

Improving Licensure Portability with the PA Licensure Compact





Carl Sims

Deputy Program Director
National Center for Interstate Compacts
The Council of State Governments



Greg P. Thomas, PA-C Emeritus, MPH

Strategic Advisor
National Commission on Certification of
Physician Assistants (NCCPA)



John Bremer

Director, State Legislation & Policy
Federation of State Medical Boards



Meghan Pudeler

Director, State Advocacy & Outreach
American Academy of Physician
Associates (AAPA)

Disclosures

- Carl Sims: No relevant relationships with ineligible companies to disclose within the past 24 months
- Greg Thomas: No relevant relationships with ineligible companies to disclose within the past 24 months
- John Bremer: No relevant relationships with ineligible companies to disclose within the past 24 months
- Meghan Pudeler: No relevant relationships with ineligible companies to disclose within the past 24 months

History of the PA Compact

- The PA Compact is a joint initiative started in 2019 to improve licensure portability for PAs.
- The initiative is made possible through the partnership with the following organizations:
 - Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)
 - American Academy of Physician Associations (AAPA)
 - National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA)
 - The Council of State Governments (CSG)

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PA Compact Purpose

- Facilitates PA licensure portability
- Ensures PAs meet acceptable standards of practice
- Expands the availability of PA services
- Supports military families
- Promotes cooperation among PA member states in the areas of licensure and recognition
- Offers a high degree of patient protection across state lines

Occupational Licensing Interstate Compacts

**Facilitate
Multistate
Practice**

**Maintain or
Improve Public
Health and
Safety**

**Preserve State
Authority Over
Professional
Licensing**



**45 states (+ DC, Guam, USVI) have adopted at least 1 compact.
35 states (+ DC) have adopted at least 3 compacts.**



**Over 290 pieces of occupational licensure compact legislation
have been enacted since January 2016.**



**15 professions have active interstate compacts for
occupational licensing.**

Benefits for Practitioners



Authorizes practice in other member states



Improves licensure portability



Reduces effort needed to maintain individual state licenses



Takes advantage of new telehealth opportunities

Benefits for Regulators



States retain control of scope of practice



States retain control of initial licensure process



Compacts facilitate the exchange of licensure and disciplinary information



Compacts improve cooperation in regulating the profession

Benefits for Consumers



Increases access
to services



Improves continuity
of care



Promotes practitioner
diversity



Enhances consumer
protection

Key Definitions

- **“Participating State”** means a State that has enacted this Compact.
- **“Remote State”** means a Participating State where a Licensee who is not licensed as a PA is exercising or seeking to exercise the Compact Privilege.
- **“Qualifying License”** means an unrestricted License issued by a Participating State to provide medical services as a PA.
- **“Compact Privilege”** means the authorization granted by a Remote State to allow a Licensee from another Participating State to practice as a PA to provide medical services and other licensed activity to a patient located in the Remote State under the Remote State’s laws and regulations.

PA Licensure Compact: How It Works

PA Compact is a Mutual Recognition Model licensure compact that is similar in form and function to other occupational licensing compacts

Mutual recognition means that compact member states agree to mutually recognize a valid, unrestricted licenses of other compact member states

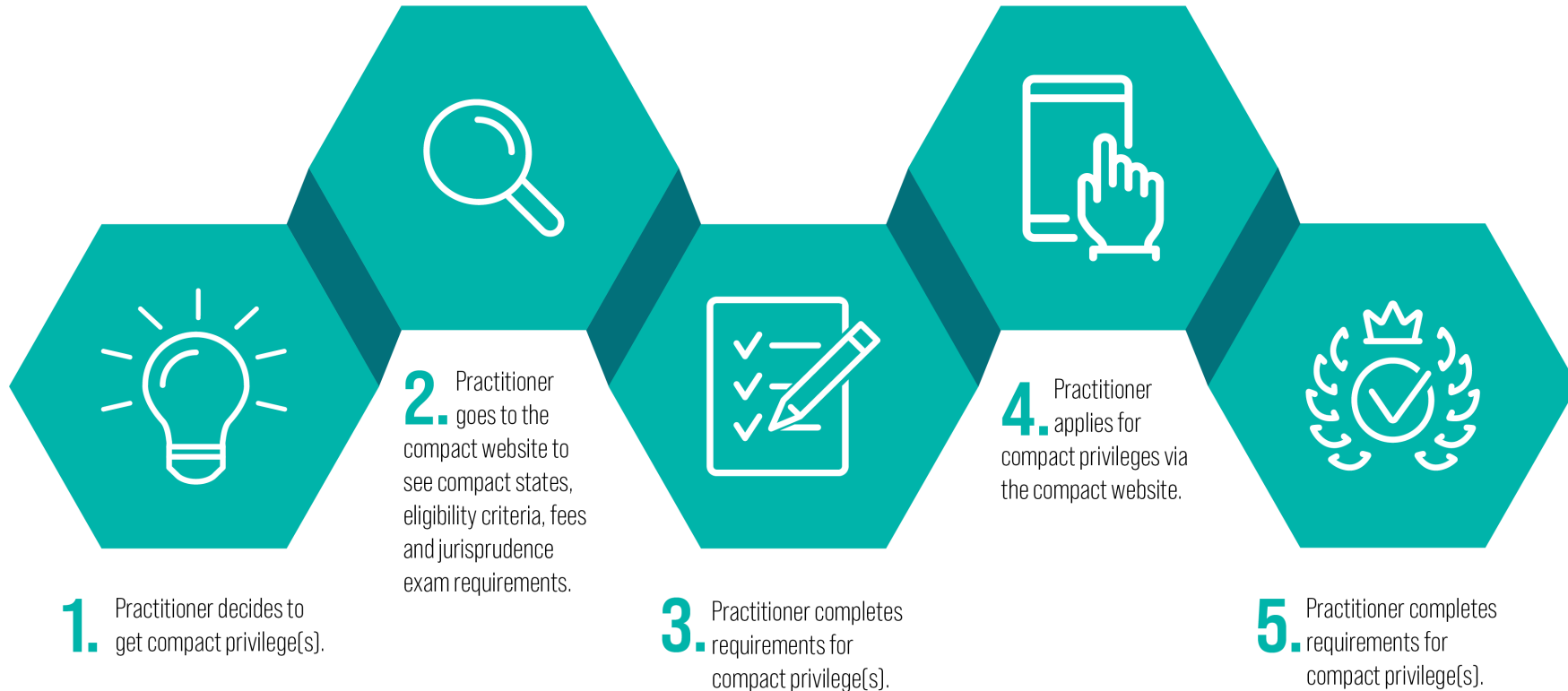
The PA Compact will allow PAs to practice in compact member states via a Compact Privilege

Compact Privileges

- A compact privilege must be individually applied for by a holder of a qualifying license
- States may issue a fee for each compact privilege they issue
- Compact privileges expire when the qualifying license expires
- PAs must meet state specific requirements for practice (collaboration or supervision, prescription, jurisprudence exams, etc)
- PAs must abide by the laws and regulations of the state where services are being provided.



How to Get a Compact Privilege



Requirements for a State to Join the PA Compact

- **In order to become a member state, a state must:**
 - License PAs
 - Participate in the compact commission
 - Have a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints against licensees and license applicants
 - Notify the commission of any adverse action against or significant investigation information of a licensee or license applicant
 - Fully implement a criminal background check requirement
 - Comply with the rules of the compact commission
 - Utilize passage of a recognized national exam such as the NCCPA PANCE as a requirement for PA licensure
 - Grant the compact privilege to a holder of a qualifying license in another state participating in the compact

Requirements for an Individual to obtain compact privileges

- **To exercise the compact privilege, a licensee must:**
 - Have graduated from an accredited PA program
 - Hold current NCCPA certification
 - Have no felony or misdemeanor convictions
 - Have never had a controlled substance license or permit suspended or revoked
 - Have a unique identifier as determined by the compact commission
 - Hold an unrestricted license issued by a participating compact state to provide medical services as a PA
 - Have no limitation or restriction on any state license in the previous two years
 - Notify the compact commission of their intent to seek the compact privilege in a remote state
 - Meet any jurisprudence requirements in the remote state
 - Report to the commission any adverse action taken by a non-member state within 30 days after the action is taken

Provisions Respecting Individual State Laws and Regulations

PA Compact Privilege holders must always abide by the laws and regulations of the state which they are practicing in at the time

States CAN

- Investigate compact privilege holders for action taken in their state
- Act on a license/privilege issued by their state
- Participate in joint investigations with other member states

States CAN'T

- Act on a license/privilege issued by another member state
- Deny a privilege or investigate a PA for lawful action in another state
- Specify the laws and regulations a PA must follow in a remote state

The PA Compact Commission

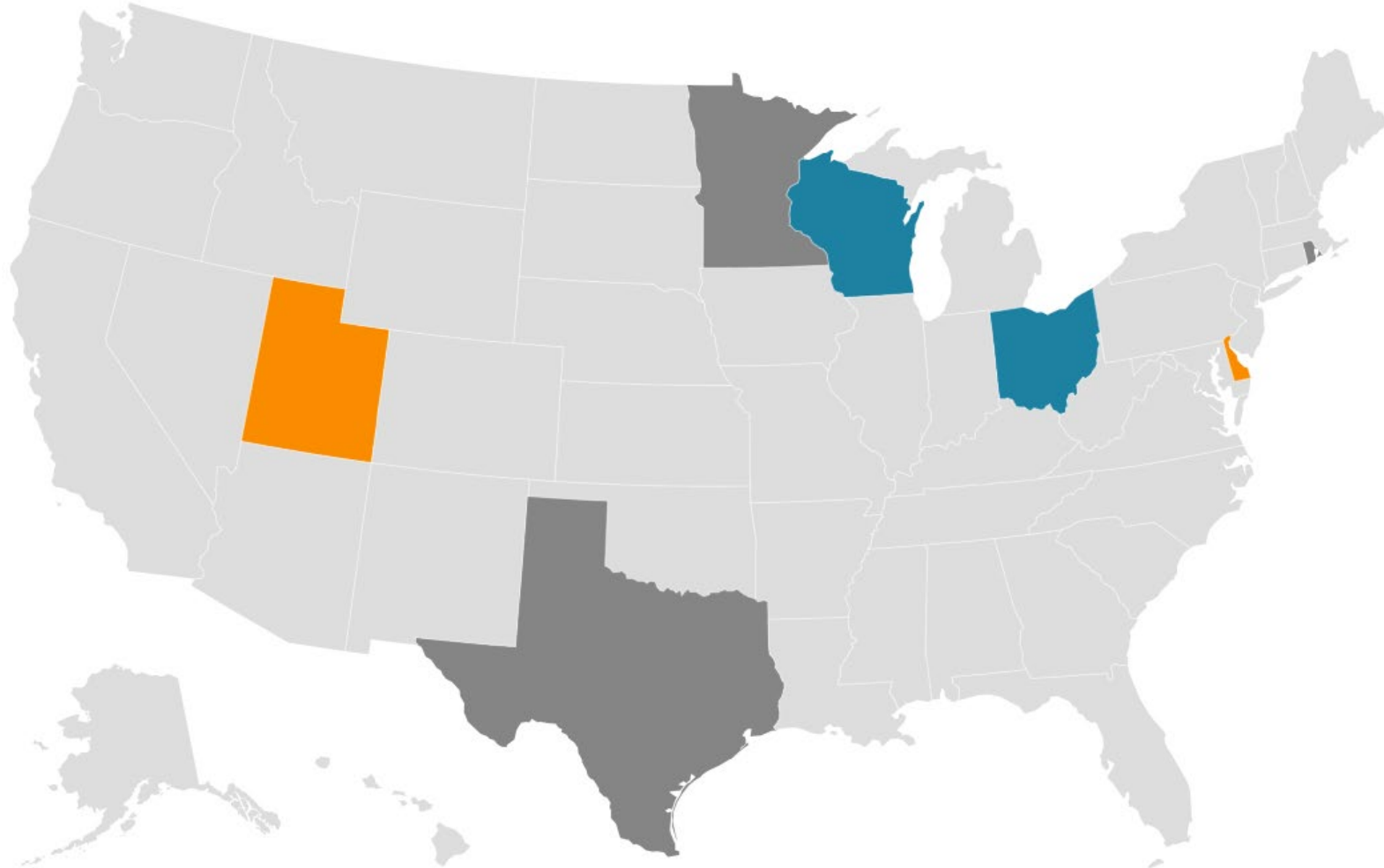
The PA Compact Commission will consist of one delegate from each state. The representative must be:

- A current PA, physician, or public member of a Licensing Board or PA Council/Committee; or
- An administrator of a Licensing Board

The PA Compact: Where are we?

■ Legislation Enacted ■ Legislation Filed ■ Legislation Introduced in Previous Session

- The PA Compact is available for state enactment, but it is not yet operational.
- The compact will be activated after seven states have adopted the compact model legislation.
- Two states have enacted the PA Compact – Utah and Delaware.



PAs by the Numbers

- 168,318 board certified PAs at the beginning of 2022, including over 11,000 who were certified for the first time*
- Approximately 141,000 PAs provided data through the NCCPA Professional Profile to create the 2022 Statistical Profiles (response rate of nearly 84%)*
- 4 reports updated annually
 - Overall Statistical Profile
 - Statistical Profile by Specialty (also a supplementary report on secondary specialty)
 - Statistical Profile by State
 - Statistical Profile of Recently Certified PAs (certified within the last 6 months)
- All reports available at no charge on NCCPA Website (nccpa.net)

*2022 Statistical Profile of Board Certified Physician Assistants

PAs by the Numbers

- Data in reports includes (among others):
 - Demographic information (gender, age, race, and ethnicity)
 - Educational profile
 - Language(s) spoken with patients
 - Primary (and secondary) specialty
 - Practice setting
 - Participation in telemedicine
 - Job satisfaction and burnout
 - Professional income

Additional Resources



Compact Toolkit

- Model Legislation
- Section by Sheet for testimony
- FAQ
- Section Summary
- Reference

<https://www.pacompact.org>

pacompact@csg.org

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Questions?