

GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
LaSham Hughes, MBA



BOARD CHAIRPERSON
Charles L. White, DO

2 Peachtree St., N.W., 36th Floor • Atlanta, Georgia 30303 • Tel: 404.656.3913 • Fax 404.656.9723
<http://www.medicalboard.georgia.gov> E-Mail: Medbd@dch.ga.gov

November 16, 2011

URGENT: CHANGE IN STATE LAW WILL DELAY YOUR LICENSE RENEWAL AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2011. RENEW BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2012 TO AVOID PROBLEMS!!

Dear Colleague,

During the 2011 legislative session, the General Assembly passed HB 87, "The Illegal Immigration Reform and Enforcement Act of 2011." The amendments in HB 87 altered the requirements for verifying the lawful presence of all applicants for public benefits, which specifically included professional licenses. These amendments become effective January 1, 2012.

Pursuant to HB 87, every applicant for public benefits must provide at least one secure and verifiable document to verify the applicant's lawful presence in the United States. The Attorney General of the State of Georgia has advised us that the law requires us to collect this documentation not only from initial applicants for licensure, but also from applicants for renewal of licensure. **This means that if your license has not been renewed by December 31, 2011, your renewal will be delayed at least until we receive your affidavit of lawful presence in the United States and your documentation of lawful presence, and will probably be delayed longer because of the volume of additional documentation that our office will have to process.**

If your license renewal has not been approved by December 31, 2011, you must submit a notarized affidavit of your citizenship status and at least one document from the approved list of documents which has been posted by the Attorney General at http://law.ga.gov/vgn/images/portal/cit_1210/63/43/173963603Secure_and_verifiable_document_list%208.5.11.pdf, and is included below.

The Board office is required to attach this information to each application or renewal file. This will impose a severe hardship on the Board staff, as it is already coping with the effects of recent budget and staff reductions. We are working with the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of Planning and Budget, the Office of the Governor, and interested professional organizations to share the unintended impact of HB 87.

As of today, the Board has opened renewal alerts for all Medical Board licensees whose licenses expire from November 30, 2011 through March 31, 2012 to allow the Board to renew as many licensees as possible to mitigate the potential disruption of health care supply that could be caused by delays in renewal processing times. **My fellow members of the Composite Medical Board and I urge you to renew your license today, in order to avoid having your practice disrupted by the expected delays caused by the additional documentation after December 31, 2011.**

Sincerely,

Charles L. White, DO
Chairperson, Georgia Composite Medical Board

O.C.G.A. § 50-36-1(e)(2) Affidavit for Renewal of Medical Board License

By executing this affidavit under oath, as an applicant for a professional license, as referenced in O.C.G.A. § 50-36-1, from the Georgia Composite Medical Board, the undersigned applicant verifies one of the following with respect to my application for a public benefit:

- 1) _____ I am a United States citizen.
- 2) _____ I am a legal permanent resident of the United States.
- 3) _____ I am a qualified alien or non-immigrant under the Federal Immigration and Nationality Act with an alien number issued by the Department of Homeland Security or other federal immigration agency. My alien number issued by the Department of Homeland Security or other federal immigration agency is:_____.

The undersigned applicant also hereby verifies that he or she is 18 years of age or older and has provided at least one secure and verifiable document, as required by O.C.G.A. § 50-36-1(e)(1), with this affidavit.

The secure and verifiable document provided with this affidavit can best be classified as:
_____.

In making the above representation under oath, I understand that any person who knowingly and willfully makes a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation in an affidavit shall be guilty of a violation of O.C.G.A. § 16-10-20, and face criminal penalties as allowed by such criminal statute.

Executed in _____ (city), _____ (state).

_____ License Type (Physician, PA, etc)	_____ Signature of Applicant
_____ License Number	_____ Printed Name of Applicant

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN
BEFORE ME ON THIS THE
___ DAY OF _____, 20___

NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires:

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. Submit this affidavit to the Georgia Composite Medical Board. **The person who notarized the affidavit** may send a copy of the executed affidavit by fax (404-651-7864) OR email (securedocuments@dch.ga.gov). If the notarized affidavit is submitted by any person other than the person who notarized it, then the **original** must be mailed to the Georgia Composite Medical Board, 2 Peachtree St NW, 36th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303.
 - 2. Submit at least one document from the following list by fax OR email to securedocuments@dch.ga.gov with sufficient information to identify the document (name, license number, and license type). GCMB cannot accept a mailed copy. **If the document is not submitted by electronic means, it must be presented in person at 2 Peachtree St NW, 36th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303.**

Secure and Verifiable Documents Under O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2

Issued August 1, 2011 by the Office of the Attorney General, Georgia

The Illegal Immigration Reform and Enforcement Act of 2011 (“IIREA”) provides that “[n]ot later than August 1, 2011, the Attorney General shall provide and make public on the Department of Law’s website a list of acceptable secure and verifiable documents. The list shall be reviewed and updated annually by the Attorney General.” O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(f). The Attorney General may modify this list on a more frequent basis, if necessary.

The following list of secure and verifiable documents, published under the authority of O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2, contains documents that are verifiable for identification purposes, and documents on this list may not necessarily be indicative of residency or immigration status.

- A United States passport or passport card [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 8 CFR § 274a.2]
- A United States military identification card [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 8 CFR § 274a.2]
- A driver’s license issued by one of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, the United States Virgin Island, American Samoa, or the Swain Islands, provided that it contains a photograph of the bearer or lists sufficient identifying information regarding the bearer, such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color, and address to enable the identification of the bearer [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 8 CFR § 274a.2]
- An identification card issued by one of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, the United States Virgin Island, American Samoa, or the Swain Islands, provided that it contains a photograph of the bearer or lists sufficient identifying information regarding the bearer, such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color, and address to enable the identification of the bearer [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 8 CFR § 274a.2]
- A tribal identification card of a federally recognized Native American tribe, provided that it contains a photograph of the bearer or lists sufficient identifying information regarding the bearer, such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color, and address to enable the identification of the bearer. A listing of federally recognized Native American tribes may be found at:
<http://www.bia.gov/WhoWeAre/BIA/OIS/TribalGovernmentServices/TribalDirectory/index.htm>
[O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 8 CFR § 274a.2]
- A United States Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 8 CFR § 274a.2]
- An Employment Authorization Document that contains a photograph of the bearer
- [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 8 CFR § 274a.2]
- A passport issued by a foreign government [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 8 CFR § 274a.2]

- A Merchant Mariner Document or Merchant Mariner Credential issued by the United States Coast Guard [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 8 CFR § 274a.2]
- A Free and Secure Trade (FAST) card [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 22 CFR § 41.2]
- A NEXUS card [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 22 CFR § 41.2]
- A Secure Electronic Network for Travelers Rapid Inspection (SENTRI) card [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 22 CFR § 41.2]
- A driver's license issued by a Canadian government authority [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 8 CFR § 274a.2]
- A Certificate of Citizenship issued by the United States Department of Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) (Form N-560 or Form N-561) [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 6 CFR § 37.11]
- A Certificate of Naturalization issued by the United States Department of Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) (Form N-550 or Form N-570) [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(b)(3); 6 CFR § 37.11]
- In addition to the documents listed herein, if, in administering a public benefit or program, an agency is required by federal law to accept a document or other form of identification for proof of or documentation of identity, that document or other form of identification will be deemed a secure and verifiable document solely for that particular program or administration of that particular public benefit. [O.C.G.A. § 50-36-2(c)]