

BOARD OF MEDICINE

Open Session Minutes

June 25, 2025

8:50AM-3:05pm

VIRTUAL MEETING

Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting virtually is listed below:

Join by Web:

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m7f823658b3b1e1556a59c90709042b04>

Join by Phone:

+1-202-860-2110 United States Toll (Washington D.C.)

1-650-479-3208 Call-in number (US/Canada)

Access Code:

231 554 06881

BOARD MISSION STATEMENT:

“To **protect** and enhance the health, safety, and well-being of District of Columbia residents by **promoting** evidence-based best practices in health regulation, high standards of quality care and implementing policies that **prevent** adverse events.”

The Open Session Agenda continues on the next page with the ‘Board Meeting Participants’.

BOARD MEETING PARTICIPANTS:

BOARD MEMBERS:	
Andrea Anderson, MD (AA)	
Bernard Arons, MD (BA)	
Harry Barbee, Ph. D (HB)	ABSENT
Konrad Dawson, MD (KD)	ABSENT
Carolyn Gorman, MD (CG)	
Daanish Jones (DJ)	
Amr Madkour, MD (AM)	
Mariam Michael, MD (MM)	ENTERED AT 9:15AM
Padmaja Pavuluri, DO (PP)	
Anasia Phillips (AP)	ABSENT
William Strudwick, MD (WS)	
Bethany Fosu, MD - Department of Health DOH Designee	
VACANT (Physician Member)	
VACANT (PA Assistant Member)	
VACANT (PA Assistant Member)	
BOARD STAFF:	
Sithembile Chithenga MD, MPH– Executive Director	
Chiquita Badgett – Health Licensing Specialist	
Ashley Callahan – Health Licensing Specialist	
Sabrina Gillison – Health Licensing Specialist	
Raihannah Muhammad - Health Licensing Specialist	
Kim Quickley – Health Licensing Specialist	
Lisa Robinson – Compliance Coordinator	ABSENT
Emilia Moran – Investigator	
LEGAL STAFF:	
Suzanne Fenzel, Esq. – Board Attorney Advisor	ABSENT
Ajay Gohil, Esq. – Board Attorney Advisor	
Frances Ricks-Legal Intern	
Dana Sartorelli-Legal Intern	
Trevor Musoke-Legal Intern	
DC HEALTH STAFF:	
Kera Johnson, Office of Government Affairs	
GUEST	
Jacqueline Watson, MD HCFD	
Whitney Pinger-CPM	
Robert Hay-Executive Vice President Medical Society	
Aza Nedhari-DHS, CPM. LPC	
Chimene Liburd, MD-CMO HCFD	

The Open Session Agenda continues on the next page with the 'Call to Order'.

CALL TO ORDER

OS-25-06-01	<u>INTRODUCTIONS</u>	
ALL	A. BOARD MEMBERS B. BOARD STAFF	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, CONSENT AGENDA, BOARD POLICIES, AND STAFF REPORTS

OS-25-06-02	<u>BOARD/DEPARTMENT REPORT</u>	SC
ALL	A. BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Board Chair provided an update that the FSMB held their first New Board Member Training in June. ii. The USMLE Management Committee will be updating the qualifications of the passing scores for Step II will go into effect July 1, 2025. B. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. DC Health Updates The Executive Director provided an update on the District of Columbia responses to public health issues/concerns. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Medical Training License Renewal (MTL) Season will close on June 30, 2025. Late Renewal will begin on July 1, 2025, and will end on August 30, 2025. • Provided an update of the importance for Physicians and Residents to enroll in the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). Providers must enroll within 90 days of approval of the licensure. ii. Advisory Committees The Executive Director provided an update on the advisory committees. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Maternal Care Advisory Committee was introduced and provided insight on their viewpoints and justifications. iii. Board Vacancies/MOTA Update The Executive Director provided an update on current Board vacancies. 	

- The Board currently has three vacancies for Board Members. One position for a Physician and two positions for Physicians Assistants.

iv. **Licensure Census**

The Executive Director provided an update on the current licensure census in the District of Columbia.

MEDICINE (17,936)
 ACUPUNCTURIST (143)
 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT (145)
 IND CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER (1)
 MEDICAL TRAINING LICENSE I(A) (1,413)
 MEDICAL TRAINING LICENSE I(B) (437)
 MEDICAL TRAINING LICENSE II (35)
 MEDICAL TRAINING REGISTRANT (324)
 MEDICINE AND SURGERY (12,805)
 NATUROPATH PHYSICIAN (65)
 OSTEOPATHY AND SURGERY (926)
 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT (1,302)
 POLYSOMNOGRAPHIC TECHNICIAN (2)
 POLYSOMNOGRAPHIC TECHNOLOGIST (64)
 POLYSOMNOGRAPHIC TRAINEE (3)
 SURGICAL ASSISTANT (114)
 ATHLETIC TRAINER (153)
 Trauma Technologist (4)

B. BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT

- The Board Attorney introduced the summer legal interns - Frances Ricks, Dana Sartorelli and Trevor Musoke. He reported that the new Board of Acupuncture, Chiropractic and Naturopathic Physicians went into law on June 10th and its first meeting will be on July 8th. He also mentioned that the FSMB would be having a conference meeting on trauma informed care in New Orleans in February 2026 and each Board will be allowed to send one Board member and one Board staff member to it.

D. OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATION'S REPORT
FY 2026 Budget:

- The Committee on Health held DC Health's Budget Oversight hearings, one for public witnesses, on [June 6th](#) and, one for government witnesses, on [June 16th](#). You can find information about the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget [here](#).
 - On June 16th, DC Health Director, Dr. Ayanna Bennett, along with members of the DC Health leadership team testified before the committee, highlighting key accomplishments in FY25, outlining priorities for FY26, and responding to questions. Key topics included the reprogramming of School Health Services, health systems changes, the new Animal Control contract, and anticipated federal funding cuts.
- A markup was held on June 23, 2025 and will now go before the Committee of the Whole. In that mark-up, changes include:
 - Fully funding the CON Improvement Act across its financial plan
 - Allocating over \$1.3 million to partially restore HIV prevention and surveillance grant and \$411,000 to the Health & Wellness Center to expand hours
 - Enhancing funding for food access programs at DC Health
 - Several investments to strengthen the healthcare workforce such as:
 - Fully funding the Counseling Compact Approval Act
 - Proposing and funding Budget Support Acts (BSA) for:
 - DC Health Licensure Pathways Program (will enable DC Health to assist internationally trained health professionals in obtaining their licensure and credentials required to practice in the District)
 - Certified Nurse Aide Workforce Amendment Act (transfers \$150,000 to the Committee of the Whole which will go to OSSE to partner with a local university to train at least 25 district high school students to become certified nurse aides)

- Health Occupation Criminal Background Check (will streamline background checks for health professional renewals in partnership with MPD)

Certificate of Need Improvement Amendment Act:

- Councilmember Henderson introduced the *Certificate of Need Improvement Amendment Act of 2025* ([B26-0025](#)) on January 6, 2025.
 - The legislation reforms the Certificate of Need (CON) process, while also establishing a new registration program for certain health facilities (including private clinics).
- The legislation was signed by the Mayor on April 22, 2025 and became official law on June 10, 2025.

FIFA Legislation:

- On May 19th, Chairman Mendelson introduced the *Health Occupations Revision Exemption Emergency Amendment Act of 2025* ([B26-0250](#)) and the *Health Occupations Revision Exemption Temporary Amendment Act of 2025* ([B26-0251](#)) for the upcoming FIFA's Club World Cup 2025 competition.
 - This legislation exempts the healthcare professionals who are not licensed in the United States but are licensed in good standing in foreign countries, be able provide continued care to the members of their teams and staff while in the District.
- Emergency (effective up to 90 days) and temporary (effective up to 225 days) legislation do not receive a hearing. The emergency bill was enacted on June 3, 2025, and the temporary bill is under Mayoral review.

OS-25-06-03 ALL	<p><u>OPEN SESSION MINUTES</u></p> <p>Board Action: Consideration of the Open Session minutes from May 25 2025, meeting.</p> <p>Background: The Open Session Minutes are a record of the Board’s past meeting(s), describing the events, list of attendees; a statement of the issues considered and related responses or decisions of the Board.</p> <p>Motion: Motion made by Dr. Michael to approve the Open Session Minutes from May 25, 2025, meeting. Second by Dr. Strudwick.</p> <p>Vote: Dr. Strudwick, Dr. Michael, Ms. Jones, Dr. Gorman, Dr. Pavuluri, Dr. Madkour, Dr. Fosu and Dr. Anderson voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Arons left the meeting. Motion Passed.</p>	KQ/SC
OS-25-06-04 ALL	<p><u>OPEN CONSENT AGENDA</u></p> <p>Board Action: Consideration of the current open Consent Agenda items for purposes of review and/or ratification of Board actions taken since the last Board meeting.</p> <p>Background: The Open Consent Agenda is a record of the decisions and/or actions taken by the Board or its staff since the last meeting of the Board.</p> <p>Motion: Motion made by Dr. Michael to approve the Open Session Consent Agenda for May 25, 2025, meeting. Second by Dr. Strudwick.</p> <p>Vote: Dr. Strudwick, Dr. Michael, Ms. Jones, Dr. Gorman, Dr. Pavuluri, Dr. Madkour, Dr. Fosu and Dr. Anderson voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Arons left the meeting. Motion Passed.</p>	AC/SC

<p>OS-25-06-05</p> <p>ALL</p>	<p><u>PEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION</u></p> <p>Board Action: To review an application for a new non-ACGME Pediatric Ophthalmology Fellowship at Children's National Hospital.</p> <p>Background: The Pediatric Ophthalmology Fellowship program will be hosted within the department of Ophthalmology at Children’s National Hospital, which includes a non-ACGME accreditation program. The duration of the program will be 1 year with up to two fellows per year. The Pediatric Ophthalmology fellowship program will focus on all areas of pediatric ophthalmology and strabismus, including correcting eye problems presented in early childhood to avoid permanent visual deficits, eye muscle disorders, and possibly legal blindness.</p> <p>Motion: Motion made by Dr. Pavuluri to approve the Fellowship Ophthalmology Program. Second by Dr. Strudwick.</p> <p>Vote: Dr. Strudwick, Dr. Michael, Ms. Jones, Dr. Gorman, Dr. Pavuluri, Dr. Madkour, Dr. Fosu and Dr. Anderson voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Arons left the meeting. Motion Passed.</p>	<p>CB/SC</p>
<p>OS-25-06-06</p>	<p><u>PEDIATRIC NEUROIMMUNOLOGY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION</u></p> <p>Board Action: To review an application for a new non-ACGME Pediatric Neuroimmunology Fellowship at Children's National Hospital.</p> <p>Background: The Pediatric Neuroimmunology Fellowship program will be hosted within the department of Neurology at Children’s National Hospital, which includes a non-ACGME accreditation program. The duration of the program will be 1 year with up to one fellow per year. The general goal of the Neuroimmunology fellowship is to obtain a level of knowledge and clinical experience, which will enable the graduate to become an expert in the field and provide the best care for children with neuroinflammatory deceases.</p> <p>Motion: Motion made by Dr. Pavuluri to approve the Pediatric Neuroimmunology Fellowship Program. Second by Dr. Gorman.</p>	<p>CB/SC</p>

	<p>Vote: Dr. Strudwick, Dr. Michael, Ms. Jones, Dr. Gorman, Dr. Pavuluri, Dr. Madkour, Dr. Fosu and Dr. Anderson voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Arons left the meeting. Motion Passed.</p>	
OS-25-06-07	<p><u>MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND NEUROIMMUNOLOGY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION</u></p> <p>Board Action: To review an application for a new non-ACGME Multiple Sclerosis Fellowship at Medstar Georgetown University.</p> <p>Background: The Multiple Sclerosis and Neuroimmunology Fellowship program will be offered through the Department of Neurology at Medstar Georgetown University Hospital as a non-ACGME accredited program. This is a one-year, full-time clinical training program, with an optional second year available for fellows interested in advanced training in clinical or translational research. As the treatment landscape for MS continues to rapidly evolve with increasingly complex, immune-targeting therapies specialized neuroimmunology training is essential. Due to a national shortage of fellowship-trained neurologist, the American Academy of Neurology has identified MS as a critically underserved area.</p> <p>Motion: Motion made by Dr. Madkour to approve the Multiple Sclerosis and Neuroimmunology Fellowship Program. Second by Dr. Gorman.</p> <p>Vote: Dr. Strudwick, Dr. Michael, Ms. Jones, Dr. Gorman, Dr. Pavuluri, Dr. Madkour, Dr. Fosu and Dr. Anderson voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Arons left the meeting. Motion Passed.</p>	RM/SC

<p>OS-25-06-08</p> <p>ALL</p>	<p><u>FSMB RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE REGULATION OF PHYSICIANS IN TRAINING</u></p> <p>Board Action:</p> <p>To review and discuss FSMB Recommendations 2 and 6 in the context of the Board of Medicine's current policy and practices for physicians in training.</p> <p>Background:</p> <p>In 2024, the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) House of Delegates adopted the recommendations of the Workgroup on the Regulation of Physicians in Training as best practice guidance for state medical boards. These recommendations are intended to modernize, streamline, and strengthen the oversight of physicians in training while promoting consistency across jurisdictions. Currently, the District of Columbia has over 1470 physicians in training holding Medical Training Licenses (MTL) – Categories A and B.</p> <p>This item is brought before the D.C. Board of Medicine specifically to consider the applicability of FSMB Recommendations 2 and 6 to the District:</p> <p>Recommendation 2: State medical boards should issue resident training licenses extending for the duration of a GME program, rather than a license that is renewed annually, as long as the licensee is annually reported to the state medical board by the training program as being actively enrolled and in good standing.</p> <p>Recommendation 6: State medical boards should apply recommendations in FSMB’s Report and Recommendations of the Workgroup on Physician Wellness and Burnout adopted by FSMB’s House of Delegates in 2018, related to health-related application questions for full and unrestricted licensure to resident license applications. State medical boards should consider opportunities for periodic outreach to medical students and residents about medical expectations and concern for their well-being.</p> <p>TABLED for the July Board Meeting to allow the Board Members more time to review the recommendations presented.</p>	<p>AA</p>
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<p>OS-25-06-09</p> <p>ALL</p>	<p><u>MEDICAL TRAINING LICENSE (MTL) ISSUANCE CYCLE</u></p> <p>Board Action: To realign the Medical Training License (MTL) issuance cycle with the structure of postgraduate clinical training programs in the district.</p> <p>Background:</p> <p>Current regulations restrict Medical Training Licenses (MTLs) to a one-year validity period, with a standard effective date of July 1. This date was originally chosen to coincide with the traditional start of clinical duties for most graduate medical education (GME) programs.</p> <p>However, many residency and fellowship programs have shifted their schedules, now beginning orientation and onboarding in mid-June. Increasingly, these early activities involve clinical exposure that requires active licensure. As a result, there is now a regulatory gap: trainees may be engaging in clinical activities before their licenses become effective, exposing both institutions and individuals to legal and professional risk. Additionally, as many programs conclude in the last week of June, the end date of the license is also critical to ensure continuous coverage.</p> <p>Options for Board Consideration</p> <p>To address this misalignment, the following options are presented for the Board’s consideration:</p> <p>Option 1 – Extend Initial MTL to 13 Months. Allow the initial MTL to begin on June 1 and expire on June 30 of the following year (a total of 13 months). Subsequent renewals would revert to the standard 12-month cycle.</p> <p>Option 2 – Shift Standard MTL Cycle to June–May. Redefine the MTL licensing year as June 1 to May 31 for both initial and renewal licenses, aligning the cycle with the current structure of most training programs.</p> <p>Option 3 – Develop a Multi-Year MTL Model. Create a three-year MTL option, with renewals available at either one-year or three-year intervals, all expiring on June 30.</p> <p>Motion: Motion made by Dr. Strudwick to approve Option 3 with 37 months and one year renewal. Seconded by Dr. Pavuluri.</p> <p>Vote: Dr. Strudwick, Ms. Jones, Dr. Gorman, Dr. Pavuluri, Dr. Madkour, Dr. Fosu and Dr. Anderson voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Arons and</p>	<p>SC</p>
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	Dr. Michael left the meeting. Motion Passed.	
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<p>OS-25-06-10</p> <p>ALL</p>	<p><u>CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS</u></p> <p>Board Action: To determine whether and how the Board should prorate or adjust the required Continuing Education Unit (CEU) hours for licensees whose renewal cycles have been shortened due to the transition to a birth month/birth year renewal schedule.</p> <p>Background:</p> <p>All health professional licensing boards in the District of Columbia transitioned to a birth month/birth year-based renewal cycle. This change was implemented to improve administrative efficiency and simplify license tracking for both the Board and licensees.</p> <p>As a result of this transition, some licensees have received license terms of less than the standard two years. This presents a challenge, as the Board’s current policy assumes a two-year license cycle when evaluating CEU compliance. Given that CEUs are a requirement for license renewal, the Board must now determine an equitable policy for the affected licensees that ensures fairness while maintaining the integrity of continuing education expectations and public protection.</p> <p>One proposed recommendation is that affected licensees be required to complete 50% of the standard CEU hours, including all mandatory content areas (such as LGBTQ+ cultural competency and DC Health public health priorities).</p> <p>Motion: Motion made by Dr. Pavuluri if they are renewing less than the two-year cycle, they will only have to complete 50% of the standard CEs. Seconded by Dr. Fosu.</p> <p>Vote: Dr. Strudwick, Dr. Michael, Ms. Jones, Dr. Gorman, Dr. Pavuluri, Dr. Madkour, Dr. Fosu and Dr. Anderson voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Arons left the meeting. Motion Passed.</p>	<p>SC</p>
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<p>OS-25-06-11</p> <p>ALL</p>	<p><u>DOULA REGULATIONS</u></p> <p>Board action: To review, provide comments and recommend edits or approve the draft regulations governing the practice of doulas.</p> <p>Background:</p> <p>In 2021, as part of the FY 2022 Budget Support Emergency Amendment Act, the practice of doulas was added to the Health Occupations Revision Act (HORA) under the regulatory authority of the DC Board of Medicine.</p> <p>In 2022, the criteria and scope of practice for doulas were amended slightly, and the profession was placed under the oversight of the newly created Advisory Committee of Maternal Care Professionals. While the statutory foundation has been established, the implementing regulations for the practice of doulas in the District of Columbia remain to be finalized.</p> <p>TABLED FOR JULY MEETING</p>	<p>SF/SC</p>
<p>OS-25-06-12</p> <p>ALL</p>	<p><u>CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL MIDWIVES' REGULATIONS</u></p> <p>Board action: To review, provide comments and recommend edits or approve the draft regulations governing the practice of Certified Professional Midwives</p> <p>Background:</p> <p>In 2020, the Certified Professional Midwife Amendment Act of 2020 was passed, placing the profession of Certified Professional Midwives (CPMs) under the authority of the DC Board of Medicine and establishing the Advisory Committee on Certified Professional Midwives.</p> <p>Subsequent legislation amended the composition and scope of the Advisory Committee to include doulas, and it was renamed the Advisory Committee on Maternal Care Professionals. The Advisory Committee was first convened in 2023.</p> <p>Since that time, committee members have worked to develop implementing regulations for the practice of certified professional midwives.</p> <p>Tabled for July meeting to obtain additional information.</p>	<p>SF/SC</p>

OS-25-06-13		AA
ALL	<p><u>ADDITIONAL LICENSING MODELS FOR INTERNATIONALLY-TRAINED PHYSICIANS</u></p> <p>Board action : To review the draft guidance document and preliminary recommendations then, provide feedback to the FSMB Advisory Commission by July 11, 2025.</p> <p>Background: Federation of State Medical Boards' (FSMB) Advisory Commission on Additional Licensing Models has opened a new public comment period for its draft preliminary recommendations regarding the assessment and supervision of internationally-trained physicians (ITPs) seeking licensure in the United States. The Commission's first set of recommendations, released in February 2025, focused on eligibility requirements for ITPs entering additional licensure pathways.</p> <p>Board Chair advise Board Members to send comments to the Executive Director or the Board Chair to be prepared for the Commission by July 7, 2025.</p>	
OS-25-06-14	<p><u>PUBLIC COMMENTS</u></p> <p>Background: Dr. Watson and Dr. Liburd provided insight on the role the Department of Healthcare Finance plays with providing care to the Public and the importance of Medicaid along with their partnering Medicaid providers.</p>	

MOTION TO CLOSE

OS-25-06-15	<p><u>MOTION TO CLOSE</u></p> <p>Board Action: To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p>Background: Pursuant to DC Official Code § 2-575(b), the Board will move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting to discuss the following:</p>	
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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To consult with an attorney to obtain legal advice and to preserve the attorney-client privilege between an attorney and a public body, or to approve settlement agreements pursuant to § 2-575(b)(4)(a).2. Preparation, administration, or grading of scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examinations pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(6).3. To discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(9).4. To plan, discuss, or hear reports concerning ongoing or planned investigation of alleged criminal or civil misconduct or violations of law or regulations, if disclosure to the public would harm the investigation pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(14). | |
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Motion: Motion made by Dr. Gorman to close the Open Session and go into the Executive Session. Seconded by Dr. Arons.

Vote: Dr. Strudwick, Dr. Michael, Ms. Jones, Dr. Gorman, Dr. Pavuluri, Dr. Madkour, Dr. Fosu, Dr. Arons and Dr. Anderson voted in favor of the motion. **Motion Passed.**

The Open Session Agenda continues on the next page with 'Motion to Adjourn'. The next Board meeting is **In-Person and will be held on **July 30, 2025**.**

MOTION TO ADJOURN

OS-25-06-16	<u>MOTION TO ADJOURN</u>	
ALL	<p>Board Action: To adjourn the meeting.</p> <p>Background: At the end of every meeting, a motion to adjourn must be made in open session to close out the business of the Board.</p> <p>Motion: Motion made by Dr. Pavuluri to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Dr. Arons.</p> <p>Vote: Dr. Strudwick, Dr. Michael, Ms. Jones, Dr. Gorman, Dr. Pavuluri, Dr. Madkour, Dr. Fosu, Dr. Arons and Dr. Anderson voted in favor of the motion. Motion Passed.</p>	

This ends the Open Session Agenda.

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov. 3 DCMR § 10409.2