

Centralized Licensing Statutes

October 2024



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY,
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

***DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS
AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING***

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CHAPTER 01.
CENTRALIZED LICENSING

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Sec. 08.01.010. Applicability of chapter. This chapter applies to the

- (1) Board of Public Accountancy (AS 08.04.010);
- (2) regulation of acupuncturists under AS 08.06;
- (3) State Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors (AS 08.48.011);
- (4) Athletic Commission (AS 05.05 and AS 05.10);
- (5) regulation of athletic trainers under AS 08.07;
- (6) regulation of audiologists and speech-language pathologists under AS 08.11;
- (7) Board of Barbers and Hairdressers (AS 08.13.010);
- (8) regulation of behavior analysts under AS 08.15;
- (9) Big Game Commercial Services Board (AS 08.54.591);
- (10) regulation of business licenses under AS 43.70;
- (11) Board of Chiropractic Examiners (AS 08.20.010);
- (12) regulation of collection agencies under AS 08.24;
- (13) regulation of concert promoters under AS 08.92;
- (14) regulation of construction contractors and home inspectors under AS 08.18;
- (15) Board of Dental Examiners (AS 08.36.010);
- (16) regulation of dietitians and nutritionists under AS 08.38;
- (17) Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives (AS 08.65.010);
- (18) regulation of dispensing opticians under AS 08.71;
- (19) regulation of electrical and mechanical administrators under AS 08.40;
- (20) regulation of agencies that perform euthanasia services under AS 08.02.050;
- (21) regulation of professional geologists under AS 08.02.060;
- (22) regulation of private professional guardians and private professional conservators (AS 08.26);
- (23) regulation of hearing aid dealers under AS 08.55;
- (24) Board of Marine Pilots (AS 08.62.010);
- (25) Board of Marital and Family Therapy (AS 08.63.010);
- (26) Board of Massage Therapists (AS 08.61.010);
- (27) State Medical Board (AS 08.64.010);
- (28) regulation of morticians under AS 08.42;
- (29) regulation of the practice of naturopathy under AS 08.45;
- (30) Board of Nursing (AS 08.68.010);
- (31) regulation of nursing home administrators under AS 08.70;
- (32) Board of Examiners in Optometry (AS 08.72.010);
- (33) regulation of pawnbrokers (AS 08.76.100 – 08.76.590);

- (34) Board of Pharmacy (AS 08.80.010);
- (35) State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board (AS 08.84.010);
- (36) Board of Professional Counselors (AS 08.29.010);
- (37) Board of Psychologist and Psychological Associate Examiners (AS 08.86.010);
- (38) Real Estate Commission (AS 08.88.011);
- (39) Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers (AS 08.87.010);
- (40) Board of Social Work Examiners (AS 08.95.010);
- (41) Board of Veterinary Examiners (AS 08.98.010).

Sec. 08.01.020. Board organization. Board members are appointed by the governor and serve at the pleasure of the governor. Unless otherwise provided, the governor may designate the chair of a board, and all other officers shall be elected by the board members. Unless otherwise provided, officers of a board are the chair and the secretary. A board may provide by regulation that three or more unexcused absences from meetings are cause for removal.

Sec. 08.01.025. Public members. A public member of a board may not

- (1) be engaged in the occupation that the board regulates;
- (2) be associated by legal contract with a member of the occupation that the board regulates except as a consumer of the services provided by a practitioner of the occupation; or
- (3) have a direct financial interest in the occupation that the board regulates.

Sec. 08.01.030. Quorum. A majority of the membership of a board constitutes a quorum unless otherwise provided.

Sec. 08.01.035. Appointments and terms. Members of boards subject to this chapter are appointed for staggered terms of four years. Except as provided in AS 39.05.080(4), a member of a board serves until a successor is appointed. Except as provided in AS 39.05.080(4), an appointment to fill a vacancy on a board is for the remainder of the unexpired term. A member who has served all or part of two successive terms on a board may not be reappointed to that board unless four years have elapsed since the person has last served on the board.

Sec. 08.01.040. Transportation and per diem. A board member is entitled to transportation expenses and per diem as set out in AS 39.20.180.

Sec. 08.01.050. Administrative duties of department. (a) The department shall perform the following administrative and budgetary services when appropriate:

- (1) collect and record fees;
- (2) maintain records and files;
- (3) issue and receive application forms;
- (4) notify applicants of acceptance or rejection as determined by the board or, for occupations or activities listed in AS 08.01.010 that are regulated directly by the department, as determined by the department under applicable law;
- (5) designate dates examinations are to be held and notify applicants;
- (6) publish notice of examinations and proceedings;
- (7) arrange space for holding examinations and proceedings;
- (8) notify applicants of results of examinations;
- (9) issue licenses or temporary licenses as authorized by the board or, for occupations or activities listed in AS 08.01.010 that are regulated directly by the department, as authorized by the department under applicable law;
- (10) issue duplicate licenses upon submission of a written request by the licensee attesting to loss of or the failure to receive the original and payment by the licensee of a fee established by regulation adopted by the department;
- (11) notify licensees of renewal dates at least 30 days before the expiration date of their licenses;
- (12) compile and maintain a current register of licensees;
- (13) answer routine inquiries;
- (14) maintain files relating to individual licensees;
- (15) arrange for printing and advertising;
- (16) purchase supplies;
- (17) employ additional help when needed;
- (18) perform other services that may be requested by the board;
- (19) provide inspection, enforcement, and investigative services to the boards and for the occupations listed in AS 08.01.010 regarding all licenses issued by or through the department;
- (20) retain and safeguard the official seal of a board and prepare, sign, and affix a board seal, as appropriate, for licenses approved by a board;
- (21) issue business licenses under AS 43.70.

(b) The form and content of a license, authorized by a board listed in AS 08.01.010, including any document evidencing renewal of a license, shall be determined by the department after consultation with and consideration of the views of the board concerned.

(c) *[Repealed, Sec. 49 ch 94 SLA 1987.]*

(d) At the request of one of the following boards, the department may contract with public agencies and private professional organizations to provide assistance and treatment to persons licensed by the board who abuse alcohol, other drugs, or other substances:

- (1) Board of Social Work Examiners;
- (2) Board of Dental Examiners;
- (3) Board of Marital and Family Therapy;
- (4) State Medical Board;
- (5) Board of Nursing;
- (6) Board of Examiners in Optometry;
- (7) Board of Pharmacy;
- (8) State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board;
- (9) Board of Professional Counselors;
- (10) Board of Psychologist and Psychological Associate Examiners; and
- (11) Board of Veterinary Examiners.

Sec. 08.01.060. Application for license. (a) All applications for examination or licensing to engage in the business or profession covered by this chapter shall be made in writing to the department.

(b) If the applicant is a natural person, the application must require that the applicant submit the applicant's social security number to the department. Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a license to engage in a profession may not be issued by the department to a natural person unless the social security number has been provided to the department.

Sec. 08.01.062. Courtesy licenses. (a) A board established under this title and the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, with respect to an occupation that it regulates under this title, may by regulation establish criteria for issuing a temporary courtesy license to nonresidents who enter the state so that, on a temporary basis, they may practice the occupation regulated by the board or the department.

(b) The regulations adopted under (a) of this section may include limitations relating to the

- (1) duration of the license's validity;
- (2) scope of practice allowed under the license; and
- (3) other matters considered important by the board or the department.

Sec. 08.01.063. Military courtesy licenses. (a) Except as provided in (d) of this section, and notwithstanding another provision of law, the department or appropriate board shall issue a temporary courtesy license to an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States or the spouse of an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States if the active duty member or spouse meets the requirements of this section and applies to the department or appropriate board in the manner prescribed by the department or appropriate board. An application must include evidence satisfactory to the department or appropriate board that the applicant

(1) is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States or is married to and living with a member of the armed forces of the United States who is on active duty and assigned to a duty station in this state under official active duty military orders;

(2) holds a current license or certificate in another state, district, or territory of the United States, or that is recognized by the United States, including a branch of the armed forces of the United States, with requirements that the department or appropriate board determines are substantially equivalent to those established under this title for that occupation;

(3) if required by the department or appropriate board for obtaining a license in the applicant's profession, has been fingerprinted and has provided the fees required by the Department of Public Safety under AS 12.62.160 for criminal justice information and a national criminal history record check; the fingerprints and fees shall be forwarded to the Department of Public Safety to obtain a report of criminal justice information under AS 12.62 and a national criminal history record check under AS 12.62.400;

(4) has not committed an act in any jurisdiction that would have constituted grounds for the refusal, suspension, or revocation of a license or certificate to practice that occupation under this title at the time the act was committed;

(5) has not been disciplined by a licensing or credentialing entity in another jurisdiction and is not the subject of an unresolved complaint, review procedure, or disciplinary proceeding conducted by a licensing or credentialing entity in another jurisdiction; and

(6) pays any fees required under this title.

(b) The department or appropriate board shall issue a temporary license under this section to a person who meets the requirements under (a) of this section within 30 days after the department or appropriate board receives the person's completed application for the temporary license.

(c) A temporary courtesy license issued under this section is valid for 180 days and may be extended at the discretion of the department or appropriate board for one additional 180-day period, on application of the holder of the temporary courtesy license.

(d) This section does not apply to the practice of law or the regulation of attorneys under AS 08.08.

(e) The department shall prepare an annual report that describes, for the previous fiscal year, information on temporary courtesy licenses issued under this section, including

- (1) expedited application procedures;
- (2) progress made toward implementing regulations for the licenses, changes to regulations made to accommodate the needs of military spouses, and any plans for future regulations;
- (3) the number and type of the licenses that have been issued; and
- (4) the department's efforts to inform each board authorized to issue a temporary courtesy license under this section and the military community in the state about the licenses.

(f) The department shall submit the report prepared under (e) of this section to the Joint Armed Services Committee on or before the first day of March each year. In addition, the department shall consolidate the two most recent reports and submit a biennial report to the legislature on or before the first day of March during the first regular session of each legislature. The department shall deliver a copy of the biennial report to the senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of representatives and notify the legislature that the report is available.

(g) The department shall annually produce and distribute to each board authorized to issue a temporary courtesy license under this section informational materials for the purpose of improving the board's knowledge of the licenses, the application process, and best practices in providing applicant support. The department shall encourage the boards to designate a single employee to serve as the point of contact for public information and inquiries related to temporary courtesy licenses for military spouses.

Sec. 08.01.064. Military education, training, and service credit; temporary license. (a) Notwithstanding another provision of law, the department or applicable board shall accept military education, training, and service for some or all of the qualifications otherwise required of an applicant for a license or certificate issued under this chapter if

(1) the department or applicable board determines that the military education, training, and service is substantially equivalent to some or all of the qualifications otherwise required of an applicant for a license or certificate issued under this chapter; and

(2) the applicant provides satisfactory evidence of successful completion of the education, training, or service as a member of the armed forces of the United States, the United States Reserves, the National Guard of any state, the Military Reserves of any state, or the Naval Militia of any state.

(b) If the department issues temporary licenses or certificates as authorized by the department or applicable board under AS 08.01.050(a)(9), the department or applicable board shall issue a temporary license or certificate to a person who

(1) applies to the department or applicable board in a manner prescribed by the department or board;

(2) meets the requirements in AS 08.01.063(a)(3) - (6); and

(3) while in the armed forces of the United States or any state, as described in (a) of this section,

(A) held a current license or certificate in another state, district, or territory of the United States, practiced in the area of the license or certificate, and maintained the license or certificate in active status before and at the time of application for a license or certificate under this subsection; or

(B) was awarded a degree, diploma, or certificate by a branch of the armed forces of the United States or any state, as described in (a) of this section, that met standards for an equivalent license or a certificate of technical training.

(c) The department or applicable board shall expedite the procedure for issuance of a license or certificate under (b) of this section for an applicant who is on active duty.

(d) A license or certificate issued under (b) of this section is valid for 180 days and may be extended at the discretion of the department or applicable board for one additional 180-day period if the holder of the license or certificate applies for an extension on a form approved by the department or applicable board.

(e) The department or applicable board may adopt regulations necessary to implement this section.

Sec. 08.01.065. Establishment of fees. (a) Except for business licenses, the department shall adopt regulations that establish the amount and manner of payment of application fees, examination fees, license fees, registration fees, permit fees, investigation fees, and all other fees as appropriate for the occupations covered by this chapter.

(b) *[Repealed, Sec. 4 ch 34 SLA 1992.]*

(c) Except as provided in (f) - (k) of this section, the department shall establish fee levels under (a) of this section so that the total amount of fees collected for an occupation approximately equals the actual regulatory costs for the occupation. The department shall annually review each fee level to determine whether the regulatory costs of each occupation are approximately equal to fee collections related to that occupation. If the review indicates that an occupation's fee collections and regulatory costs are not approximately equal, the department shall calculate fee adjustments and adopt regulations under (a) of this section to implement the adjustments. In January of each year, the department shall report on all fee levels and revisions for the previous year under this subsection to the office of management and budget. If a board regulates an occupation covered by this chapter, the department shall consider

the board's recommendations concerning the occupation's fee levels and regulatory costs before revising fee schedules to comply with this subsection. In this subsection, "regulatory costs" means costs of the department that are attributable to regulation of an occupation plus

- (1) all expenses of the board that regulates the occupation if the board regulates only one occupation;
- (2) the expenses of a board that are attributable to the occupation if the board regulates more than one occupation.

(d) The license fee for a business license is set by AS 43.70.030(a). The department shall adopt regulations that establish the manner of payment of the license fee.

(e) *[Repealed, Sec. 28 ch 90 SLA 1991.]*

(f) Notwithstanding (c) of this section, the department shall establish fee levels under (a) of this section so that the total amount of fees collected by the State Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors approximately equals the total regulatory costs of the department and the board for all occupations regulated by the board. The department shall set the fee levels for the issuance and renewal of a certificate of registration issued under AS 08.48.211 so that the fee levels are the same for all occupations regulated by the board.

(g) Notwithstanding (c) of this section, the department shall establish fee levels under (a) of this section so that the total amount of fees collected by the department for all occupations regulated under AS 08.11 approximately equals the total regulatory costs of the department for all occupations regulated by the department under AS 08.11. The department shall set the fee levels for the issuance and renewal of licenses issued under AS 08.11 so that the fee levels are the same for all occupations regulated by the department under AS 08.11.

(h) Notwithstanding (c) of this section, the department shall establish fee levels under (a) of this section so that the total amount of fees collected by the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers approximately equals the total regulatory costs of the department, the board, and the Department of Environmental Conservation for all occupations regulated by the board. For purposes of this subsection, the regulatory costs of the Department of Environmental Conservation for the occupations regulated by the board include the cost of inspections under AS 08.13.210(b), the cost of developing and adopting regulations under AS 44.46.020 for barbershop, hairdressing, hair braiding, manicuring, esthetics, body piercing, ear piercing, tattooing, and permanent cosmetic coloring establishments, and the cost to the Department of Environmental Conservation of enforcing the regulations for body piercing, tattooing, and permanent cosmetic coloring establishments. The department shall set the fee levels for the issuance and renewal of a practitioner's license issued under AS 08.13.100 so that the license and license renewal fees are the same for all occupations regulated by the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers.

(i) Notwithstanding (c) of this section, the department shall establish fee levels under (a) of this section so that the total amount of fees collected by the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development for specialty contractors, home inspectors, and associate home inspectors approximately equals the total regulatory costs of the department for those three registration categories. The department shall set the fee levels for the issuance and renewal of a certificate of registration issued under AS 08.18 so that the fee levels are the same for all three of these registration categories and so that the fee level for a home inspector with a joint registration is not different from the fee level for a home inspector who does not have a joint registration. In this subsection, "joint registration" has the meaning given in AS 08.18.171.

(j) The department shall establish for real estate appraisal management companies registered under AS 08.87 a registry fee in an amount that equals the amount determined by the federal Appraisal Subcommittee established under 12 U.S.C. 3310 as a national registry fee for each real estate appraiser of the appraiser panel of a real estate appraisal management company under 12 U.S.C. 3338 (Title XI, Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989), as amended by 12 U.S.C. 5301 – 5641 (Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act); the department may annually remit fees paid under this subsection to the Appraisal Subcommittee for participation in the national registry for real estate appraisal management companies.

(k) Notwithstanding (c) of this section, the department shall establish fee levels under (a) of this section so that the total amount of fees collected by the Board of Dental Examiners approximately equals the total regulatory costs of the department, the board, and the Department of Health for all occupations regulated by the board. For purposes of this subsection, the regulatory costs of the Department of Health for the occupations regulated by the board include the cost of inspecting dental radiological equipment under AS 44.29.020(d).

Sec. 08.01.070. Administrative duties of boards. Each board shall perform the following duties in addition to those provided in its respective law:

- (1) take minutes and records of all proceedings;
- (2) hold a minimum of one meeting each year;
- (3) hold at least one examination each year;
- (4) request, through the department, investigation of violations of its laws and regulations;
- (5) prepare and grade board examinations;
- (6) set minimum qualifications for applicants for examination and license and may establish a waiver of continuing education requirements for renewal of a license for the period in which a licensee is engaged in active duty military service as described under AS 08.01.100(f);
- (7) forward a draft of the minutes of proceedings to the department within 20 days after the proceedings;
- (8) forward results of board examinations to the department within 20 days after the examination is given;

(9) notify the department of meeting dates and agenda items at least 15 days before meetings and other proceedings are held;

(10) submit before the end of the fiscal year an annual performance report to the department stating the board's accomplishments, activities, and needs.

Sec. 08.01.075. Disciplinary powers of boards. (a) A board may take the following disciplinary actions, singly or in combination:

- (1) permanently revoke a license;
- (2) suspend a license for a specified period;
- (3) censure or reprimand a licensee;
- (4) impose limitations or conditions on the professional practice of a licensee;
- (5) require a licensee to submit to peer review;
- (6) impose requirements for remedial professional education to correct deficiencies in the education, training, and skill of the licensee;

(7) impose probation requiring a licensee to report regularly to the board on matters related to the grounds for probation;

(8) impose a civil fine not to exceed \$5,000.

(b) A board may withdraw probationary status if the deficiencies that required the sanction are remedied.

(c) A board may summarily suspend a licensee from the practice of the profession before a final hearing is held or during an appeal if the board finds that the licensee poses a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety. A person is entitled to a hearing conducted by the office of administrative hearings (AS 44.64.010) to appeal the summary suspension within seven days after the order of suspension is issued. A person may appeal an adverse decision of the board on an appeal of a summary suspension to a court of competent jurisdiction.

(d) A board may reinstate a suspended or revoked license if, after a hearing, the board finds that the applicant is able to practice the profession with skill and safety.

(e) A board may accept the voluntary surrender of a license. A license may not be returned unless the board determines that the licensee is competent to resume practice and the licensee pays the appropriate renewal fee.

(f) A board shall seek consistency in the application of disciplinary sanctions. A board shall explain a significant departure from prior decisions involving similar facts in the order imposing the sanction.

Sec. 08.01.077. Conviction as grounds for disciplinary action. Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the conviction under AS 47.24.010 of a person licensed, certified, or regulated by the department or a board under this title may be considered by the department or board as grounds for disciplinary proceedings or sanctions.

Sec. 08.01.080. Department regulations. The department shall adopt regulations to carry out the purposes of this chapter, including describing

- (1) how an examination is to be conducted;
- (2) what is contained in application forms;
- (3) how a person applies for an examination or license.

Sec. 08.01.087. Investigative and enforcement powers of department. (a) The department may, upon its own motion, conduct investigations to

(1) determine whether a person has violated a provision of this chapter or a regulation adopted under it, or a provision of AS 43.70, or a provision of this title or regulation adopted under this title dealing with an occupation or board listed in AS 08.01.010; or

(2) secure information useful in the administration of this chapter.

(b) If it appears to the commissioner that a person has engaged in or is about to engage in an act or practice in violation of a provision of this chapter or a regulation adopted under it, or a provision of AS 43.70, or a provision of this title or regulation adopted under this title dealing with an occupation or board listed in AS 08.01.010, the commissioner may, if the commissioner considers it in the public interest, and after notification of a proposed order or action by telephone or facsimile to all board members, if a board regulates the act or practice involved, unless a majority of the members of the board object within 10 days,

(1) issue an order directing the person to stop the act or practice; however, reasonable notice of and an opportunity for a hearing must first be given to the person, except that the commissioner may issue a temporary order before a hearing is held; a temporary order remains in effect until a final order affirming, modifying, or reversing the temporary order is issued or until 15 days after the person receives the notice and has not requested a hearing by that time; a temporary order becomes final if the person to whom the notice is addressed does not request a hearing within 15 days after receiving the notice; the office of administrative hearings (AS 44.64.010) shall conduct the hearing and shall issue a proposed decision within 10 days after the hearing; the commissioner shall issue a final order within five days after the proposed decision is issued;

(2) bring an action in the superior court to enjoin the acts or practices and to enforce compliance with this chapter, a regulation adopted under it, an order issued under it, or with a provision of this title or regulation adopted under this title dealing with business licenses or an occupation or board listed in AS 08.01.010;

(3) examine or have examined the books and records of a person whose business activities require a business license or licensure by a board listed in AS 08.01.010, or whose occupation is listed in AS 08.01.010; the commissioner may require the person to pay the reasonable costs of the examination; and

(4) issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses, and the production of books, records, and other documents.

(c) Under procedures and standards of operation established by the department by regulation, and with the agreement of the appropriate agency, the department may designate appropriate state or municipal agencies to investigate reports of abuse, neglect, or misappropriation of property by certified nurse aides.

Sec. 08.01.089. Copies of records for child support purposes. If a copy of a public record concerning an individual who owes or is owed child support that is prepared or maintained by the department is requested by the child support services agency created in AS 25.27.010 or a child support enforcement agency of another state, the department shall provide the requesting agency with a certified copy of the public record, including the individual's social security number. If these records are prepared or maintained by the department in an electronic data base, the records may be supplied by providing the requesting agency with a copy of the electronic record and a statement certifying its contents. A requesting agency receiving information under this section may use it only for child support purposes authorized under law.

Sec. 08.01.090. Applicability of the Administrative Procedure Act. The Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62) applies to regulations adopted and proceedings held under this chapter, except those under AS 08.01.087(b) and actions taken under AS 08.68.333(c).

Sec. 08.01.100. License renewal, lapse, and reinstatement. (a) Licenses shall be renewed biennially on the dates set by the department with the approval of the respective board.

(b) A license subject to renewal shall be renewed on or before the date set by the department. If the license is not renewed by the date set by the department, the license lapses. In addition to renewal fees required for reinstatement of the lapsed license, the department may impose a delayed renewal penalty, established by regulation, that shall be paid before a license that has been lapsed for more than 60 days may be renewed. The department may adopt a delayed renewal penalty only with the concurrence of the appropriate board.

(c) Except as provided in (f) of this section, when continuing education or other requirements are made a condition of license renewal, the requirements shall be satisfied before a license is renewed.

(d) Except as otherwise provided, a license may not be renewed if it has been lapsed for five years or more.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a renewal of a license may not be issued by the department to a natural person unless the licensee's social security number has been provided to the department.

(f) The department may establish and implement a waiver of continuing education requirements for renewal of a license regulated by the department and a board may establish and implement a waiver of continuing education requirements for renewal of a license regulated by the board for the period in which a licensee is engaged in active duty military service in the armed forces of the United States.

(g) A member of the armed forces of the United States on active duty in a combat zone, danger pay post, or qualified hazardous duty area, who is a licensee under this title in good standing at the time of the licensee's active duty order is exempt from any fees or other requirements to maintain that license or good standing while the licensee is in that zone, at that post, or in that area. This exemption is valid for 180 days after returning to the licensee's permanent duty station, if the licensee does not engage in licensed practice for profit in the private sector. The licensee shall pay fees and meet all other requirements for the license period beginning after the exemption ends. In this subsection,

(1) "combat zone" has the meaning given in 26 U.S.C. 112(c)(2) (Internal Revenue Code);

(2) "danger pay post" means a post so designated by the United States Secretary of State in the Department of State Standardized Regulations for purposes of danger pay under 5 U.S.C. 5928;

(3) "qualified hazardous duty area" means an area that, during the applicant's deployment, is treated as if it were a combat zone for purposes of a federal tax exemption under 26 U.S.C. 112 (Internal Revenue Code).

Sec. 08.01.102. Citation for unlicensed practice or activity. The department may issue a citation for a violation of a license requirement under this chapter, except a requirement to have a license under AS 43.70, if there is probable cause to believe a person has practiced a profession or engaged in business for which a license is required without holding the license. Each day a violation continues after a citation for the violation has been issued constitutes a separate violation. A citation issued under this section must comply with the standards adopted under AS 12.25.175 - 12.25.230.

Sec. 08.01.103. Procedure and form of citation. (a) A person receiving the citation issued under AS 08.01.102 is not required to sign a notice to appear in court.

(b) The time specified in the notice to appear on a citation issued under AS 08.01.102 shall be at least five working days after the issuance of the citation.

(c) The department is responsible for the issuance of books containing appropriate citations and shall maintain a record of each book issued and each citation contained in it. The department shall require and retain a receipt for every book issued to an employee of the department.

(d) On or before the 10th working day after the issuance of a citation, the department shall deposit the original or a copy of the citation with a court having jurisdiction over the alleged offense. Upon its deposit with the court, the citation may be disposed of only by trial in the court or other official action taken by the magistrate, judge, or prosecutor. The department may not dispose of a citation, copies of it, or the record of its issuance except as required under this subsection and (e) of this section.

(e) The department shall require the return of a copy of every citation issued by the department and all copies of a citation that has been spoiled or upon which an entry has been made and not issued to an alleged violator. The department shall also maintain, in connection with each citation, a record of the disposition of the charge by the court where the original or copy of the citation was deposited.

(f) A citation issued under AS 08.01.102 is considered to be a lawful complaint for the purpose of prosecution.

Sec. 08.01.104. Failure to obey citation. Unless the citation has been voided or otherwise dismissed by the magistrate, judge, or prosecutor, a person who without lawful justification or excuse fails to appear in court to answer a citation issued under AS 08.01.102, regardless of the disposition of the charge for which the citation was issued, is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

Sec. 08.01.105. Penalty for improper payment. An applicant shall pay a penalty of \$10 each time a negotiable instrument is presented to the department in payment of an amount due and payment is subsequently refused by the named payor.

Sec. 08.01.110. Definitions. In this chapter,

- (1) “board” includes the boards and commissions listed in AS 08.01.010;
- (2) “commissioner” means the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development;
- (3) “department” means the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development;
- (4) “license” means a business license or a license, certificate, permit, or registration or similar evidence of authority issued for an occupation by the department or by one of the boards listed in AS 08.01.010;
- (5) “licensee” means a person who holds a license;
- (6) “occupation” means a trade or profession listed in AS 08.01.010.

CHAPTER 02. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Article

1. **Limitation of Liability (§ 08.02.020)**
2. **Miscellaneous Professions, Occupations, and Activities Regulated Directly by the Department (§§ 08.02.050, 08.02.060)**
3. **Special Provisions relating to Health Care Providers (§§ 08.02.110 — 08.02.130)**
4. **General Provisions (§ 08.02.990)**

ARTICLE 1. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Section

20. **Limitation of liability**

Sec. 08.02.020. Limitation of liability. An action may not be brought against a person for damages resulting from

- (1) the person’s good faith performance of a duty, function, or activity required as a
 - (A) member of, or witness before, a licensing board or peer review committee established to review a licensing matter;
 - (B) member of a committee appointed under AS 08.64.336(c);
 - (C) contractor or agent of a contractor under AS 08.01.050(d) or AS 08.64.101(a)(5);
- (2) a recommendation or action in accordance with the prescribed duties of a licensing board, peer review committee established to review a licensing matter, committee appointed under AS 08.64.336(c), or contractor or agent of a contractor under AS 08.01.050(d) or AS 08.64.101(a)(5) when the person acts in the reasonable belief that the action or recommendation is warranted by facts known to the person, board, peer review committee, committee appointed under AS 08.64.336(c), or contractor or agent of the contractor under AS 08.01.050(d) or AS 08.64.101(a)(5) after reasonable efforts to ascertain the facts upon which the action or recommendation is made; or

(3) a report made in good faith to a public agency by the person, or participation by the person in an investigation by a public agency or a judicial or administrative proceeding relating to the report, if the report relates to the abuse of alcohol, other drugs, or other substances by a person licensed by a board listed in AS 08.01.050(d).

Sec. 08.02.025. Compliance with student loan requirements. *[Repealed, Sec. 18 ch 54 SLA 1997.]*

ARTICLE 2. MISCELLANEOUS PROFESSIONS, OCCUPATIONS, AND ACTIVITIES REGULATED DIRECTLY BY THE DEPARTMENT

Section

50. Permits for use of drugs to euthanize domestic animals

60. Professional geologist

Sec. 08.02.050. Permits for use of drugs to euthanize domestic animals. (a) A qualified agency may apply to the department and obtain a permit that authorizes the purchase, possession, and use by the agency of sodium pentobarbital, sodium pentobarbital with lidocaine, and other drugs authorized in regulations adopted by the department for the purpose of euthanizing injured, sick, or abandoned domestic animals in the lawful possession of the agency. To qualify to obtain the permit, the agency shall certify that it will

(1) comply with applicable federal laws related to the use of the drugs; and

(2) not permit an employee to administer the drugs unless the employee has successfully completed a euthanasia technician certification course approved by the National Animal Control Association, the American Humane Association, or the Humane Society of the United States.

(b) The department may revoke or suspend a permit or take another disciplinary action under AS 08.01.075 if it determines that the agency or an employee of the agency

(1) improperly used sodium pentobarbital, sodium pentobarbital with lidocaine, or another drug authorized for use under this section;

(2) failed to follow federal or state laws regarding proper storage and handling of the drugs;

(3) allowed an employee to administer the drugs before the employee successfully completed the certification course described in (a)(2) of this section; or

(4) violated this title or a regulation adopted under this title.

(c) In this section, "agency" means an animal control agency of a municipality or recognized governmental entity or an entity that has contracted with a municipality or recognized governmental entity to perform animal control or animal euthanasia services.

(d) The department may adopt regulations to implement this section.

Sec. 08.02.060. Professional geologist. The commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development shall certify an applicant as a professional geologist if the applicant is certified as a professional geologist by the American Institute of Professional Geologists.

ARTICLE 3. SPECIAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Section

110. Professional designation requirements

120. Access to certain mental health information and records by the state

130. Telehealth

135. Grounds for imposition of disciplinary sanctions of out-of state multidisciplinary care team members

140. Disciplinary sanctions for an out-of-state multidisciplinary care team member

Sec. 08.02.110. Professional designation requirements. (a) An acupuncturist licensed under AS 08.06, an audiologist or speech-language pathologist licensed under AS 08.11, a behavior analyst licensed under AS 08.15, a person licensed in the state as a chiropractor under AS 08.20, a professional counselor licensed under AS 08.29, a dentist under AS 08.36, a dietitian or nutritionist licensed under AS 08.38, a massage therapist licensed under AS 08.61, a marital and family therapist licensed under AS 08.63, a medical practitioner or osteopath under AS 08.64, a direct-entry midwife certified under AS 08.65, a registered or advanced practice registered nurse under AS 08.68, an optometrist under AS 08.72, a licensed pharmacist under AS 08.80, a physical therapist or occupational therapist licensed under AS 08.84, a psychologist under AS 08.86, or a clinical social worker licensed under AS 08.95, shall use as professional identification appropriate letters or a title after that person's name that represents the person's specific field of practice. The letters or title shall appear on all signs, stationery, or other advertising in which the person offers or displays personal professional services to the public. In addition, a person engaged in the practice of

medicine or osteopathy as defined in AS 08.64.380, or a person engaged in any manner in the healing arts who diagnoses, treats, tests, or counsels other persons in relation to human health or disease and uses the letters "M.D." or the title "doctor" or "physician" or another title that tends to show that the person is willing or qualified to diagnose, treat, test, or counsel another person, shall clarify the letters or title by adding the appropriate specialist designation, if any, such as "dermatologist," "radiologist," "audiologist," "naturopath," or the like.

(b) A person subject to (a) of this section who fails to comply with the requirements of (a) of this section shall be given notice of noncompliance by that person's appropriate licensing board or, if the person is not regulated by a board, by the department. If, after a reasonable time, with opportunity for a hearing, the person's noncompliance continues, the board or department, as appropriate, may suspend or revoke the person's license or registration, or administer other disciplinary action which in its determination is appropriate.

Sec. 08.02.120. Access to certain mental health information and records by the state. (a) Notwithstanding AS 08.29.200, AS 08.63.200, AS 08.86.200, AS 08.95.900, another provision of this title, or a regulation adopted under this title, a licensee or an entity employing or contracting with a licensee may disclose confidential patient mental health information, communications, and records to the Department of Health when disclosure is authorized under AS 47.30.540, 47.30.590, 47.30.845, or AS 47.31.032. Information, communications, and records received by the Department of Health under this section are confidential medical records of patients and are not open to public inspection and copying under AS 40.25.110 - 40.25.120.

(b) In this section, "licensee" has the meaning given in AS 08.01.110.

Sec. 08.02.130. Telehealth. (a) A health care provider licensed in this state may provide health care services within the health care provider's authorized scope of practice to a patient in this state through telehealth without first conducting an in-person visit.

(b) A physician licensed in another state or an out-of-state member of the physician's multidisciplinary care team may provide health care services through telehealth to a patient located in the state as provided in this subsection, subject to the investigative and enforcement powers of the department under AS 08.01.087. A member of a physician's multidisciplinary care team may provide a health care service through telehealth to a patient located in this state if the health care service, as provided by the multidisciplinary care team, is not reasonably available in the state. A physician shall be subject to disciplinary action by the State Medical Board under AS 08.64.333, and a member of the physician's multidisciplinary care team shall be subject to disciplinary action by the department under AS 08.02.140. The privilege to practice under this subsection extends only to

(1) ongoing treatment or follow-up care related to health care services previously provided by the physician to the patient and applies only if

(A) the physician and the patient have an established physician-patient relationship; and

(B) the physician has previously conducted an in-person visit with the patient;

(2) a visit regarding a suspected or diagnosed life-threatening condition for which

(A) the patient has been referred to the physician licensed in another state by a physician licensed in this state and that referral has been documented by the referring physician; and

(B) the visit involves communication with the patient regarding diagnostic or treatment plan options or analysis of test results for the life-threatening condition; or

(3) ongoing treatment or follow-up care provided by a physician licensed in another state or a member of the physician's multidisciplinary care team regarding a suspected or diagnosed life-threatening condition.

(c) If a health care provider determines in the course of a telehealth encounter with a patient under this section that some or all of the encounter will extend beyond the health care provider's authorized scope of practice, the health care provider shall advise the patient that the health care provider is not authorized to provide some or all of the services to the patient, recommend that the patient contact an appropriate provider for the services the health care provider is not authorized to provide, and limit the encounter to only those services the health care provider is authorized to provide. The health care provider may not charge for any portion of an encounter that extends beyond the health care provider's authorized scope of practice.

(d) A fee for a service provided through telehealth under this section must be reasonable and consistent with the ordinary fee typically charged for that service and may not exceed the fee typically charged for that service.

(e) A physician, podiatrist, osteopath, or physician assistant licensed under AS 08.64 may prescribe, dispense, or administer through telehealth under this section a prescription for a controlled substance listed in AS 11.71.140 - 11.71.190 if the physician, podiatrist, osteopath, or physician assistant complies with state and federal law governing the prescription, dispensing, or administering of a controlled substance.

(f) An advanced practice registered nurse licensed under AS 08.68 may prescribe, dispense, or administer through telehealth under this section a prescription for a controlled substance listed in AS 11.71.140 - 11.71.190 if the advanced practice registered nurse complies with state and federal law governing the prescription, dispensing, or administering of a controlled substance.

(g) Except as authorized under (e) and (f) of this section, a health care provider licensed under this title may not prescribe, dispense, or administer through telehealth under this section a controlled substance listed in AS 11.71.140 - 11.71.190.

(h) A health care provider may not be required to document a barrier to an in-person visit to provide health care services through telehealth. The department or a board may not limit the physical setting from which a health care provider may provide health care services through telehealth.

(i) Nothing in this section requires the use of telehealth when a health care provider determines that providing health care services through telehealth is not appropriate or when a patient chooses not to receive health care services through telehealth.

(j) In this section,

(1) "health care provider" means

(A) an audiologist or speech-language pathologist licensed under AS 08.11; a behavior analyst licensed under AS 08.15; a chiropractor licensed under AS 08.20; a professional counselor licensed under AS 08.29; a dental hygienist licensed under AS 08.32; a dentist licensed under AS 08.36; a dietitian or nutritionist licensed under AS 08.38; a naturopath licensed under AS 08.45; a marital and family therapist licensed under AS 08.63; a physician licensed under AS 08.64; a podiatrist, osteopath, or physician assistant licensed under AS 08.64; a direct-entry midwife certified under AS 08.65; a nurse licensed under AS 08.68; a dispensing optician licensed under AS 08.71; an optometrist licensed under AS 08.72; a pharmacist licensed under AS 08.80; a physical therapist or occupational therapist licensed under AS 08.84; a psychologist or psychological associate licensed under AS 08.86; or a social worker licensed under AS 08.95;

(B) a physician licensed in another state; or

(C) a member of a multidisciplinary care team who is licensed in another state;

(2) "licensed" means holding a current license in good standing;

(3) "life-threatening condition" means any disease or condition from which the likelihood of death is probable unless the course of the disease or condition is interrupted;

(4) "telehealth" has the meaning given in AS 47.05.270(e);

(5) "member of a multidisciplinary care team" means an audiologist, speech-language pathologist, behavior analyst, professional counselor, dietitian, nutritionist, naturopath, marital and family therapist, podiatrist, osteopath, physician assistant, nurse, pharmacist, physical therapist, occupational therapist, psychologist or psychological associate, advanced nurse practitioner, or social worker who is a member of a team coordinated by a physician licensed in another state who meets the requirements of (b)(3) of this section.

Sec. 08.02.135. Grounds for imposition of disciplinary sanctions of out-of state multidisciplinary care team members. The department may sanction a member of an out-of-state physician's multidisciplinary care team who provides health care services through telehealth under AS 08.02.130 if the department finds after a hearing that the member

(1) secured a license through deceit, fraud, or intentional misrepresentation;

(2) engaged in deceit, fraud, or intentional misrepresentation while providing professional services or engaging in professional activities;

(3) advertised professional services in a false or misleading manner;

(4) has been convicted, including conviction based on a guilty plea or plea of nolo contendere, of

(A) a class A or unclassified felony or a crime in another jurisdiction with elements similar to a class A or unclassified felony in this jurisdiction;

(B) a class B or class C felony or a crime in another jurisdiction with elements similar to a class B or class C felony in this jurisdiction if the felony or other crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the member; or

(C) a crime involving the unlawful procurement, sale, prescription, or dispensing of drugs;

(5) has procured, sold, prescribed, or dispensed drugs in violation of a law regardless of whether there has been a criminal action or harm to the patient;

(6) intentionally or negligently permitted the performance of patient care by persons under the member's supervision that does not conform to minimum professional standards even if the patient was not injured;

(7) failed to comply with AS 08.02.130 - 08.02.140, a regulation adopted under AS 08.02.130 - 08.02.140, or an order of the department;

(8) has demonstrated

(A) professional incompetence, gross negligence, or repeated negligent conduct; the department may not base a finding of professional incompetence solely on the basis that a member's practice is unconventional or experimental in the absence of demonstrable physical harm to a patient;

(B) addiction to, severe dependency on, or habitual overuse of alcohol or other drugs that impairs the member's ability to practice safely;

(C) unfitness because of physical or mental disability;

(9) engaged in unprofessional conduct, in sexual misconduct, or in lewd or immoral conduct in connection with the delivery of professional services to patients; in this paragraph, "sexual misconduct" includes sexual contact, or attempted sexual contact, with a patient outside the scope of generally accepted methods of examination or treatment of the patient, regardless of the patient's consent or lack of consent, during the term of the health care provider-patient relationship, unless the patient was the member's spouse at the time of the contact or, immediately preceding the health care provider-patient relationship, was in a dating, courtship, or engagement relationship with the member;

- (10) has violated any code of ethics adopted by the department;
- (11) has denied care or treatment to a patient or person seeking assistance from the member if the only reason for the denial is the failure or refusal of the patient to agree to arbitrate as provided in AS 09.55.535(a);
- (12) has had a license or certificate to practice health care in another state or territory of the United States, or a province or territory of Canada, denied, suspended, revoked, surrendered while under investigation for an alleged violation, restricted, limited, conditioned, or placed on probation unless the denial, suspension, revocation, or other action was caused by the failure of the member to pay fees to that state, territory, or province;
- (13) exceeded the scope of the member's privilege to practice in this state under AS 08.02.130; or
- (14) prescribed, dispensed, or administered through telehealth to a patient located in the state a controlled substance listed in AS 11.71.140 - 11.71.190.

Sec. 08.02.140. Disciplinary sanctions for an out-of-state multidisciplinary care team member. (a) If the department finds grounds to sanction a member of an out-of-state physician's multidisciplinary care team under AS 08.02.135, the department may

- (1) permanently prohibit the member from practicing in the state;
- (2) prohibit the member from practicing in the state for a determinate period;
- (3) censure the member;
- (4) issue a letter of reprimand to the member;
- (5) place the member on probationary status under (c) of this section;
- (6) limit or impose conditions on the member's privilege to practice in the state;
- (7) impose a civil penalty of not more than \$25,000;
- (8) issue a cease and desist order prohibiting the member from providing health care services through telehealth under AS 08.02.130; an order issued under this paragraph remains in effect until the member submits evidence acceptable to the department showing that the violation has been corrected;
- (9) promptly notify the licensing authority in each state in which the member is licensed of a sanction imposed under this subsection.

(b) In a case finding grounds for sanction under AS 08.02.135(12), the final findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order of the authority that suspended or revoked a license or certificate constitute a prima facie case that the license or certificate was suspended or revoked and the grounds under which the suspension or revocation was granted.

(c) The department may place a member on probation under this section until the department finds that the deficiencies that required the imposition of a sanction have been remedied. The department may require a member on probation to

- (1) report regularly to the department on matters involving the reason for which the member was placed on probation;
- (2) limit the member's practice in the state to those areas prescribed by the department;
- (3) participate in professional education until the department determines that a satisfactory degree of skill has been attained in areas identified by the department as needing improvement.

(d) The department may summarily prohibit a member from practicing in the state under AS 08.02.130 if the department finds that the member, by continuing to practice, poses a clear and immediate danger to public health and safety. A member prohibited from practicing under this subsection is entitled to a hearing conducted by the office of administrative hearings (AS 44.64.010) not later than seven days after the effective date of the order prohibiting the member from practicing. The department may lift an order prohibiting a member from practicing if the department finds after a hearing that the member is able to practice with reasonable skill and safety. The member may appeal a decision of the department under this subsection to the superior court.

(e) The department shall take measures to recover from a member the cost of proceedings resulting in a sanction under (a) of this section, including the costs of investigation by the department and hearing costs.

(f) The department may prohibit a member from practicing in the state upon receiving a certified copy of evidence that a license or certificate to practice within the member's scope of practice in another state or territory of the United States, or a province or territory of Canada, has been suspended or revoked. The prohibition remains in effect until a hearing can be held by the department.

(g) The department shall be consistent in the application of disciplinary sanctions. A significant departure from earlier decisions of the department involving similar situations must be explained in findings of fact or orders made by the department

ARTICLE 4. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section

990. Definition

Sec. 08.02.990. Definition. In this chapter, "department" means the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development.

CHAPTER 03.
TERMINATION, CONTINUATION AND REESTABLISHMENT
OF REGULATORY BOARDS

Section

10. Termination dates for regulatory boards

20. Procedures governing termination, transition, and continuation

Sec. 08.03.010. Termination dates for regulatory boards.

(a) *[Repealed, Sec. 4 ch 14 SLA 1987.]*

(b) *[Repealed, Sec. 4 ch 14 SLA 1987.]*

(c) The following boards have the termination date provided by this subsection:

- (1) Board of Public Accountancy (AS 08.04.010) – June 30, 2029;
 - (2) Board of Governors of the Alaska Bar Association (AS 08.08.040) – June 30, 2029;
 - (3) State Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors (AS 08.48.011) – June 30, 2025;
 - (4) Board of Barbers and Hairdressers (AS 08.13.010) – June 30, 2027;
 - (5) Board of Chiropractic Examiners (AS 08.20.010) – June 30, 2027;
 - (6) Board of Professional Counselors (AS 08.29.010) – June 30, 2026;
 - (7) Board of Dental Examiners (AS 08.36.010) – June 30, 2027;
 - (8) Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives (AS 08.65.010) – June 30, 2025;
 - (9) Big Game Commercial Services Board (AS 08.54.591) – June 30, 2032;
 - (10) Board of Marine Pilots (AS 08.62.010) – June 30, 2027;
 - (11) Board of Marital and Family Therapy (AS 08.63.010) – June 30, 2026;
 - (12) Board of Massage Therapists (AS 08.61.010) – June 30, 2030;
 - (13) State Medical Board (AS 08.64.010) – June 30, 2031;
 - (14) Board of Nursing (AS 08.68.010) – June 30, 2025;
 - (15) Board of Examiners in Optometry (AS 08.72.010) – June 30, 2028;
 - (16) Board of Pharmacy (AS 08.80.010) – June 30, 2028;
 - (17) State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board (AS 08.84.010) – June 30, 2030;
 - (18) Board of Psychologist and Psychological Associate Examiners (AS 08.86.010) – June 30, 2026;
 - (19) Real Estate Commission (AS 08.88.011) – June 30, 2026;
 - (20) Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers (AS 08.87.010) – June 30, 2026;
 - (21) Board of Social Work Examiners (AS 08.95.010) – June 30, 2026;
 - (22) Board of Veterinary Examiners (AS 08.98.010) – June 30, 2025.
- (d) *[Repealed, Sec. 3 ch 74 SLA 1979.]*
- (e) *[Repealed, Sec. 3 ch 74 SLA 1979.]*

Sec. 08.03.020. Procedures governing termination, transition, and continuation. (a) Upon termination, each board listed in AS 08.03.010 shall continue in existence until June 30 of the next succeeding year for the purpose of concluding its affairs. During this period, termination does not reduce or otherwise limit the powers or authority of each board. One year after the date of termination, a board not continued shall cease all activities, and the statutory authority of the board is transferred to the department.

(b) The termination, dissolution, continuation or reestablishment of a regulatory board shall be governed by the legislative oversight procedures of AS 44.66.050.

(c) A board scheduled for termination under this chapter may be continued or reestablished by the legislature for a period not to exceed eight years unless the board is continued or reestablished for a longer period under AS 08.03.010.

(d) The department shall carry out the functions of a board that has ceased all activities under (a) of this section. Litigation, hearings, investigations, and other proceedings pending at the time the board ceased activities continue in effect and may be continued or completed by the department. Licenses, certificates, orders, and regulations issued or adopted by the board and in effect at the time the board ceased activities remain in effect for the term issued or until revoked, amended, vacated, or repealed by the department.