

MEDICAL BOARD STAFF REPORT

DATE REPORT ISSUED: January 12, 2021
ATTENTION: Members, Medical Board of California
SUBJECT: Application Review and Special Programs Committee
Recommendation
STAFF CONTACT: Marina O'Connor, Chief of Licensing

REQUESTED ACTION:

- 1) Approve the Application Review and Special Programs Committee's (ARSPC) recommendation to delegate Board staff the authority to grant extensions to Postgraduate Training Licenses, pursuant to California and Business Professions Code (BPC) section 2065(g).

BACKGROUND:

On January 20, 2021, the Application Review and Special Programs Committee (ARSPC) held a WebEx meeting. During the meeting, the Committee reviewed and discussed staff's recommendation to delegate authority to Board staff to grant extensions to Postgraduate Training Licenses (PTL).

According to Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 2064.5(b), a PTL is valid up to 90 days after completion of 36 months of board-approved postgraduate training if the PTL holder is enrolled in an approved postgraduate training program. This allows a PTL holder to complete 39 months of approved training before requiring a physician's and surgeon's license. If a PTL holder does not obtain a physician's and surgeon's license by the end of 39 months, then the licensee must cease all clinical practice in California. BPC section 2065(g) states, "Upon review of supporting documentation, the board, in its discretion, may grant an extension beyond 39 months to a postgraduate training licensee to successfully complete the 36 months of required approved postgraduate training." In order to successfully complete 36 months of required approved postgraduate training to be licensed in California, this must include completing 24 months in the same program.

Board staff may receive license applications from current residents that are on track to complete 36 months of postgraduate training, but will not have completed 24 months in the same program upon completion of 39 months of training (36 months, plus the 90-day grace period). These applicants were not able to complete 24 months in the same program due to personal hardship, such as a program closure. California Code of Regulations section 1321(d) also allows disruptions in training due to illness or hardships.

If approved by the Board, Board staff will have the authority to extend PTLs beyond 39 months after review of supporting documentation without requiring approval by the ARSPC.

APPLICATION REVIEW AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE FINDINGS:

The ARSPC recommends approval to delegate Board staff the authority to grant extensions to Postgraduate Training Licenses, pursuant to California and Business Professions Code (BPC) section 2065(g).