



TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD

August 7, 2025

RE: Visiting Physician

Dear Doctor:

Visiting physicians who are not licensed in Texas can be sponsored by a licensed Texas physician temporarily under the Visiting Physician Temporary Permit (VPTP).

Requests for the Visiting Physician permit must be submitted 30 days prior to the visiting physician entering the state of Texas.

While neither Board rules nor the Texas Medical Practice Act directly address this situation, the Board has attempted to deal administratively with the issue of visiting physicians who are in Texas for a limited period of time.

As you may know, §151.052. (a)(11) of the Texas Medical Practice Act, provides an exemption from licensure for a legally qualified physician of another state who is in this state for consultation with a physician licensed in this state. A visiting physician may not maintain an office in this state, or appoint a place in this state for seeing, examining or treating a patient or any other activity that the Board designates as exempt from the application.

While the Act does not apply to such physicians, the Board, however, has no way of knowing which physicians are called in for consultation and which are not. Therefore, the Board has developed guidelines for issuing letters of recognition to visiting physicians. These guidelines are as follows:

1. A licensed Texas physician must take responsibility for the visiting physician during his/her stay in Texas, and must remain the patient's primary physician.
2. The stay must be for a limited amount of time, no longer than ten days, and for a specified locale and purpose. The Executive Director of the Board, in his/her discretion, may extend the length of the stay if the applicant shows good cause for why the extended time is needed.
3. The visiting physician may not provide any medical care except under the direct and personal supervision of the supervising physician.

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In addition, a visiting physician may be allowed to do procedures at a licensed health care facility only if the facility where the proposed procedures will take place has credentialed the visiting physician to complete the proposed procedures onsite.

Please note that the Visiting Physician Temporary Permit **cannot** be used as a Physician-in Training (PIT) permit for a physician participating in a Texas post-graduate training program.

Our reasons for the development of the guidelines are two-fold:

1. To protect the public by ensuring that medical procedures performed by a visiting physician are done only under the direct supervision of a licensed physician in good standing with the Board; and
2. To ensure the sponsoring Texas physician is aware of their responsibility to verify that the visiting physician:
 - Has the knowledge and capability to perform the proposed procedure on the citizens of Texas.
 - Does not have any past or current derogatory information or pending actions in any other state or jurisdiction in which they may have applied for or hold a medical license.
 - Has been credentialed by the Texas hospital/facility where the proposed procedure will take place.

If you need a letter of recognition for a visiting physician, please have the Visiting Physician Temporary Permit application completed along with a copy of the **curriculum vitae** of the visiting physician.

Also, please furnish a signed statement verifying that you will provide continuous supervision of the visiting physician and that the visiting physician has been credentialed by the Texas hospital/facility where the proposed procedure will take place.

Please contact the Licensing Department at (512) 305-7030 if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Stephen 'Brint' Carlton, J.D.
Executive Director

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