



North Carolina Medical Board

Bryant A. Murphy, MD: President | Venkata Jonnalagadda, MD: President-Elect | John W. Rusher, MD: Secretary/Treasurer

The Honorable Elaine Marshall, Secretary of State (via email to pubs@sosnc.gov)
The Honorable Joshua Stein, Attorney General (via email to mlovell@ncdoj.gov)
The Jt. Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee (via email to virginia.barlow@ncleg.gov)

Dear All:

The NC Medical Board (NCMB) is filing this report in compliance with North Carolina General Statutes § 93B-2. All statistical data included in this report is from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019.

Annual reports required; contents; open to inspection

(a) An annual report containing all of the information:

(1) The address of the board, and the names of its members and officers.

The NCMB's physical address is 1203 Front Street, Raleigh, NC 27609. Its mailing address is P.O. Box 20007, Raleigh, NC 27619.

The following persons were members of the Medical Board from November 2019 to October 2020:

Bryant A. Murphy, MD, MBA, President
Venkata R. Jonnalagadda, MD, President-Elect
John W. Rusher, MD, JD, Secretary/Treasurer
W. Howard Hall, MD
Christine M. Khandelwal, DO
Michaux R. Kilpatrick, MD, PhD
Joshua Malcolm, JD, Public Member
Varnell McDonald-Fletcher, PA-C
Damian McHugh, MD
Shawn P. Parker, JD, Public Member
Jerri L. Patterson, NP
Devdutta G. Sangvai, MD, MBA
Ralph A. Walker, JD, Public Member

- (1a) **The total number of licensees supervised by the board.**

License/Certification Type	Count
Physician (MD/DO)	40,124
Physician Assistant	7,982
Nurse Practitioners*	8,495
Resident Training License	3,141
Licensed Perfusionist	185
Anesthesiologist Assistant	48
Polysomnographic Technologists	538
Total Licensees	60,513

*NPs are regulated jointly by the NC Board of Nursing and the NCMB.

- (2) **The number of persons who applied to the board for examination.** Not Applicable (N/A). Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 90-10.1, the NCMB accepts licensing examinations administered by: the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) or its successor; the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) or its successor; or the Federation Licensing Examination (FLEX) or its successor. The NCMB may also administer or accept other State Board licensing examinations or other examinations the Board deems equivalent to the examinations described in subdivisions (1) through (3) of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-10.1, pursuant to rules adopted by the Board.
- (3) **The number who were refused examination.** N/A.
- (4) **The number who took the examination.** N/A.
- (5) **The number to whom initial licenses were issued.**

License/Certification Type	Count
Medical Doctors (MDs)	2,670
Doctors of Osteopathy (DOs)	376
Volunteer Licenses	207
Limited Emergency Licenses	5
Special Permits/Faculty Limited License	9
TOTAL Physician Licenses	3,267
Resident Training Licenses	1,164
Physician Assistants (PAs)	895
Licensed Perfusionist	22
Anesthesiologist Assistant	8
Total Licensees	5,356

The NCMB maintains a registry of polysomnographic technicians (“sleep techs”), but does not license them. In 2019, the NCMB registered 38 sleep techs in North Carolina.

- (5a) **The number who failed the examination:** N/A.
- (6) **The number who applied for license by reciprocity or comity.** N/A.
- (7) **The number who were granted licenses by reciprocity or comity.** N/A.
- (7a) **The number of official complaints received involving licensed or unlicensed activities.** In 2019, the NCMB opened 2,393 cases. Of those cases, 1,242 complaints were from patients/public. The other cases were opened based on out-of-state actions, field investigations, malpractice payment reviews, licensing applications, Safe Opioid Prescribing Initiative, and annual renewals.
- (7b) **The number of disciplinary actions taken against licensees, or other actions taken against nonlicensees, including injunctive relief.** The NCMB took 135 prejudicial actions* against licensees or Nurse Practitioners in 2019. Please note that some individuals had more than one action for the year.

**prejudicial action includes: revocation, suspension, reprimands, surrender or denial of a license, probation, condition, limitation or restriction of license or practice, public letters of concern and/or fines.*
- (8) **The number of licenses suspended or revoked.** The NCMB suspended 20 licenses and revoked 5 licenses.
- (9) **The number of licenses terminated for any reason other than failure to pay the required renewal fee.** In 2019, 20 licenses were suspended, 3 licenses were surrendered, and 5 licenses were revoked.
- (9a) **The number of applicants for a license and, of that number, the number granted a license.** 5,394 licenses were issued. There were 3 license denials in 2019.
- (9b) **The number of applicants with a conviction record and, of that number, the number granted a license, denied a license for any reason, and denied a license because of a conviction.** In 2017, the Board voted to remove the question regarding charges, arrests and convictions from its licensing applications. The Board would rely on collecting misdemeanor and felony information from background checks. There are restrictions on the use of the data from background checks and the Board is unable to ascertain the number of applicants with a conviction record and of that number the number granted a license. However, the Board only denied 3 licenses in 2019. One of them was a reinstatement application denied on the basis of 2 year old federal felony conviction involving distributing controlled substances without a legitimate medical need as well as sexual boundary violations, and continuing to operate a medical practice without a medical license.

- (10) **The substance of any anticipated requested by the occupational licensing board to the General Assembly to amend statutes related to the occupational licensing board.** Modernize the Medical Practice Act language; codify rules or existing practices; make technical changes; and improve protection against professional sexual misconduct. See House Bill 228, Session Law 2019-191.
- (11) **The substance of any anticipated change in rules adopted by the occupational licensing board or the substance of any adoption of new rules by the occupational licensing board.** The Board proposed or adopted rules pertaining to:
- a. Recognizing ABOMS certifications and a waiver of three-attempt exam rule. See 21 NCAC 32B .1303; .1350.
 - b. Use of certified designation on anesthesiology assistant identification badges. See 21 NCAC 32W .0112.
 - c. Practice and limited licensure during disasters and emergencies. See 21 NCAC 32B .1706; 32S .0219; 32V .0111 32W .0116.
 - d. Hearing procedures regarding motions. See 21 NCAC 32N .0110.
 - e. Summary suspensions procedures. See 21 NCAC 32N .0114.
 - f. Increase in annual renewal fees for physician assistants. See 21 NCAC 32S .0204; .0220, .0202; .0206.
 - g. Clarify who is entitled to medical school faculty license. See 21 NCAC 32B .1502.
 - h. Allow expedited license if no complaints, investigations or malpractice within 10 years and other expedited license clarifications. See 21 NCAC 32B .1502.
 - i. Clarify meaning of reactivation and reinstatement for Perfusionists. See 21 NCAC 32V .0103.
 - j. Providing more options for controlled substances CME requirements. See 21 NCAC 32R .0101; 32S .0216.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

R. David Henderson

R. David Henderson
Chief Executive Officer