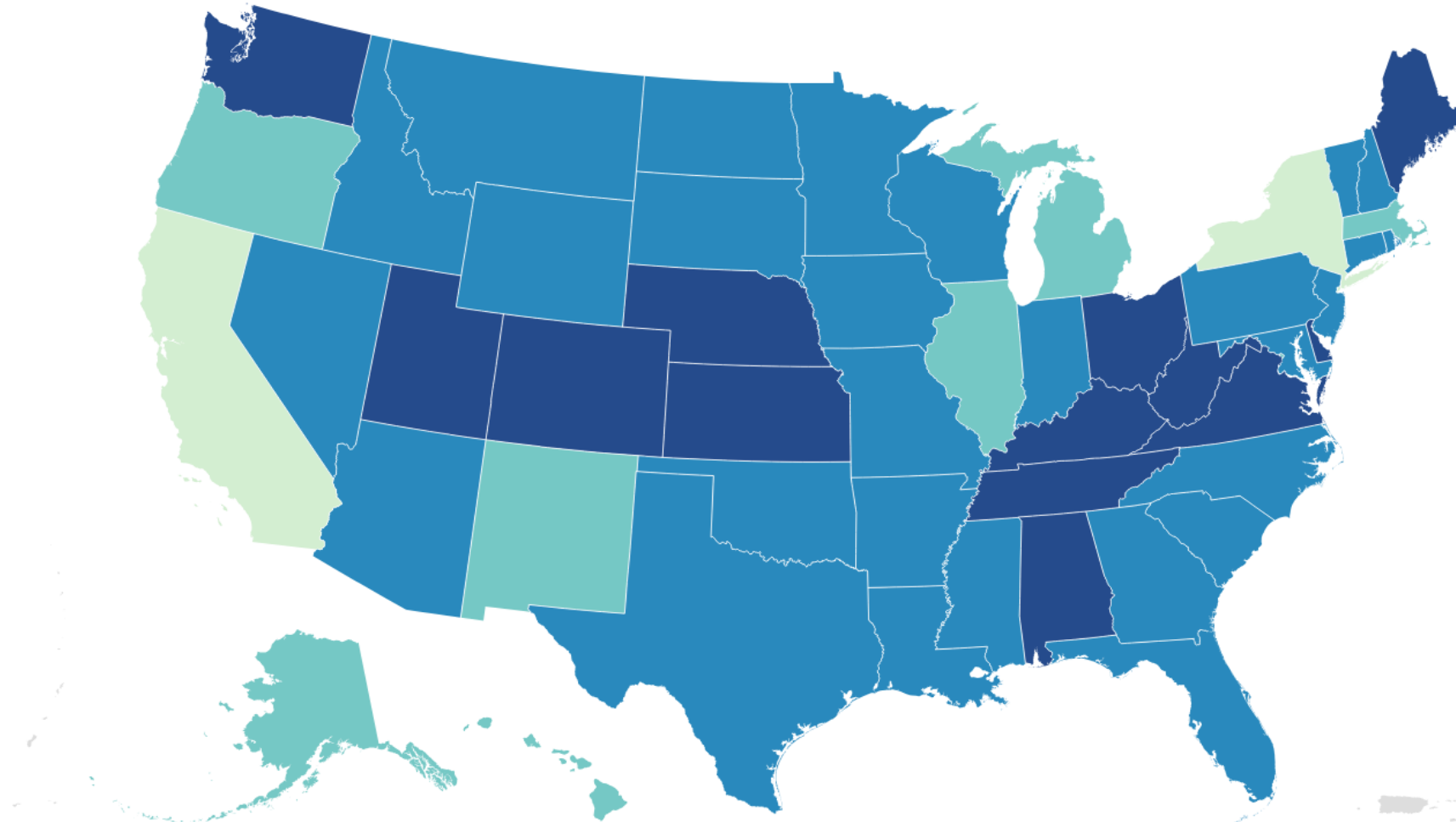


Oregon is a member of 2 licensing compacts (Physical Therapy (2016) and Teaching (2023))



# Licensure Compact Participation by State

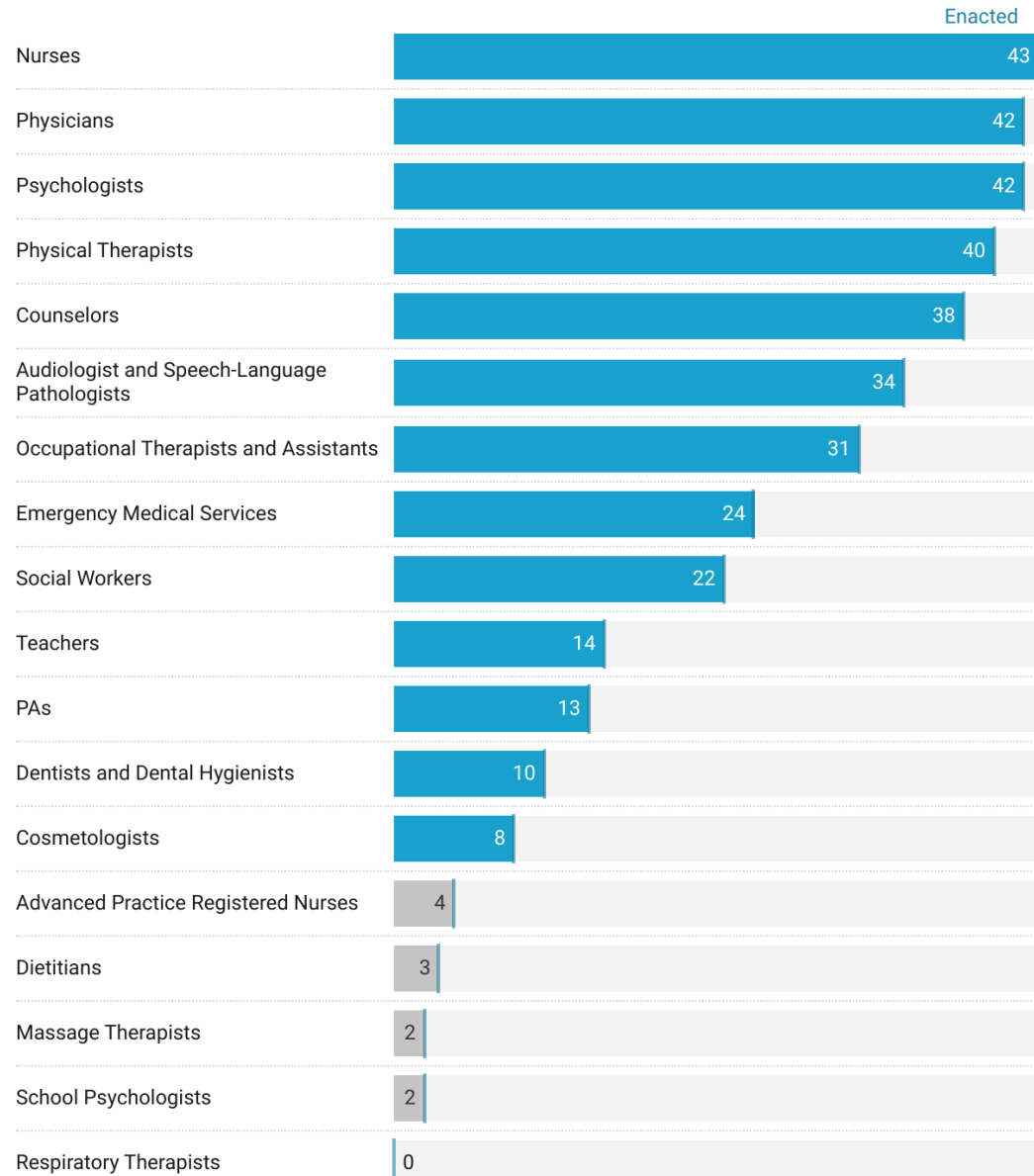
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*Information  
Current as of  
December  
2024*

# Licensure Compact Enactments



*Information  
Current as of  
December 2024*



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# COMPACT BENEFITS

# Reduced Barriers for Practitioners

- Uniform and centralized qualification and application process
- Expediency of process
- Renewal cycles will match the home state license
- Does not require continuing education in every state

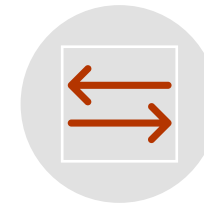
# Increases availability and flexibility of health care workforce for employers



Telehealth  
service  
opportunities



Temporary  
staffing



Bidirectional  
mobility of  
practitioners  
across state  
lines

# Improved Access to Care



Increases access  
to health care  
services



Improves  
continuity  
of care



Increases access  
to specialists

# Preservation of State Autonomy



Preserves control of scope of practice



Preserves control of initial licensure process

# Improved information sharing and state coordination



Facilitates the exchange of licensure and disciplinary information



Improves cooperation in regulating the profession



# Compact Research

- A 2023 study found a 5% increase in out-of-state practices for physicians whose primary state participates in the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. This resulted in an additional 600 practice locations per state on average. (Deyo et al., 2023)
- A study in 2022 on the Nurse Licensure Compact found an 11% increase in the mobility of nurses within compact member states (Shakya et al., 2022)

# Compact Usage Numbers and Survey Data

- Since 2017, the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact has reported over 100,000 physician licenses being granted through the compact.
- The Physical Therapy Compact issued 8,372 compact privileges in 2023 (31 jurisdictions)
- IMLC found in a 2022-2024 survey that nearly 95% of survey respondents found the compact process beneficial.
  - The same survey found that 40% of survey respondents are using the compact to provide telehealth services.

# Questions?

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