

Frequently Asked Questions for Professions Transitioning into MiPLUS

Revised September 8, 2021

- **What is the Michigan Professional Licensing User System (MiPLUS)?**

MiPLUS is the new online licensing and regulatory database for health and occupational professionals in Michigan. This new system is administered by the Bureau of Professional Licensing (BPL) within the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA).

- **Why is the Department moving to the new licensing system?**

The new MiPLUS system will replace three main databases that BPL currently uses to manage licensee records. These systems are 20 years old and limit our ability to offer additional functionality and improve the customer experience.

- **What are some of the key benefits in the MiPLUS System?**
 - Individuals can apply online, track the status of their application, renew their license, and receive electronic notifications.
 - Licensees can modify their existing licensing information and upload documents.
 - Licensees can self-report their convictions and disciplinary actions from other states.
 - Individuals can verify the status of a licensed professional, file a complaint against a licensed professional, or report a change in staff privileges.
 - It allows for electronic transmissions, reducing the time waiting for traditional mail communications.

- **Who can use MiPLUS?**

We implemented the new MiPLUS system in 2017 with Nursing. In May of 2019 we added Cosmetology, Barbers, Pharmacy, Medicine, Optometry, Osteopathic Medicine, Podiatry, Veterinary Medicine, Dentistry, Physician's Assistant, Behavior Analyst, and Midwifery. In August of 2020 we added Acupuncture, Architects, Audiology, Athletic Trainers, Marriage and Family Therapists, Massage Therapists, Nursing Home Administrators, Professional Engineers, Professional Surveyors, Psychology, Real Estate, Sanitarians, and Speech Language Pathology.

Now, in **October** of 2021 we are adding:

- Accountancy
 - Appraisal Management Companies
 - Appraisers
 - Chiropractic
 - Collection Agencies
 - Counseling
 - Hearing Aid Dealers
 - Landscape Architects
 - Occupational Therapy
 - Personnel Agencies
 - Physical Therapy
 - Respiratory Care
 - Social Work
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- **Will there be a period of time when the state won't be able to process licenses?**

Yes. In order to allow time for the migration of licensing records from the old system into the new system, our office will be unable to process license applications, license renewals, or changes to licenses between **September 17, 2021 and October 5, 2021**. If your profession currently has a paper application process, we will continue to accept paper applications through **October 1, 2021**. However, please keep in mind that we will not be able to process any paper applications received between **September 17, 2021 and October 5, 2021**. These applications will have to be hand entered by BPL staff into the new system. As a result, it may take longer than usual to process paper applications submitted after that time period.

 - **Can I register my account in MiPLUS before October 4, 2021?**

If your profession is moving to MiPLUS as part of Phase 4, please **DO NOT** attempt to register an account in the system before **October 5, 2021**. Doing this will negatively impact the time it takes you to renew your license and will likely require that you call us for assistance before you are able to complete the renewal process online.

 - **Will license verifications be available during this time period?**

We will be able to perform license verification between **September 17, 2021 and October 5, 2021** as staff will have limited "view only" access to records. Our Verify a License web page will be available during this time, however, the information on this site will only be current through September 17, 2021. It will not be updated between September 17, 2021 and October 5, 2021. Disciplinary actions during this time will be posted in a separate link on the Verify a License web page.

- **Will the department still be mailing out renewal postcard notifications with the MiPLUS system?**

Yes. Our will office will continue to mail out renewal postcard notifications. In addition, renewal emails will continue to be sent as well.

- **Are license numbers changing?**

The conversion to the new system necessitated that a small group of our licensees be issued new license numbers. New numbers for some were assigned, and the impacted licensees received their new licenses in the mail in April 2021. You can always check your license number by clicking on “Verify a License” at www.michigan.gov/bpl.

- **Will my expiration date be changing?**

The expiration date shown on any current valid license will not change. When you renew your current license for the first time in the MiPLUS system, your new license will have an expiration date that corresponds to the date you first received your professional license. However, the expiration dates for some professions will not be changing. For most professions, new licensees will receive a license for the full length of the license cycle with an expiration date that corresponds to the date the license was issued. Under the old system, initial licenses were often for a duration of only about 1 year. This will no longer be the case for most professions.

- **How do I learn how to use MiPLUS?**

Visit www.michigan.gov/miplus to learn more about how to use the new system. This page includes information on how to register an account; how to apply for a license; how to renew your license; and how to modify your license information. This site will also contain a list of FAQs and information you will need to know before applying for licensure or renewing a license in the system. As we get closer to the **October 5, 2021** launch date, this site will be updated to include information for the new professions moving to MiPLUS.