

## TENNESSEE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

### POLICY: LAPSED LICENSE POLICY

The Board of Medical Examiners recognizes that an individual may inadvertently allow his or her license to expire. However, statute prohibits an individual from working as a medical doctor unless he or she has an active and unrestricted medical license. While the Board does not condone an individual working on an expired license, recognition is given to the fact that the problem does exist. As such, the Board has adopted the following procedures for reinstatement of a lapsed or expired license.

- Immediately upon recognition that his or her license has expired, an individual must stop practicing and contact the Board's administrative office to request a reinstatement application.
- Upon receipt of the reinstatement application, the individual is to complete the application in its entirety, providing a detailed work history since the license expiration date. The application is to be signed, notarized, and returned to the Board's administrative office along with any additional information and all fees specified in the instructions.
- Upon receipt of a completed reinstatement application, supporting documentation (including any required proof of continuing education), and the applicant's payment of all fees, the Board administrator may immediately reinstate a license which has been in an expired status for less than sixty (60) calendar days, upon approval from the Board's medical consultant. Although the Board and administrative staff recognize the applicant's urgent interest in having his or her license reinstated, preferential treatment will not be given to these applicants. All applications are reviewed in the order in which they are received.
- If the work history reflects that the individual has worked in excess of sixty (60) calendar days on an expired license, the Board will present to the licensee an Agreed Citation which specifies payment of a fine in the amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per month for every month at least sixty (60) calendar days from the expiration date in which the individual has worked at least one day. The individual's license will not be reinstated unless and until these conditions are met.
- The licensee shall be notified that all Agreed Citations prepared in accordance with this policy shall be reportable on the Department of Health's website, its disciplinary action report issued in the month the action is taken and to all appropriate federal databanks including the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB).
- This remedy is only available to those medical doctors who have worked on a lapsed license for less than six (6) months from the date the license went into expired status.
- If the licensee refuses to execute the Agreed Citation and remit the civil penalty described therein within sixty (60) days of the date of the Agreed Citation, the licensee shall be referred to the Office of Investigations and Office of General Counsel for formal disciplinary action.

**Adopted by the Board of Medical Examiners on May 19th, 2015.**