

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST LICENSING GUIDE

OVERVIEW:

The respiratory therapist license type allows a licensee to engage in the practice of respiratory care.

NOTE: The content contained below is a general overview of licensing requirements. Links to access the Public Health Code and Administrative Rules for this profession can be found at the end of this guide.

LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

(Listed below are the minimum requirements needed to obtain a respiratory therapist license.)

APPLICATION AND FEES

- Online Application for a Respiratory Therapist License - Complete all fields, answer all questions, and upload any supporting documentation.
- Online application can be completed by visiting www.michigan.gov/miplus.
- Application Fee + 3-year License Fee (Must be paid by Visa, Mastercard, Discover, or American Express credit or debit card):

Respiratory Therapist – By Exam – \$270.10
Respiratory Therapist – By Endorsement – \$270.10
Respiratory Therapist – Relicensure – \$290.10

THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO ALL APPLICANTS (EXCEPT RENEWAL)

- Criminal Background Check – Once the online application is completed and submitted you will be emailed an Application Confirmation letter containing instructions to complete the Criminal Background Check (except those applicants seeking relicensure, if the license expired within the last three years).
- Good Moral Character Questions – Documentation will be required if you answer “yes” to either question to show at the current time you have the ability to, and are likely to, serve the public in a fair, honest and open manner, that you are rehabilitated, or that the substance of the former offense is not reasonably related to the occupation or profession for which you are seeking a license.
- Social Security Number (SSN) – An individual applying for licensure is required to provide his or her social security number at the time of application. If exempt under law from obtaining an SSN or do not have an SSN, the SSN affidavit form will be required to be uploaded at the time the application is submitted.

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- Verification of Licensure – Verification of licensure must be sent directly to our office by the licensing agency of any state of the United States or country in which you hold or ever held a license. The verification must show that disciplinary proceedings are not pending against the applicant and sanctions are not in force at the time of application. Verification can be emailed to bpldata@michigan.gov or mailed to the Bureau of Professional Licensing, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.
- Human Trafficking Training – Individuals seeking licensure must have completed training in identifying victims of human trafficking that meets the standards in Administrative Rule 338.2201a prior to being issued a license. The training must only be completed one time.
- Implicit Bias Training – Beginning June 1, 2022, individuals seeking licensure must have completed at least 2 hours of implicit bias training within the five years immediately preceding issuance of the license.
- English Language Proficiency – An individual applying for licensure must demonstrate a working knowledge of the English language. This can be established if either the applicant's required health professional educational program was taught in English, a transcript establishes the applicant earned not less than 60 college level credits from an English-speaking graduate or undergraduate school, or that the applicant obtained a passing score on an approved English proficiency exam as established by the department under [R 338.7002b](#) of the Public Health Code – General Rules.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE BY EXAM (These are in addition to the requirements stated above that apply to ALL Applicants)

- Arrange for official transcripts to be sent directly to this office confirming: (1) the completion of a 2-year associate's degree from an accredited college or university that meets the recognition standards and criteria of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) AND (2) the completion of a respiratory therapist training program which is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).
Note: The Certification of Completion of a Respiratory Therapy Program form is no longer required.
- Arrange for an official report to be sent directly to this office from the National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRC) confirming you possess a credential for respiratory therapists. NBRC can be contacted on their website at www.nbrc.org.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT (These are in addition to the requirements stated above that apply to ALL Applicants)

Applicants who have been licensed or registered as a respiratory therapist in another state or licensed as a respiratory therapist in a province of Canada for 5 years or more:

- Verification of Licensure – Verification of licensure must be sent directly to our office by the licensing agency of any state of the United States or country in which you hold or ever held a license. The verification must show that disciplinary proceedings are not pending against the applicant and sanctions are not in force at the time of application. Verification can be emailed to bpldata@michigan.gov or mailed to the Bureau of Professional Licensing, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.

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Applicants who have been licensed or registered as a respiratory therapist in another state or licensed as a respiratory therapist in a province of Canada for less than 5 years:

- Verification of Licensure – Verification of licensure must be sent directly to our office by the licensing agency of any state of the United States or country in which you hold or ever held a license. The verification must show that disciplinary proceedings are not pending against the applicant and sanctions are not in force at the time of application. Verification can be emailed to bpldata@michigan.gov or mailed to the Bureau of Professional Licensing, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.
- Arrange for official transcripts to be sent directly to this office confirming: (1) the completion of a 2-year associate's degree from an accredited college or university that meets the recognition standards and criteria of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) AND (2) the completion of a respiratory therapist training program which is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).
Note: The Certification of Completion of a Respiratory Therapy Program form is no longer required.
- Arrange for an official report to be sent directly to this office from the National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRC) confirming you possess a credential for respiratory therapists. NBRC can be contacted on their website at www.nbrc.org.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE APPLYING FOR RELICENSURE (These are in addition to the requirements stated above that apply to ALL Applicants)

- Online application can be completed by visiting www.michigan.gov/miplus, select **MiPLUS Login**, select **“Modification”** next to your license number and then select **“Relicensure.”**

Applicants for relicensure whose license has been lapsed for 3 years or less at the time of application must submit the following:

- Verification of Licensure – Verification of licensure must be sent directly to our office by the licensing agency of any state of the United States or country in which you hold or ever held a license. The verification must show that disciplinary proceedings are not pending against the applicant and sanctions are not in force at the time of application. Verification can be emailed to bpldata@michigan.gov or mailed to the Bureau of Professional Licensing, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.

Applicants for relicensure whose license has been lapsed for more than 3 years at the time of application must submit the following:

- Verification of Licensure – Verification of licensure must be sent directly to our office by the licensing agency of any state of the United States or country in which you hold or ever held a license. The verification must show that disciplinary proceedings are not pending against the applicant and sanctions are not in force at the time of application. Verification can be emailed to bpldata@michigan.gov or mailed to the Bureau of Professional Licensing, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.

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- Applicants who do not hold a current and valid respiratory care license, registration, or certification in another state of the United States or province of Canada must arrange for an official report to be sent directly to this office from the National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRC) confirming you passed either the NBRC Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) examination or NBRC Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) examination within 2 years of submission of the application for relicensure. NBRC can be contacted on their website at www.nbrc.org.

RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- Online Application for a Respiratory Therapist Renewal – Can be completed by visiting www.michigan.gov/miplus.

- Renewal Application Fee (Must be paid by Visa, Mastercard, Discover, or American Express credit or debit card):

Respiratory Therapist Renewal Application Fee: \$248.10

- Renewal Cycle: 3 years

- Good Moral Character Questions – Documentation will be required if you answer “yes” to either question to show at the current time you have the ability to, and are likely to, serve the public in a fair, honest and open manner, that you are rehabilitated, or that the substance of the former offense is not reasonably related to the occupation or profession for which you are seeking license renewal.
- Disciplinary Question – Documentation will be required if you answer “yes” to having sanctions imposed against you by a similar licensure, registration, certification, or disciplinary board of another state or country you have not previously reported to the department.
- Accept Renewal Attestation - By accepting the renewal attestation you as the licensee are certifying that you have met all the Respiratory Therapist renewal requirements and all information provided on your renewal application is true and correct.
- Human Trafficking Training – Licensees seeking renewal must have completed training in identifying victims of human trafficking that meets the standards in Administrative Rule 338.2201a prior to renewing their license. The training must only be completed one time.
- Implicit Bias Training – Beginning June 1, 2022, and all renewals thereafter, licensees seeking renewal must have completed a minimum of 1 hour of implicit bias training for each year of the applicant’s license cycle as established by the department in R 338.7004 of the Public Health Code – General Rules. For the first renewal on or after June 1, 2022, licensees will only need to have 1 hour for each year since the rule’s promulgation date of June 1, 2021.

HELPFUL RESOURCES AND FORMS

- By visiting www.michigan.gov/healthlicense and clicking on the respiratory care link you can access the following helpful resources and forms:

Resources:

- [Michigan Public Health Code](#)
- [Administrative Rules for Respiratory Care](#)