

B-Engrossed
Senate Bill 476

Ordered by the Senate June 19
Including Senate Amendments dated April 2 and June 19

Sponsored by Senators JAMA, FREDERICK, MANNING JR, NERON, PATTERSON, REYNOLDS; Senator PHAM K (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act says staff of licensing boards must have culturally responsive training. The Act also lets the OMB give a doctor who was trained in another country a license to be a doctor in this state under some conditions. (Flesch Readability Score: 63.3).

[Digest: The Act says staff of licensing boards must have culturally responsive training. The Act also allows OMB to give a doctor trained in another country a license to practice in Oregon under some conditions. The Act also tells DHS to make a grant program to help people who went to school out of state get jobs in this state. (Flesch Readability Score: 67.8).]

Requires professional licensing boards to provide culturally responsive training to specified staff members and publish guidance on pathways to professional authorization for internationally educated individuals.

Allows the Oregon Medical Board to issue a provisional license to a qualified internationally trained physician. Requires the holder of a provisional license to practice under the supervision of a licensed physician for four years prior to applying for full licensure. Directs the board to submit a report every odd-numbered year to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to health care on the provisional licensure of internationally trained physicians.

[Establishes the Internationally Educated Workforce Reentry Grant Program within the Department of Human Services to award grants to specified entities that provide eligible career guidance and support services to internationally educated residents of Oregon who are seeking to enter the Oregon workforce in certain professions.]

Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to professional workforce; creating new provisions; amending ORS 677.010 and 677.100; and
3 declaring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

6 **(a) "Occupational or professional service" means a service:**

7 **(A) That an individual must possess a license, certificate or other form of authorization**
8 **to provide under the laws of this state; and**

9 **(B) Over which a professional licensing board has regulatory oversight.**

10 **(b) "Professional licensing board" means a state agency or board that licenses, certifies**
11 **or otherwise authorizes individuals to provide an occupational or professional service.**

12 **(2) A professional licensing board shall:**

13 **(a) Ensure that any staff of the professional licensing board who interact with interna-**
14 **tionally educated individuals through the licensure, certification or other authorization pro-**
15 **cess receive culturally responsive training approved by the Office of Immigrant and Refugee**
16 **Advancement.**

17 **(b) Develop and publish on a website operated by or on behalf of the professional licensing**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 board clear and easily understandable guidance regarding pathways to licensure, certification
2 or other authorization issued by the professional licensing board for internationally educated
3 individuals. The guidance developed under this paragraph must include information on eligi-
4 bility requirements, processes, costs and timelines for licensure, certification or other au-
5 thorization.

6 (3) A professional licensing board may adopt rules to carry out the provisions of this
7 section.

8 **SECTION 2.** A professional licensing board shall publish the guidance described in section
9 1 of this 2025 Act not later than July 1, 2026.

10 **SECTION 3.** (1) Section 1 of this 2025 Act becomes operative on January 1, 2026.

11 (2) A professional licensing board may take any action before the operative date specified
12 in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary to enable the professional licensing board
13 to exercise, on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, all of
14 the duties, functions and powers conferred on the professional licensing board by section 1
15 of this 2025 Act.

16 **SECTION 4.** Sections 5 and 6 of this 2025 Act are added to and made a part of ORS
17 chapter 677.

18 **SECTION 5.** Not later than February 1 of each odd-numbered year, the Oregon Medical
19 Board shall report, in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, to the interim committees of the
20 Legislative Assembly related to health care, on the provisional licensure of internationally
21 trained physicians under section 6 of this 2025 Act. The report must include the following
22 information from the two immediately preceding calendar years:

23 (1) The number of applications for provisional licensure received;

24 (2) The numbers of provisional licenses issued or denied;

25 (3) An aggregated list of employers that employed provisionally licensed internationally
26 trained physicians; and

27 (4) Any disciplinary or remedial actions taken against provisionally licensed interna-
28 tionally trained physicians.

29 **SECTION 6.** (1) The Oregon Medical Board may issue a provisional license to a qualified
30 internationally trained physician. To be considered for a provisional license under this sec-
31 tion, an internationally trained physician must have:

32 (a) Graduated from a school of medicine with a degree substantially similar to a degree
33 of Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, as determined by the board;

34 (b) Completed a training program that is substantially similar to an approved training
35 program, as determined by the board;

36 (c) Obtained certification from the Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduates,
37 or its successor organization, as approved by the board;

38 (d) Practiced medicine in another country or jurisdiction for at least three years;

39 (e) An offer of employment at a clinical facility located in this state that will provide
40 supervision and assessment of the applicant in accordance with standards established by the
41 board by rule;

42 (f) Complied with all board rules that apply to similar applicants for a license to practice
43 medicine in this state; and

44 (g) Provided evidence, as determined sufficient by the board, that the applicant is of good
45 moral character consistent with the requirements of ORS 677.100 and in good standing in

1 each country or jurisdiction in which the applicant practiced and received education and
2 training.

3 (2) An applicant for a provisional license under this section shall:

4 (a) Apply to the board in the form and manner required by the board;

5 (b) Pay the fee established by the board by rule; and

6 (c) Provide to the board any further information required by the board.

7 (3) An internationally trained physician provisionally licensed under this section shall
8 practice:

9 (a) Under the supervision of a physician licensed under ORS 677.100 who is in good
10 standing with the board and meets the requirements established by the board relating to
11 supervision; and

12 (b)(A) In a facility in this state with an approved training program;

13 (B) In a federally qualified health center that provides primary care and other services
14 to underserved populations, as determined by the board; or

15 (C) In any other clinical location that demonstrates that the location meets the require-
16 ments established by the board by rule.

17 (4) An internationally trained physician provisionally licensed under this section:

18 (a) Is considered a fully licensed physician in this state for all purposes, including but
19 not limited to credentialing and insurance billing;

20 (b) Is subject to all the provisions of this chapter and to rules of the board adopted under
21 this chapter; and

22 (c) Has the same duties and responsibilities, and is subject to the same penalties and
23 sanctions, as any other physician licensed under this chapter.

24 (5) An internationally trained physician provisionally licensed under this section may,
25 after completion of four years of full-time equivalent practice under subsection (3) of this
26 section, successful completion of a clinical assessment evaluation as determined by the board
27 by rule and satisfaction of the requirements for licensure under ORS 677.100, apply for
28 licensure under ORS 677.100.

29 (6) The board may adopt rules as necessary to carry out this section.

30 **SECTION 7.** ORS 677.010 is amended to read:

31 677.010. As used in this chapter, subject to the exemptions in ORS 677.060 and unless the con-
32 text requires otherwise:

33 (1) "Approved internship" means the first year of post-graduate training [*served in a hospital that*
34 *is approved by the board or*] **that is accredited** by the Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical
35 Education, the American Osteopathic Association or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons
36 of Canada, **and approved by the Oregon Medical Board.**

37 (2) "Approved school of medicine" means a school offering a full-time resident program of study
38 in medicine or osteopathic medicine leading to a degree of Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of
39 Osteopathic Medicine, [*such program having been*] **if the program of study is** fully accredited or
40 conditionally approved by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, or its successor agency, or
41 the American Osteopathic Association, or its successor agency, **or the Committee on Accredi-**
42 **tation of Canadian Medical Schools, or its successor agency,** or [*having been otherwise*] **has**
43 **otherwise been** determined by the board to meet the association standards as specifically incorpo-
44 rated into board rules.

45 [(3) "Board" means the Oregon Medical Board.]

1 **(3) “Approved training program” means a residency program that is accredited by the**
2 **Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education, or its successor organization, the**
3 **American Osteopathic Association, or its successor organization, or the Royal College of**
4 **Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, or its successor organization, and approved by the board.**

5 (4) “Diagnose” means to examine another person in any manner to determine the source or na-
6 ture of a disease or other physical or mental condition, or to hold oneself out or represent that a
7 person is so examining another person. It is not necessary that the examination be made in the
8 presence of such other person; it may be made on information supplied either directly or indirectly
9 by such other person.

10 (5) “Dispense” means the preparation and delivery of a prescription drug, pursuant to a lawful
11 order of a practitioner, in a suitable container appropriately labeled for subsequent administration
12 to or use by a patient or other individual entitled to receive the prescription drug.

13 (6) “Dispensing physician” means a physician or podiatric physician and surgeon who purchases
14 prescription drugs for the purpose of dispensing them to patients or other individuals entitled to
15 receive the prescription drug and who dispenses them accordingly.

16 (7) “Drug” means all medicines and preparations for internal or external use of humans, in-
17 tended to be used for the cure, mitigation or prevention of diseases or abnormalities of humans,
18 which are recognized in any published United States Pharmacopoeia or National Formulary, or
19 otherwise established as a drug.

20 (8) “Fellow” means an individual who has not qualified under ORS 677.100 (1) and (2) and who
21 is pursuing some special line of study as part of a supervised program of a school of medicine, a
22 hospital approved for internship or residency training, or an institution for medical research or ed-
23 ucation that provides for a period of study under the supervision of a responsible member of that
24 hospital or institution, such school, hospital or institution having been approved by the board.

25 (9) “Intern” means an individual who has entered into a hospital or hospitals for the first year
26 of post-graduate training.

27 **(10) “Internationally trained physician” means a physician who graduated from a medical**
28 **school that is not an approved school of medicine and who completed a training program that**
29 **is not an approved training program.**

30 [(10)] (11) “License” means permission to practice, whether by license, registration or certifica-
31 tion.

32 [(11)] (12) “Licensee” means an individual holding a valid license issued by the board.

33 [(12)] (13) “Physical incapacity” means a condition that renders an individual licensed under this
34 chapter unable to practice under that license with professional skill and safety by reason of physical
35 illness or physical deterioration that adversely affects cognition, motor or perceptive skill.

36 [(13)] (14) “Physician” means a person who holds a degree of Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of
37 Osteopathic Medicine, or a person who holds a degree of Doctor of Podiatric Medicine if the context
38 in which the term “physician” is used does not authorize or require the person to practice outside
39 the scope of a license issued under ORS 677.805 to 677.840.

40 [(14)] (15) “Podiatric physician and surgeon” means a physician licensed under ORS 677.805 to
41 677.840 to practice podiatry.

42 [(15)(a)] (16)(a) “Podiatry” means:

43 (A) The diagnosis or the medical, physical or surgical treatment of ailments of the human foot,
44 ankle and tendons directly attached to and governing the function of the foot and ankle, and treat-
45 ment involving the use of a general or spinal anesthetic if that treatment is performed in a hospital

1 licensed under ORS 441.025 or in an ambulatory surgical center licensed by the Oregon Health Au-
2 thority and is under the supervision of or in collaboration with a podiatric physician and surgeon;

3 (B) Assisting in the performance of surgery, as provided in ORS 677.814; and

4 (C) The treatment of skin, skin-related structures and subcutaneous masses, and wounds involv-
5 ing skin, skin-related structures and subcutaneous masses, on the human leg no further proximal
6 than the tibial tubercle.

7 (b) "Podiatry" does not include administering general or spinal anesthetics or the amputation
8 of the entire foot.

9 [(16)] (17) "Prescribe" means to direct, order or designate the use of or manner of using by
10 spoken or written words or other means.

11 [(17)] (18) "Resident" means an individual who, after the first year of post-graduate training, in
12 order to qualify for some particular specialty in the field of medicine, pursues a special line of study
13 as part of a supervised program of a hospital approved by the board.

14 **SECTION 8.** ORS 677.100 is amended to read:

15 677.100. (1) An applicant for a license to practice medicine in this state, except as otherwise
16 provided in subsection (2) of this section, must possess the following qualifications:

17 (a) Have attended and graduated from a school of medicine.

18 (b) Have satisfactorily completed the following post-graduate requirement:

19 (A) Satisfactory completion of an approved rotating internship if a graduate of an approved
20 school of medicine;

21 (B) One year of training in an approved program if a graduate of an approved school of medi-
22 cine; [or]

23 (C) Three years of training in an approved program if a graduate of an unapproved school of
24 medicine; **or**

25 **(D) Four years of provisional licensure under section 6 of this 2025 Act.**

26 (c) Have complied with each rule of the Oregon Medical Board which applies to all similar ap-
27 plicants for a license to practice medicine in this state.

28 (d) Have provided evidence sufficient to prove to the satisfaction of the board that the applicant
29 is of good moral character. For purposes of this section, the lack of good moral character may be
30 established by reference to acts or conduct that reflect moral turpitude or to acts or conduct which
31 would cause a reasonable person to have substantial doubts about the individual's honesty, fairness
32 and respect for the rights of others and for the laws of the state and the nation. The acts or conduct
33 in question must be rationally connected to the applicant's fitness to practice medicine.

34 (2) If an applicant establishes that the applicant is of good moral character and has qualifica-
35 tions which the board determines are the equivalent of the qualifications required by subsection
36 (1)(a) to (c) of this section, the applicant satisfies the requirements of subsection (1) of this section.

37 (3) An applicant for a license to practice medicine [*must make written application*] **shall apply**
38 to the board **in a manner** showing compliance with this section, ORS 677.110, 677.120 and the rules
39 of the board, and containing [*such*] **any** further information as the rules of the board may require.

40 **SECTION 9. (1) Section 5 of this 2025 Act and the amendments to ORS 677.010 by section**
41 **7 of this 2025 Act become operative on January 1, 2026.**

42 **(2) Section 6 of this 2025 Act and the amendments to ORS 677.100 by section 8 of this 2025**
43 **Act become operative on January 1, 2027.**

44 **(3) The Oregon Medical Board may take any action before the operative dates specified**
45 **in subsections (1) and (2) of this section that is necessary for the board to exercise, on and**

1 after the operative dates specified in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, all of the duties,
2 functions and powers conferred on the board by sections 5 and 6 of this 2025 Act and the
3 amendments to ORS 677.010 and 677.100 by sections 7 and 8 of this 2025 Act.

4 **SECTION 10.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on
5 expenditures established by section 1, chapter __, Oregon Laws 2025 (Enrolled House Bill
6 5022), for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses
7 from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous Receipts, but excluding lottery
8 funds and federal funds, collected or received by the Oregon Medical Board, is increased by
9 \$59,747 for the purpose of licensing internationally trained physicians under section 6 of this
10 2025 Act.

11 **SECTION 11.** This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
12 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect
13 July 1, 2025.

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