

Alabama State Board of
Medical Examiners

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



William M. Perkins
Executive Director

One of the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners' most significant accomplishments in 2025 was the publication of updated Office-Based Surgery regulations. These updates reflect the first updates to these regulations in twenty years. The Board began the process to

update the regulations in 2022. Throughout this process, the Board invited, welcomed, and engaged in a robust dialogue with Alabama physicians. At its January 2026 meeting, the Board voted to finalize the proposed rules. The Board believes that the current draft, as certified, best strikes the balance between protecting the public and avoiding unnecessary regulatory burdens on physicians.

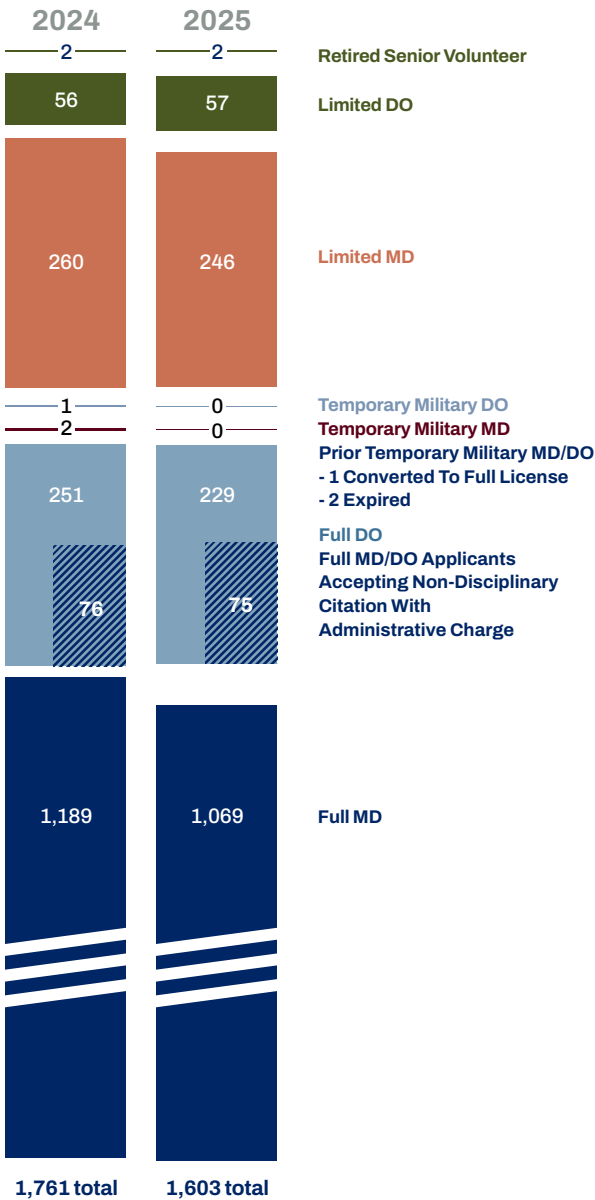
The Board, along with the Medical Licensure Commission, modernized medical licensure applications by refining how mental health questions are addressed. In recognition of this effort, the Board and Commission were named a 2025 Wellbeing First Champion by ALL IN: Wellbeing First for Healthcare, a national coalition dedicated to advancing clinician wellbeing.

At the Annual Meeting of the Federation of State Medical Boards in Seattle, Washington, two Commission members received national appointments and honors. The Board proudly congratulates Dr. Jorge Alsip and Dr. Craig Christopher for exemplifying the agency's commitment to fairness, empathy, and justice in fulfilling its duty to protect the health and safety of Alabama patients.

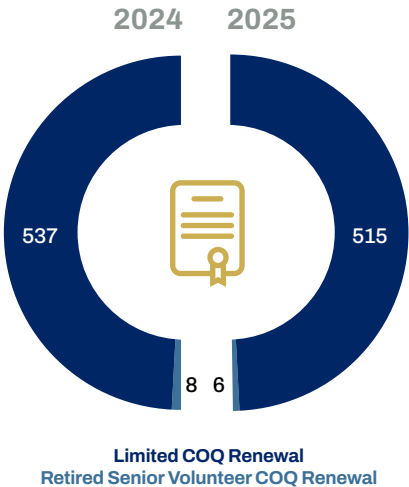
In response to trends and concerns surrounding emerging ketamine and testosterone therapies, the Board convened two physician-led work groups to conduct a comprehensive review of these treatments. As a result, the Board issued guidance to support Alabama physicians in delivering safe, evidence-based, high-quality care.

The Alabama Opioid Overdose and Addiction Council's Prescribers and Dispensers Standing Committee, established in 2017, marked a significant milestone this year. For the first time since its inception, Alabama experienced a 30 percent reduction in substance-related overdose deaths between April 2024 and April 2025. The Board remains proud of its ongoing participation in the Council's work, which focuses on equipping controlled substance prescribers with appropriate education and training through ALAHOPE.

Certificates of Qualification Issued



Certificate of Qualification Renewals



INCREASE IN NUMBER OF LICENSES ISSUED VIA IMLCC

The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission (IMLCC) released their Year Eight Data Study. Compared to Year Four, the number of licenses issued by the Alabama Medical Licensure Commission in Year Eight increased by approximately 126%. Alabama was among the top 4 states issuing the most licenses.

The IMLCC is a multi-state agreement that streamlines the medical licensure process for qualified physicians who want to practice across state lines.

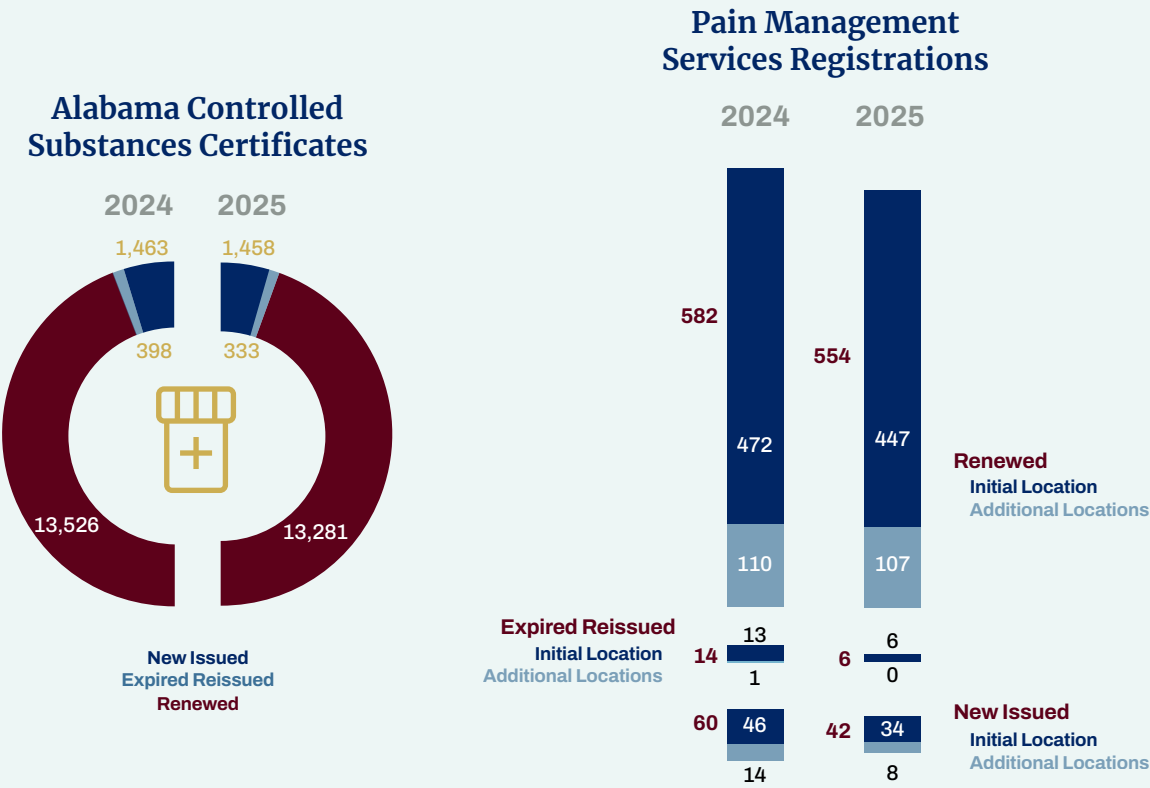
Alabama was among the first states to join the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact in 2017 and remains committed to expanding access to high-quality medical care by making it easier for qualified physicians to practice here.

“This growth is more than a statistic, it’s a step forward to ensuring patients across our state have better access to qualified physicians,” said Dr. Max Rogers, Chair of the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners. “Through the Compact, we’re making it easier for physicians to practice in Alabama, serve patients and uphold the high standards our Board is committed to maintaining.”

Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

233	Letters of Qualification Issued to Other States
13	Letters of Qualification Denied/Withdrawn
14	State of Principal Licensure Redesignation

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES/PAIN MANAGEMENT REGISTRATIONS ISSUED IN 2025



BOARD ISSUES NEW GUIDANCE

In 2025, the Board, with the help of two work groups consisting of practicing physicians, issued guidance for the off-label use of ketamine for the treatment of treatment-resistant depression in outpatient settings and testosterone replacement therapy in males and females.

On behalf of the Board, the groups reviewed current trends and concerns in the use of these treatments and developed recommendations to help physicians deliver the highest quality care to patients in Alabama.

The guidelines for the off-label use of ketamine detail who should prescribe, patient selection, recommended medical screenings, location requirements, dosing, and safety precautions.

The Board’s guidelines for the use of testosterone replacement therapy in males and females provides detailed recommendations for physicians on when and how to evaluate, prescribe, and monitor testosterone therapy.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

LICENSING SUMMIT

As part of the Board's ongoing efforts to strengthen collaboration with stakeholders and provide more streamlined services to both them and its licensees, the Board's Credentialing Department hosted its inaugural Licensing Summit. Attendees included medical staff professionals and postgraduate training program coordinators who play a vital role in assisting healthcare practitioners with licensing and registration.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES PRESCRIBING

The Board also began offering two hours of free Continuing Medical Education on controlled substance prescribing at events sponsored by various organizations. In 2025, a total of 224 free CME credits were provided through this program.

LICENSING EDUCATION

In addition to prescribing related education, staff of the Advanced Practice Providers Department provided instruction on license and registration requirements to future graduates of all Physician Assistant and Anesthesiologist Assistant programs in the state.

PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES

As part of the continuing effort to protect the health and safety of patients and educate licensees, free, required professional boundary education was implemented for all physicians, physician assistants, and anesthesiologist assistants licensed in Alabama.

At the 2025 Federation of State Medical Boards meeting in April, Effie Hawthorne, Associate General Counsel of the Board, co-presented a poster series on the Board's ongoing professional boundaries education initiative. More than 20,000 Alabama physicians have completed the free course.

ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDER PROTOCOL UPDATES

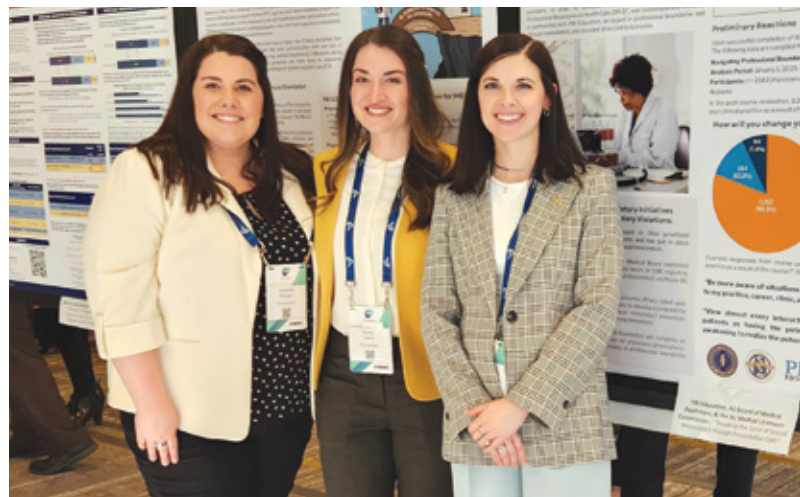
In March 2025, the Board approved protocols for the injection of cosmetic botulinum toxin by Physician Assistants in certain practice settings. Shortly after, the Board approved the same protocols for Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners. The approved protocols detail the requirements for the performance of the procedure.

In August 2025, the Board approved updated protocols for the Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Certificate (QACSC) and the Limited Purpose Schedule II Permit (LPSP). The updates were designed to support safe prescribing practices and include the use of new quarterly quality assurance (QA) forms.

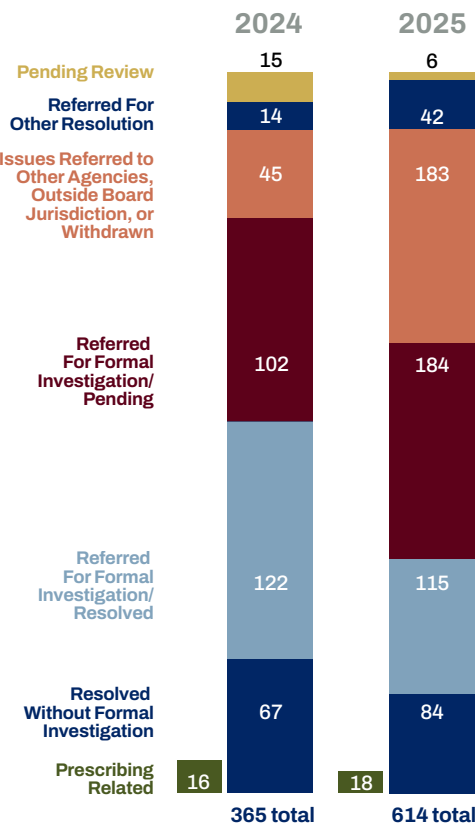
The Board also approved updates to the following specialty protocols:

- Botox Injections for Hyperhidrosis
- Botox Injections for Chronic Migraine
- Critical Care
- Dermatology
- Fluoroscopy
- Tunneled Central Venous Line Insertion

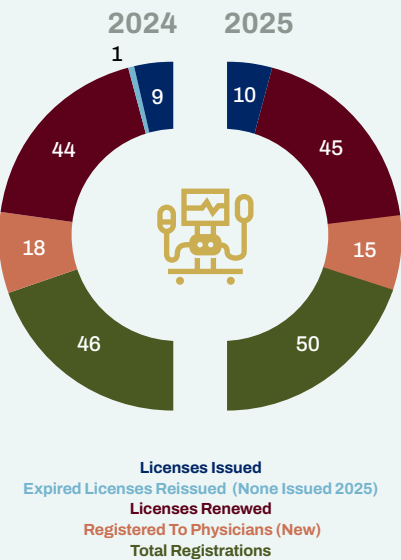
(Left to Right) Amanda Olaogun and Kasey Cleary with PBI Education, along with Effie Hawthorne, Associate General Counsel of the Board, co-presenting at FSMB in Seattle, Washington.



ENFORCEMENT ISSUES



ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT LICENSES/ REGISTRATIONS ISSUED IN 2025



UPDATED OFFICE-BASED SURGERY REGULATIONS

In 2022, the Board began the process of updating its Office-Based Surgery regulations, which first became effective in November 2003. These regulations remained essentially unchanged for twenty years; however, office-based surgery has changed dramatically in this time period with physicians utilizing their offices for more intensive and invasive procedures as technologies advance.

In October 2023, the Board began soliciting comments from stakeholders and adopting revisions based on this feedback. In December 2024, the rules were officially noticed for public comment. Due to the amount of constructive feedback, the Board terminated the publication period in April 2025 to allow time for a thorough review and incorporation of stakeholder comments. In July 2025, the Board published a substantially revised ruleset in response to the public comments. The Board received public comments to this rule draft, and in November 2025, the Board republished the draft after making material changes based on these comments.

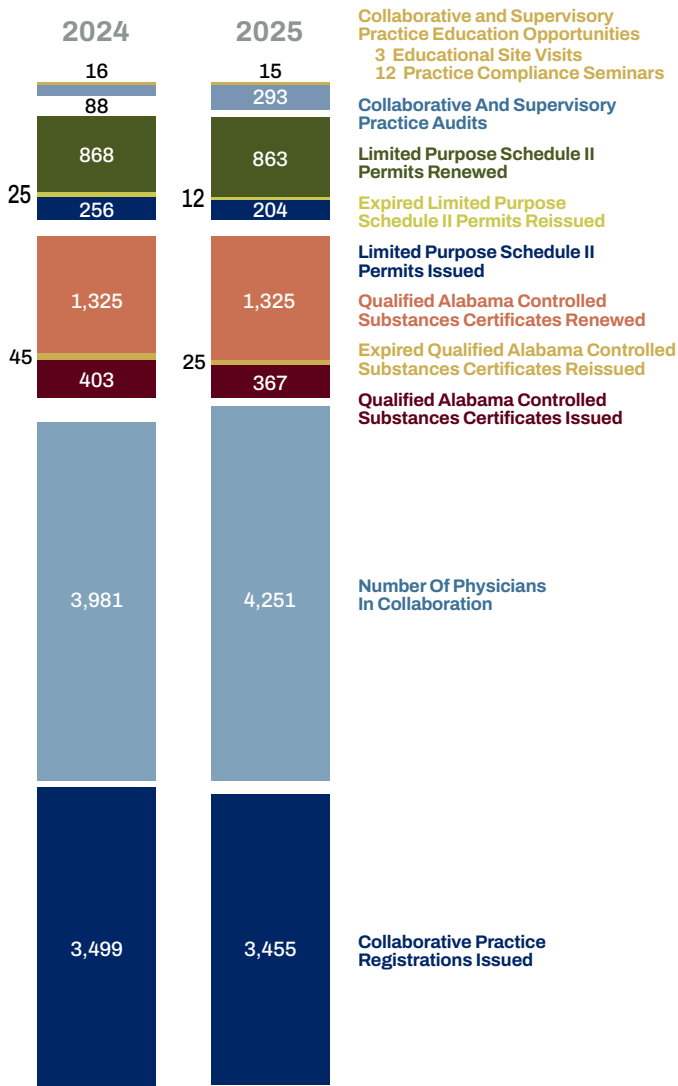
Following the end of this comment period, the Board considered the comments at its January 2026 meeting and voted to finalize the proposed rules after making non-material editorial changes based on the comments received.

At all times, the Board’s primary concern when deciding to make a change or not was whether the public’s health, safety, and welfare would be protected. The Board believes that the current draft, as certified, best strikes the balance between protecting the public and avoiding unnecessary regulatory burdens on physicians.

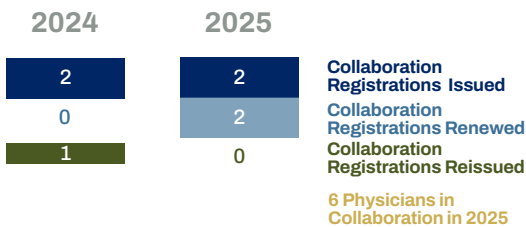
Throughout this process, the Board has invited, welcomed, and engaged in a robust dialogue with Alabama physicians. The Board is committed to maintaining the level of responsiveness to physician input that it has shown in the rulemaking process going forward. Medicine is evolving, and the Board expects its regulations to evolve with it.

ADVANCED PRACTICE
NURSES (CRNP/CNM) AND
COLLABORATIVE PHARMACY
PRACTICES IN 2025

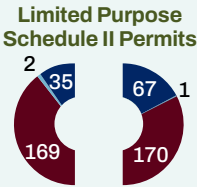
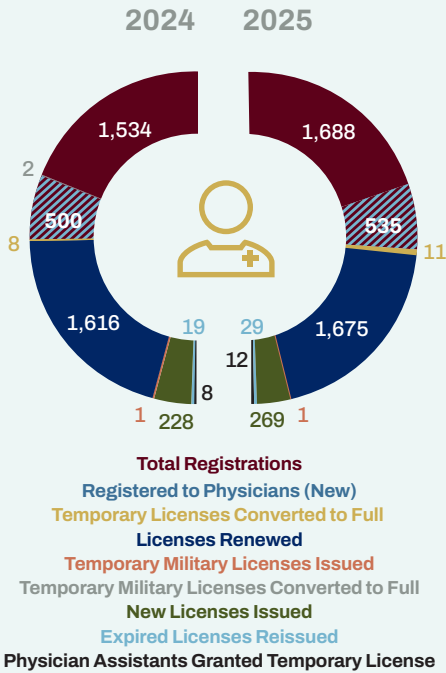
Advanced Practice Nurses (CRNP/CNM)



Collaborative Pharmacy Practice



PA LICENSES/
REGISTRATIONS
ISSUED IN 2025



BOARD DISCIPLINARY/CONFIDENTIAL ACTIONS

Disciplinary		Voluntary Restriction On Certificate Of Qualification	
ACSC		Entered	2
Temporary Suspension	1	ABME Physician Monitoring Program	
Surrender	1	– Licensees Currently Monitored	239
Restrictions And/Or Limitations Modified Or Terminated	2	– Licensees Monitored Since 1990	1,975
Consent Order/Settlement Agreement	2	Non-Disciplinary Board Orders	29
QACSC		Continuing Medical Education	23
Temporary Suspension	1	Prescribing Related	10
Revocation	1	Evaluation	6
Settlement Agreement	1	Interviews Conducted	38
Certificate Of Qualification Denied	1	Letters Of Concern	65
Certificate Of Qualification And/Or Medical License Surrendered	6	Prescribing Related	11
Physician Assistant Licenses Disciplined/Restricted	3	Formal Filings With The Medical Licensure Commission	
Confidential Voluntary Agreements		Administrative Complaints Filed	14
Prescribing Related	8	Administrative Complaints With Petition For Summary Suspension Of Medical License	4
Agreements Amended	5	Surrender	1
Agreements Terminated	8	Revocation	3
		Notice Of Intent To Contest Reinstatement Filed	1
		Administrative Fines Assessed (ABME – 4 And MLC – 13)	17
		Administrative Costs Assessed (ABME – 0 And MLC – 4)	4

ALABAMA OPIOID OVERDOSE AND ADDICTION COUNCIL

The Board is proud to continue to be a part of the Governor's Opioid Overdose and Addiction Council's Prescribers and Dispensers standing committee and its current focus on equipping controlled substances prescribers with training through ALAHOPE, an online Alabama-specific education program for health professionals.

The Council was established by Governor Ivey in 2017 and for the first time since its establishment, Alabama

experienced a 30 percent decrease in substance-related overdose deaths from April 2024–April 2025. According to the 2025 annual report of the Alabama Opioid Overdose and Addiction Council, ALAHOPE recorded a completion rate of 3,370 for 2025. This number represents the medical professionals seeking training in substance use and alternatives for pain management.

ALABAMA SWEEPS SEATTLE

At the 2025 Annual Meeting of the Federation of State Medical Boards in Seattle, Washington, Medical Licensure Commission member Jorge A. Alsip, MD, was elected to the FSMB Board of Directors for a three-year term.

This position follows over 20 combined years of leadership on both the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners and the Medical Licensure Commission. Dr. Alsip practiced emergency medicine in Baldwin County, Alabama, followed by both national and local consulting and teaching positions.

At the same meeting, the Federation of State Medical Boards honored Medical Licensure Commission member Craig H. Christopher, MD, with the FSMB Leadership Award.

Dr. Christopher, who has also been a leader on both the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners and the Medical Licensure Commission for more than 20 combined years, practiced for over 30 years as a highly respected OBGYN in Birmingham.



(above) Dr. Jorge Alsip is congratulated by Board member Dr. Jay Suggs.

(right) Dr. Craig H. Christopher



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

With the endorsement of the Board and Medical Association of the State of Alabama, a bill sponsored by Representative Paul Lee of Dothan and passed by the Alabama Legislature removed the requirement for Retired Senior Volunteer (RSV) licensees to perform the annual minimum of 100 hours of volunteer service. This

provision was a barrier for some doctors who wished to volunteer their services under the RSV program but were unable to commit to that number of hours. With this requirement removed, more retired doctors may now offer their services at free medical clinics, helping fill gaps in underserved communities across Alabama.



ALBME & MLC NAMED 2025 WELLBEING FIRST CHAMPION

The Alabama Board of Medical Examiners (ALBME) and Medical Licensure Commission (MLC) were named a 2025 Wellbeing First Champion for removing mental health questions from medical license applications that might inhibit someone from answering questions truthfully. ALL IN: Wellbeing First for Healthcare, a national coalition of healthcare organizations awarded the honor to the ALBME and MLC. The change encourages physicians to seek care without fear of professional consequences, strengthening the healthcare workforce and improving patient outcomes.

Previously, applications asked about past mental health or substance use treatment, even when

unrelated to a doctor's current ability to practice safely. The revised forms now focus only on conditions that may currently impair safe practice.

The changes came as a recommendation from the Dr. Lorna Breen Heroes' Foundation. According to the foundation, as of September 19, 2025, five dental licensure boards, 40 medical licensure boards, six nursing licensure boards, and nine pharmacy licensure boards verified their licensing applications do not include intrusive mental health questions.

The ALBME & MLC are proud to receive the honor of being a Wellbeing First Champion.

2025 BOARD AND COMMISSION MEMBERS



Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Charles M. A. Rogers, IV, M.D.
Chairman, Bay Minette

Hernando D. Carter, M.D.
Vice-Chairman, Birmingham

William E. Admire Jr., D.O., *Mobile*

Aruna T. Arora, M.D., *Huntsville*

Gregory W. Ayers, M.D., *Hoover*

Tonya E. Bradley, M.D., *Auburn*

Nina S. Ford-Johnson, M.D., *Mobile*

Adam C. Harrison, D.O., *Cullman*

Marquisha M. Jarmon, M.D., *Birmingham*

Beverly F. Jordan, M.D., *Enterprise*

Mark H. LeQuire, M.D., *Montgomery*

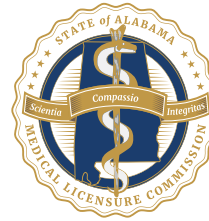
William J. Schneider, M.D., *Huntsville*

William J. Suggs, M.D., *Decatur*

David R. Thrasher, M.D., *Montgomery*

Jane A. Weida, M.D., *Tuscaloosa*

Amanda J. Williams, M.D., *Montgomery*



State of Alabama Medical Licensure Commission

Jorge A. Alsip, M.D.
Chairman, Daphne

Kenneth W. Aldridge, M.D.
Vice-Chairman, Tuscaloosa

Craig H. Christopher, M.D., *Birmingham*

Howard J. Falgout, M.D., *Tuscaloosa*

Paul M. Nagrodzki, M.D., *Birmingham*

Nina P. Nelson-Garrett, M.D., *Montgomery*

James R. Seale, Esq., *Montgomery*

Pamela D. Varner, M.D., *Birmingham*



848 WASHINGTON AVE | MONTGOMERY, AL 36104 | (334) 242-4116 | ALBME.GOV