

Interstate Medical Licensure Compact 1

Hi I'm Dan Smith of DPS Legal Counsel, and welcome to today's video today.

Today we're going to be talking about a topic of great interest to physicians in the state of Tennessee and that is the recent joining of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact by the State of Tennessee.

Beginning January 1 of this year, 2019, physicians in Tennessee can take advantage of the fact that Tennessee is now a member of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

What that means is that if you are a Tennessee physician, you can fairly easily become licensed in another state that is a member of the Compact by simply filling out an online form.

It's estimated that approximately 80% of all physicians would qualify and be eligible for this easy medical licensure in other states.

And the benefit for that--for Tennessee physicians--is that if you are interested in providing patient care to a patient in another state that is a member of the Compact then you can do that by becoming licensed in that state.

The patient-physician relationship and the encounter is deemed to take place where the patient is located, so if you want to provide patient care to a patient in, say Alabama, you need to be licensed in Alabama.

Now, Tennessee is very interesting in that it is one of only two states in the country that has borders with eight other states. It's the most of any state in the country other than Missouri, which also borders eight states.

At present time only two of the border states with Tennessee are members of the Compact--Mississippi and Alabama.

However, you don't have to limit yourself to practicing medicine in those two border states if you are able to get your medical license in a state other than those, whether it's on the West Coast, the East Coast, the Midwest... If it's a member of the Compact and you go online, sign up and apply, and become licensed in those states, you can provide patient care to patients in those states.

So this is a great boon.

Now, the reason that the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact is so helpful is obviously you're not going to probably set up physical offices in other states in which your licensed although perhaps you might in a border state, like Alabama or Mississippi, depending on where you live. But if you want to provide medical services to patients in another more distant state you can do that through telemedicine.

Telemedicine is on the rise in the country, and it's now going to be more on the rise in Tennessee thanks in part to Tennessee's joining the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

So if you're interested in telemedicine and you're interested in becoming licensed in other states, take a look at the... You can go online and find out about Tennessee joining the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. You can find out more about telemedicine.

Just check back at my website. I'm going to be putting a lot more information about telemedicine and about the Compact in days to come.

Hope this helps. And we'll see you next time.

Thanks.