

MARYLAND BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE

May 2023 Needle News

The mission of the Maryland Board of Acupuncture is the protection of the public. This mission is fulfilled through the licensure and regulation of acupuncturists; ensuring that those seeking licensure and those continuing to practice acupuncture and East Asian medicine in Maryland meet State standards, and investigating complaints when a violation is alleged.

DON'T FORGET about your Implicit Bias training requirement. In addition to your bi-annual continuing education requirement, House Bill 28 (2021) imposes an additional, one-time mandate for all health occupation licensees to complete implicit bias training (not cultural competence or diversity). For more information visit the Maryland Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities webpage.



The Miller-Moore Appointments Office has reopened the application portal for Maryland's 600 boards and commissions. The Board of Acupuncture currently has both a consumer and professional vacancy. Visit the website to learn more about recent appointments, the requirements for service and to submit an application.

Continuing Education Requirements

Every two years, licensed Acupuncturists must earn at least 30 continuing education units as a condition of license renewal. Licensees must retain proof of compliance with this requirement for 4 years. The Board randomly selects a small percentage of Licensees to participate in an audit every renewal period. The selected Licensees must submit proof of their compliance to the Board prior to applying for renewal. 20 of the 30 units MUST be in acupuncture and East Asian medicine. Read about the remaining 10 units on the Board's website.





License Status

Spring 2023 License Renewal is in full swing. The renewal application portal has been open since April 1st. May 31st is the end of the regular renewal period. June 1st - 30th is the license renewal grace period. Renewing your license in the month of June will incur a \$100 late fee. Renewing after June 30th will incur a \$200 reinstatement fee. The Fall 2023 License Renewal period begins October 1, 2023.

Licensees can report address and name changes throughout the year, however license renewal is a great time to update both business and personal information - name, address, telephone number, email, etc. Submit your changes, in some cases with supporting documentation (e.g., name change), to mdh.acupuncture@maryland.gov.

Not sure when your license expires? Need proof of your license status? Utilize the Board's <u>Verify A</u> <u>License</u> feature to check your license expiration date and to print or save a screenshot for proof of licensure.

Payments

The Board is phasing out acceptance of paper checks and money orders. More guidance will be posted on the website in the future. In the meantime, new applications and license renewals must be completed on line and paid electronically. You can still pay by electronic check for Inactive Status and Verification Letters. Just email the Board for the payment link.



Thank you for helping Maryland residents achieve their health goals with acupuncture and East Asian medicine.

Tiffany L. Smith-Williams, Executive Director

Deputy Director/Licensing Administrator - VACANT *A new team member will be hired soon.

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