

**This communication contains new information, and replaces the announcement sent on 2/27.
*Please review carefully.***

Representatives from the Department of Public Welfare, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs and Board of Medicine met together earlier this month. We are pleased to provide an update on several steps that are being taken to facilitate the process of applying for licensure.

UPDATED APPLICATION NOW AVAILABLE! DATED VERSION: MARCH 1, 2013

The requirements for obtaining a license are not changing. However, a revised application is now available on the Board website: www.dos.state.pa.us Select "Licensing"; "Health-Related Boards"; then "State Board of Medicine."

This version of the application includes updated instructions and revised forms. Special consideration was given to addressing the concerns that have been communicated to us. A flowchart is also attached as a reference.

IMPORTANT ITEMS TO NOTE:

The Board will accept any version of the application that is submitted. Please note, however, that providing the Board with all of the required information and forms will increase the speed with which an application can be processed.

Applicants who have not yet submitted an application should use the revised application form and should submit that application as soon as possible.

If you have already submitted an application, do not submit another one. If you are notified about a discrepancy, you should use the new forms when you submit any items that address a discrepancy. The Board of Medicine will accept any combination of the application and required forms.

The most up-to-date application will be dated March 1, 2013 or later and replaces the previous versions.

An application SHOULD NOT be submitted until you have obtained a master's or post master's degree in an approved field or a related field AND have the required Functional Behavior Assessment and clinical experience.

Approved fields: The statutory qualifications for licensure include completion of a master's degree or higher degree, including a post-master's certificate in Behavioral Analysis; Special Education; Speech Therapy; Psychology (School; Clinical; Counseling or Developmental); Professional Counseling; Social Work; Occupational Therapy; Nursing; or a related field.

For applicants whose degree or certificate was not awarded in one of the named fields, but was awarded in a related field, universities are asked to verify that the degree or certificate awarded was related to the named fields.

You should review the revised application carefully prior to submitting it to make sure that it is complete and that you meet the requirements for a behavior specialist license.

DPW WebEx: An interactive WebEx with counties, MCOs and providers to discuss the application process, as well as other considerations specific to the licensure requirement, is currently being planned for March. An announcement with specifics about this opportunity will be sent out as soon as the details are available.

Questions related to licensing specific to the application process can be emailed to ST-MEDICINE@pa.gov

Questions related to training requirements can be emailed to RA-BAStrainings@pa.gov

Additional questions can be emailed to DPW at RA-policyoffice@pa.gov