



CHAPTER 90
ARTICLE 1P - INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT

N.C.G.S. § 90-21.172.

Definitions.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT No amendment history on record	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 07:04 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT cbeff861276eeb6d0530545c - eb70b81454e9d3383be6f880 - 54107c4ec5c79ea9
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The following definitions apply in this Article:

Bylaws. - Bylaws established by the Interstate Commission pursuant to G.S. 90-21.181.

Commissioner. - The voting representative appointed by each member board pursuant to G.S. 90-21.181.

Conviction. - A finding by a court that an individual is guilty of a criminal offense through adjudication, or entry of a plea of guilty or no contest to the charge by the offender. Evidence of an entry of a conviction of a criminal offense by a court shall be considered final for purposes of disciplinary action by a member board.

Expedited license. - A full and unrestricted medical license granted by a member state to an eligible physician through the process set forth in the Compact.

Interstate Commission. - The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission created pursuant to G.S. 90-21.181.

License. - The authorization by a member state for a physician to engage in the practice of medicine, which would be unlawful without authorization.

Medical practice act. - Laws and regulations governing the practice of allopathic and osteopathic medicine within a member state.

Member board. - A state agency in a member state that acts in the sovereign interests of the state by protecting the public through licensure, regulation, and education of physicians as directed by the state government.

Member state. - A state that has enacted the Compact.

Offense. - A felony, gross misdemeanor, or crime of moral turpitude.

Physician. - Any person who meets all of the following qualifications:

- a. Is a graduate of a medical school accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation, or a medical school listed in the International Medical Education Directory or its equivalent.
- b. Has passed each component of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) or the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination (COMLEX-USA) within three attempts, or any of its predecessor examinations accepted by a state medical board as an equivalent examination for licensure purposes.
- c. Has successfully completed graduate medical education approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education or the American Osteopathic Association.
- d. Holds specialty certification or a time-unlimited specialty certificate recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties or the American Osteopathic Association's Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists.
- e. Possesses a full and unrestricted license to engage in the practice of medicine issued by a member board.
- f. Has never been convicted, received adjudication, deferred adjudication, community supervision, or deferred disposition for any offense by a court of appropriate jurisdiction.
- g. Has never held a license authorizing the practice of medicine subjected to discipline by a licensing agency in any state, federal, or foreign jurisdiction, excluding any action related to nonpayment of fees related to a license.
- h. Has never had a controlled substance license or permit suspended or revoked by a state or the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.
- i. Is not under active investigation by a licensing agency or law enforcement authority in any state, federal, or foreign jurisdiction.

Practice of medicine. - Clinical prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of human disease, injury, or condition requiring a physician to obtain and maintain a license in compliance with the medical practice act of a member state.

Rule. - A written statement by the Interstate Commission promulgated pursuant to G.S. 90-21.182 that is of general applicability, implements, interprets, or prescribes a policy or provision of the Compact, or an organizational, procedural, or practice requirement of the Interstate Commission, and has the force and effect of statutory law in a member state, and includes the amendment, repeal, or suspension of an existing rule.

State. - Any state, commonwealth, district, or territory of the United States.

State of principal license. - A member state where a physician holds a license to practice medicine and which has been designated as such by the physician for purposes of registration and participation in the Compact. (2025-37, s. 1(a).)

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS II
2 AUTHORITIES

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 90-21.181	(null)(1)	"by the Interstate Commission pursuant to"
G.S. 90-21.182	(null)(13)	"the Interstate Commission promulgated pursuant to"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-21.172 (2026).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

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