



Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure Newsletter

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Summer 2026

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Important CME Reminder – Final Year of 3 Year Cycle

The Board would like to remind its licensees that we are in the third year of the Board's 3-year CME Cycle. Board Regulation 201 KAR 9:310 requires all physicians maintaining a current Kentucky medical license to complete sixty (60) hours of CME every three (3) year cycle, with thirty (30) hours being certified in AMA or AOA Category I by an organization accredited by the Accreditation Council on Continuing Medical Education (CME). Again, please note that the current CME cycle ends on December 31, 2026.

The Board would like to remind all licensed physicians to ensure that they obtain the appropriate continuing medical education hours to maintain compliance with this regulation.

It is important to note the continuing medical education requirements related to 2012's HB 1, which went into effect in 2012, remain in effect. According to the regulation for each three (3) year continuing education cycle beginning on January 1, 2015, a licensee who is authorized to prescribe or dispense controlled substances in the Commonwealth at any time during that cycle shall complete at least four and one half (4.5) hours of approved continuing education hours relating to the use of KASPER, pain management, addiction disorders, or a combination of two (2) or more of those subjects. A licensee may satisfy this requirement by completing a single approved program of 4.5 hours or longer or by completing multiple approved programs for a total of 4.5 hours or longer for that cycle.

A summary of the Board's CME requirements is available on our website, www.kbml.ky.gov.

Kentucky Medical Association – Meet the Mandates

With the end of the 3-year cycle fast approaching, the Kentucky Medical Association is hosting their "Meet the Mandates" CME event as part of their 2026 Annual Meeting. The event takes place on Saturday, August 22, 2026, at the Louisville Marriott East. During this event, you can join colleagues from across the Commonwealth and fulfill your mandated CME requirements.

The Domestic Violence and HB 1/Prescribing Controlled Substances symposiums will be held in person on Saturday, August 22. The Pediatric Abusive Head Trauma recording will be released on August 23. Some of the topics to be addressed include:

- Update on Medicinal Uses of Cannabis
- Challenges in the Treatment of Methamphetamine
- Tracking the Deadly Impact of Zylazine and Nitazene in Emerging Substance Abuse Trends
- Current Durg Trends: Word on the Street with the Louisville Metro Police Department; and
- Polypharmacy

You can register for the 2026 KMA Annual Meeting and Meet the Mandates Sessions at the following link:

[2026 KMA Annual Meeting and Meet the Mandates Education Symposium Tickets, Saturday, August 22 8 AM - 6 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Board Orders can be viewed under the Physician Profile/
Verification of License link on the Board's website:

www.kbml.ky.gov

Board Action Report (actions taken since 04/01/2026)

Jon M. Banas, D.O., Naples, FL License #C1485

Agreed Order entered into 4/24/2026

Jon M. Banas, D.O., Naples, FL License #C1485

Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 5/15/2026

Charles B. Barton, M.D., London, KY License #35965

Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 5/26/2026

Michael J. Chambers, M.D., Russell, KY License #48118

Agreed Order entered into 6/09/2026

Abbas A. Chamsuddin, M.D., Port St. Lucie, FL License #44796

Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 4/17/2026

Rolando Cheng, M.D., Clarksville, AR License #21326

Final Order of Revocation issued 5/27/2026

Kyle K. Chong, M.D., Honolulu, HI License #C2914

Agreed Order entered into 6/12/2026

Kyle K. Chong, M.D., Honolulu, HI License #C2914

Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 6/15/2026

William R. Durham, M.D., Corbin, KY License #32642

Order Terminating Third Amended Agreed Order issued 5/26/2026

Debbie G. Fibel, M.D., Lexington, KY License #26673

Order Terminating Amended Agreed Order issued 5/26/2026

Peter B. Hardin M.D., Campbellsville, KY License #42374

Agreed Order of Permanent Surrender entered into 4/16/2026

Jesse W. Heard, M.D., Vanceburg, KY License #57417

Order of Indefinite Restriction issued 3/23/2026, effective 5/15/2026

Joel Steven Jones, D.O., Bentonville, AK License #C1211 / 06441

Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 6/24/2026

Kamilia Kozlowski, M.D., Knoxville, TN License #25702

Final Order of Probation, Stayed issued 6/22/2026, effective 7/22/2026

Sunil R. Kurup, M.D., Dallas, TX License #C1677

Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 5/27/2026

Jordan Laferty, M.D., Somerset, KY License #55638

Amended Agreed Order entered into 5/28/2026

Ijaz Mahmood, M.D., Louisville, KY License #31150

Agreed Order entered into 6/12/2026

Christopher McCoy, D.O., Pikeville, KY License #03353

Default & Final Order of Indefinite Restriction issued 4/17/2026, effective 5/17/2026

Asad K. Niazi, M.D., Katy, TX License #59824

Agreed Order entered into 6/05/2026

Harold T. Pretorius, M.D., Cincinnati, OH License #31919

Agreed Order entered into 4/24/2026

Harold T. Pretorius, M.D., Cincinnati, OH License #31919

Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 6/15/2026

Anne Rowland, M.D., Louisville, KY License #54154

Order of Indefinite Restriction issued 6/24/2026

Tracee L. Wojtkowski, M.D., Louisville, KY License #38045

Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 6/18/2026

Restrictions have also been placed on the following physicians' licenses pending resolution of charges brought against them.

Atif Abdel-Moneam Atyia, M.D. Jonesborough, TN License #34294

Emergency Order of Suspension issued 4/22/2026

Christian E. Berkahn, M.D., Louisville, KY License #40559

Emergency Order of Restriction issued 6/24/2026

Joel B. Durinka, M.D., Buffalo, NY License #C0714

Complaint & Emergency Order of Suspension issued 6/15/2026

Passing of Former Board Member

We were recently informed of the passing of one of our former Board members, C. William Briscoe, M.D., who served on the Board for 24 years. During his tenure, Dr. Briscoe also served as Vice-President and the Chair of Inquiry/Hearing Panel A.

In addition to his service to the Board, Dr. Briscoe spent over 50 years practicing psychiatry in Corbin, where he provided excellent medical care to the citizens of Southeastern Kentucky. Dr. Briscoe also served as President of the Kentucky Psychiatric Association and gave 45 years to the Medical Executive Committee at Baptist Health Corbin. He was named Physician of the Year by his colleagues in 2024.

Throughout his service to the citizens of the Commonwealth, Dr. Briscoe's commitment to his patients was evident in everything he touched. The members of the Board would like to extend their condolences to the members of his family during this time.

SB 116 Implementation Guidance & Timeline

One of the many pieces of legislation passed during the 2026 Legislative Session of the Kentucky General Assembly, was SB 116, sponsored by Sen. Scott Madon, which was signed by Governor Andy Beshear on April 10, 2026. This important piece of legislation makes numerous changes to the physician assistant statutes. One of the major changes involves the amending of KRS 311.844 and KRS 311.858 to include Schedule II controlled substances in the list of controlled substances authorized PA license holders may prescribe.

Please note that SB 116 is now effective as of **July 15, 2026**. The Board is currently working on implementing the remaining provisions of SB 116. At this time, we have also completed a draft of the standardized supervising agreement form, but it will need to be presented to the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee at their August meeting for their consideration and recommendation to the Board for approval. In addition, we hope to have a draft of the corresponding regulation at that time for their consideration and recommendation to the Board.

Once we are finished with the standardized form and the new regulation is complete and in effect, the Board will issue communications to physicians and physician assistants through email blast communications, our newsletter, along with communicating with groups such as KAPA, KMA, and KHA. During the interim, we have updated the application for prescriptive authority for physician assistants, which is below:

[Application for Prescriptive Authority.pdf](#)

In order to make any required changes with the DEA, changes to the schedules can be requested through the following link: [CSA Registration Tools: Login](#). Approval of the changes will be at the discretion of your local DEA office in accordance with state laws and regulations.

Alternate Pathway for International Medical Graduates – Provisional License

Another important piece of legislation that was recently approved by the Kentucky General Assembly is SB 137, which was sponsored by Sen. Stephen Meridith and amends KRS 311.571 to allow and sets specific requirements for a physician licensed to practice in another country to obtain provisional license to practice medicine in the Commonwealth.

The requirements to be eligible for a provisional license are in KRS 311,571(8) and are as follows:

- Fulfill the requirements for a regular license in KRS 311.571, subsection (1)(a), (b),(c), and (e) OR Fulfill the requirements for regular license in KRS 311.571, subsection (2)(a), (b), (c), (d), and (e);
- Have an offer for employment as a physician with a sponsor that is:
 - A professional practice, healthcare entity, or corporation that operates and is licensed or authorized to provide healthcare in the Commonwealth; and
 - Located in a medically underserved area as defined by the secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services;
- Be in good standing or authorization to practice medicine with the medical licensing or regulatory institution of his or her licensing country with the last five (5) years;
- Completed a residency or substantially similar postgraduate medical training; and
- Practiced as a medical professional performing the duties of a physician in his or licensing country for no less than five (5) years.

It is important to note that the statute sets out that a provisional license granted under KRS 311.571(8) shall be automatically converted into a regular license to practice medicine in the Commonwealth of Kentucky after three (3) years with the employing sponsor. The Board is currently working on the application for this new type of license and expects it to be available on our website in next few weeks.

Warning – Scammers are Still Attempting to Impersonate Board and Government Officials

Please be aware the Board is still receiving numerous reports of a widespread fraud scheme in which telephone scammers are impersonating Board representatives to extort money or steal personal information. Over the past few years, the Board has even noted the scammers are employing more sophisticated tactics and have spoofed the Board main phone number in attempt to convince their target that the call is legitimate and occasionally will send documents on fake KBML letterhead and forged signature of the Board's Executive Director.

Often, they will utilize an urgent and aggressive tone, refusing to speak or leave a message with anyone other than the physician and threaten some kind of Board action or action against the physician's DEA unless thousands of dollars are transferred or sent via untraceable gift card numbers or bitcoin. There have even been reports that these scammers are informing physicians that involving their attorneys will only make things worse, which certainly should raise a red flag.

Our office has also received reports that individuals are receiving phishing calls from the DEA "Inspections Department" regarding thousands of pills found in a rental car on the Texas border and the scammers claim they have a case and demand to speak with the medical professional about it. The DEA has advised if you receive such a call, to not to call the number back or give them any information. If you receive one of these phone messages, you contact one of the DEA supervisor, Luis Altamirano at 859-621-7480.

With these reports in mind, the Board would like to remind you that our office does not operate in this manner and any correspondence from the Board would appear on formal Board letterhead or from an email address ending with ky.gov. For instance, our general email is kbml@ky.gov.

It is important to note that physicians throughout the state have received these phone calls. While the appropriate authorities have been made aware of these fraudulent attempts, the Board encourages all its licensees to be on alert and are encouraged to contact our office at (502) 429-7150 in the event you want to verify official board communications.

Physician Wellness Resources

Earlier this year, the Board announced that it had been recognized as a 2026 Wellbeing Champion. What does this mean to you? This designation verifies that our licensure applications are free from intrusive, stigmatizing mental health questions. We have audited our language to ensure that each of our licensees can seek mental health care or treatment for substance use without fear of losing their license.

The Board took the step to seek this recognition because it wants you to know that your mental health is a priority, and your current ability to practice in a competent, ethical, and professional manner is what matters—not your medical history. The Board recognizes that physicians find themselves under enormous pressure each day as they deal with the normal struggles of everyday life and their medical practices. With that in mind, the Board wants to remind all its licensees that there are resources to assist you.

One of the best resources is the Kentucky Physicians Health Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3), whose mission is the identification, evaluation, treatment, reentry, and advocacy for professionals licensed by the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure. For physicians not familiar with the work of the Foundation, it initially began in 1976 and has helped over 1800 professionals licensed by the Board impacted by addictive disease and mental or emotional illness.

The Foundation can also provide the initial evaluation, assessment, testing, coordination, and post treatment monitoring for licensed medical professionals who are struggling with substance use disorder, mental and emotional health issues, and distress/burnout. The Foundation understands the ease of access to addictive substances and the unique stresses inherent to our profession, can make medical professionals particularly vulnerable to substance use disorder and mental health issues. The Foundation recognizes the unique challenges of treating these issues in the profession. The Board strongly supports the work of the Foundation and does provide funding directly to it through a contract to support its efforts of assisting licensed medical professionals. The Foundations' medical director is Dr. Tina Simpson, and you can reach her at their office by calling (502) 425-7761 or you can visit their website, www.kyrecovery.org for more information.

In addition to the Kentucky Physicians Health Foundation, there are a couple more resources for physicians in their communities. One of them is the Kentucky Medical Association's Be Well. Stay Well Program, which is a wellness program developed for any KMA member. Their website is as following link: [Be Well, Stay Well. Physician Health Program – Kentucky Medical Association](#). Another resource is a wellness program created by the Lexington Medical Society for their members, which can be found at: [Wellness Program - Lexington Medical Society](#).

**Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure
310 Whittington Parkway, Suite 1B
Louisville, KY 40222**

Change of Address Notice

All information provided below is used to update the licensee's profile on the Board's website www.kbml.ky.gov.

You may also change your address online by clicking [here](#).

Date: _____ License Number: _____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Practice Address: _____

Practice County: _____

Office Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

*The Board does not publish your email address.