## California Licensing Requirements for House Staff:

Incoming PGY1-3:

All interns & residents must have a California Postgraduate Training License (PTL) or Osteopathic Postgraduate Training License (OPTL)within 180 days from the start of the PGY1 year through the end of the PGY 3 year.

Send proof of payment to Marcy Kulakow ([mkulakow@stanfordhealthcare.org](mailto:mkulakow@stanfordhealthcare.org)) for follow up on your application and to request reimbursement.

Apply for the PTL (MD) or OPTL(DO) as soon as you are matched with Stanford.

Upon completion of the PGY3 the PTL or OPTL holder has 90 days to convert to a Physician and Surgeon’s License.

Incoming PGY4 and up:

Trainees entering non-ACGME programs must possess a valid CA Medical License or Osteopathic Physician and Surgeon’s License before starting at Stanford Health Care. There is no period of "grace" to obtain a CA MD or DO License.

Apply for the (Osteopathic) Physician and Surgeon’s License (PGY4 and above) as soon as you are matched with Stanford. Please allow 6 months to obtain a CA MD or DO License. The application process cannot be expedited.

Visiting residents from outside California may participate in ACMGE residencies as "visitors" for up to 90 days without a CA MD or DO license.

Canadian medical school graduates and physicians are treated the same as U.S. graduates and must be licensed by the first day of their fourth year of ACGME training. However, it is not necessary to take the USMLE examinations. Canadian licensing examinations are recognized in California. Therefore, graduates of Canadian medical schools that have completed the Canadian license examinations and three years of ACGME residency are eligible to obtain a CA MD License. Canadians do not need an ECFMG certificate. Graduates of international medical schools must possess a valid ECFMG certificate, pass USMLE III, and complete three years of ACGME residency. They must be licensed by the first day of their fourth year of residency.

International Medical Graduates (IMGs) seeking ACGME training at levels prior to their 4th year must provide a valid PTL from the Medical Board of California. IMGs must hold a valid ECFMG certificate.

**USMLE 2020 Bulletin of Information (document link)**

## Medical Board of California Forms and Links: <https://www.mbc.ca.gov/>

Osteopathic Medical Board of California Forms and Links:[**https://www.ombc.ca.gov/licensees/**](https://www.ombc.ca.gov/licensees/)

## Applying for Initial Licensure

### **For Incoming Interns through PGY3 year:**

**Instructions from the MBC (document link)**

**Checklist for Stanford House Staff (document link)**

**Checklist from the OMB of California (document link)**

### **For Residents and Fellows PGY4 and above**

**Instructions from the MBC (document link)**

**Checklist for Stanford House Staff (document link)**

**Checklist from the OMB of California (document link)**

### For Residents Converting from PTL/OPL

**Instructions from the MBC (document link)**

**Instructions from the OMB of (document link)**

## Maintaining Licensure: Continuing Medical Education Requirement

Please check here<http://www.mbc.ca.gov/licensee/continuing_education.html> for full description of requirements.

The requirement for physicians to participate in Continuing Medical Education (CME) was established to create the most competent licensing population possible, thereby enhancing consumer protection. Under California law, physicians and surgeons must complete at least 50 hours of approved CME during each biennial renewal cycle.

Residents and fellows are allowed six hours of CME for each month of postgraduate residency or clinical fellowship in a program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

A maximum of one-third of the required CME hours may be satisfied by teaching or otherwise presenting a course or program that meets the requirements to offer CME.

A physician who takes and passes a certifying or recertifying examination administered by a recognized specialty board is granted 100 hours of CME credit for four consecutive years.