


[Home](#)
[Bill Information](#)
[California Law](#)
[Publications](#)
[Other Resources](#)
[My Subscriptions](#)
[My Favorites](#)

**AB-359 Physicians and surgeons: licensure: examination.** (2021-2022)

**As Amends the Law Today**

**[As Amends the Law on Oct 08, 2021](#)**

**SECTION 1.** Section 2177 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

**2177.** (a) A passing score is required for an entire examination or for each part of an examination, as established by resolution of the board.

(b) Applicants may elect to take the written examinations conducted or accepted by the board in separate parts.

(c) (1) An applicant shall have obtained a passing score on all parts of Step 3 of the United States Medical Licensing Examination within not more than four attempts in order to be eligible for a physician's and surgeon's certificate.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), an applicant who obtains a passing score on all parts of Step 3 of the United States Medical Licensing Examination in more than four attempts and who meets the requirements of Section 2135 or 2135.5 shall be eligible to be considered for issuance of a physician's and surgeon's certificate.

**SEC. 2.** *Section 2190.15 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:*

**2190.15.** *Notwithstanding Section 2190.1, a physician and surgeon may meet the continuing medical education standards in Section 2190 through continuing medical education courses that meet any of the criteria below, except that these courses shall not together comprise more than 30 percent of the total hours of continuing medical education completed by a licensee to satisfy the continuing educational requirement established by the board:*

*(a) Have practice management content designed to provide better service to patients, including, but not limited to, the use of technology or clinical office workflow.*

*(b) Have management content designed to support managing a health care facility, including, but not limited to, coding or reimbursement in a medical practice.*

*(c) Support educational methodology for physicians and surgeons teaching in a medical school.*

**SEC. 3.** *This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the California Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:*

*California is currently in a declared state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is alarming, as California has a shortage of licensed physicians and surgeons, as evidenced by the recent passage of AB 890 in 2020, which removes the physician supervision requirement for nurse practitioners, and the publication by the Emergency Medical Services Authority of a memorandum permitting physicians licensed in other states to practice medicine in California.*

*To immediately increase the number of licensed medical doctors (MDs) practicing in California as physicians and surgeons, by adjusting the reciprocity statutes that govern the entry of out-of-state MDs into our state, making them consistent with the reciprocity statutes that already apply to other independent, out-of-state health care practitioners, like Doctors of Osteopathy, and to expand continuing medical education course offerings for improved practice management, health care facility management, and medical school teaching as soon as possible, it is necessary for this act to take immediate effect.*