

Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Bridge Year Graduate (“BYG”)



Overview

The Physician Workforce Act of 2023 established a mechanism for limited, supervised practice by graduates of accredited medical schools who applied to, but were not accepted into, a residency training program for the first year following medical school graduation ("bridge year graduate physicians").

International Medical School graduates do not currently meet the qualification requirements for a bridge year graduate physician permit.

Qualifications of the Bridge Year Graduate Physician

- Graduation from a medical school accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education or the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation
- Achieved a passing score on: Steps 1 and 2 of the USMLE, the COMLEX, or the LMCCE
- Applied to but was not accepted into a postgraduate or residency training program accredited by the ACGME, AOA, ACRCPSC, or the CFPC for the first year following medical school graduation
- The Board, in its discretion, may waive the one-year requirement for those that are no more than two years post medical school graduation

Qualifications of the Supervising Physician

- Current, unrestricted license to practice medicine in Alabama; and
- Practiced medicine for at least three years, excluding any practice in a post graduate training program, or
- Practiced medicine for at least one year and is certified by one or more specialty boards recognized by the ABMS or AOA, or
- Practiced medicine for at least one year and the BYG's practice site is limited to a general acute care, critical access, or specialized hospital licensed as such by the ADPH

Requirements & Reporting

- Physician supervision requires a direct, continuing, and close supervisory relationship between a BYG and supervising physician
- On-site supervision of the BYG by the supervising physician or approved covering physician
- At the end of the initial bridge year, the supervising physician must submit a report to the Board regarding the scope and breadth of the practice of the BYG, including a statement as to whether the BYG would be recommended for a residency position upon reapplication

