



FEDERATION OF
STATE MEDICAL BOARDS

Criminal Background Checks (CBCs)

Board-by-Board Overview

- 54 state medical boards conduct criminal background checks as a condition of initial licensure
- 12 state medical boards conduct criminal background checks only as required by the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact
 - 52 state medical boards require fingerprints as a condition of initial licensure
 - 13 state medical boards require fingerprints only as required by the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact
 - 58 state medical boards have access to the FBI's NCIC database

SMB	Requires CBC for initial licensure	Requires fingerprints	Board has access to NCIC (FBI Database)
AL	X	X	X
AK	—	—	—
AZ-M	X	X	X
AZ-O	X	X	X
AR	X	X	X
CA-M	X	X	X
CA-O	X	X	X
CO	X ¹	X ¹	X
CT	X ²	X ²	—
DE	X	X	X
DC	X	X	X
FL-M	X	X	X
FL-O	X	X	X
GA	X ³	X ¹	X ¹
GU	X	X ¹	X
HI	X ⁴	X ⁴	—
ID	X	X	X
IL	X	X	X
IN	X	X	X
IA	X	X	X
KS	X	X	X

¹ CBCs and fingerprints are only required for physicians applying for licensure through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact
² CBCs and fingerprints are only required for physicians applying for licensure through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, however, CT does not have CBC authority and does not issue primary licenses through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact
³ CBCs are required for each owner, principal, manager, agent, officer, and health care practitioner of a pain management clinic
⁴ CBCs and fingerprints are only required for physicians applying for licensure through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, however, HI recently passed language authorizing the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and implementation is in process or delayed

SMB	Requires CBC for initial licensure	Requires fingerprints	Board has access to NCIC (FBI Database)
KY	X	X	X
LA	X	X	X
ME-M	X	X	X
ME-O	X ¹	X ¹	X
MD	X	X	X
MA	X	—	—
MI-M	X	X	X
MI-O	X	X	X
MN	X	X	X
MS	X	X	X
MO	X ⁴	X ⁴	—
MP	—	—	—
MT	X ¹	X ¹	X
NC	X	X	X
ND	X	X	X
NE	X	X	X
NH	X	X	X
NJ	X	X	X
NM	X	X	X
NV-M	X	X	X
NV-O	X	X	X
NY	—	—	—
OH	X	X	X
OK-M	X	X	X
OK-O	X	X	X
OR	X	X	X
PA-M	X	X	X
PA-O	X	X	X
PR	X	X	—
RI	X ⁴	X ⁴	—
SC	X	X	X
SD	X	X	X
TN-M	X	X	X

¹ CBCs and fingerprints are only required for physicians applying for licensure through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

⁴ CBCs and fingerprints are only required for physicians applying for licensure through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, however, MO recently passed language authorizing the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and implementation is in process or delayed

SMB	Requires CBC for initial licensure	Requires fingerprints	Board has access to NCIC (FBI Database)
TN-O	X	X	X
TX	X	X	X
UT	X ¹	X ¹	X
VT-M	X ¹	X ¹	X
VT-O	X ¹	X ¹	X
VI	X	X	—
VA	X	X ⁵	X
WA-M	X	X	X
WA-O	X	X	X
WV-M	X	X	X
WV-O	X	X	X
WI	X ¹	X ¹	X
WY	X	X	X

For informational purposes only: This document is not intended as a comprehensive statement of the law on this topic, nor to be relied upon as authoritative. Non-cited laws, regulation, and/or policy could impact analysis on a case-by-case or state-by-state basis. All information should be verified independently.

Questions, comments, or corrections? Please contact advocacy@fsm.org.

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⁴ CBCs and fingerprints are only required for physicians applying for licensure through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, however, RI recently passed language authorizing the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and implementation is in process or delayed

⁵ The Virginia Board of Medicine only requires a thumbprint, not a full set of fingerprints.