

NAC Chapter 633: Priority processing of initial applications based on employment in a historically underserved community and statewide workforce shortages. (Pursuant to Assembly Bill 483, (2025) and Senate Bill 5, 36th Special Session (2025))

Section 1. Priority Processing Eligibility

1. Any person applying for an osteopathic physician, osteopathic physician assistant, or osteopathic anesthesiologist assistant license may indicate on the initial license application form that such person qualifies for priority processing if:

- a. The applicant affirms in the initial license application that, as part of the applicant's employment, the applicant is reasonably expected to provide health care primarily in a historically underserved community; and
- b. The applicant includes with the initial license application a letter from an employer located in a historically underserved community notifying the Board of the applicant's imminent employment.
 - i. The employment letter must indicate that the applicant has already accepted the offer of employment; and
 - ii. The employment letter must include the expected start date of employment.

2. In addition to subsection 1, an applicant qualifies for priority processing if the applicant affirms in the initial license application that the applicant intends to:

- a. Practice in a geographic area or serve a population in this State identified by the Nevada Health Authority as experiencing a critical shortage of providers of health care pursuant to the statewide assessment conducted under NRS 439A; or
- b. Practice in a specialty identified by the Nevada Health Authority as experiencing a critical shortage pursuant to the statewide assessment conducted under NRS 439A.

Section 1. Definition of Priority Processing.

For purposes of this regulation, priority processing means:

- a. Upon initial receipt of an initial license application form and the required fee, the Board will, within seven business days of receipt, review the license application to determine if it is a complete license application packet. If it is complete, processing will move to the steps outlined in subsection (b). If it is not complete, the Board will orally or in writing notify the applicant of

any missing documents necessary to consider the license application file complete and eligible for final Board review and approval.

- b. Once the initial license application packet is complete and contains all necessary items required in statute, regulation, or on the application form, the Board will, within 30 business days of the license application packet being completed, review the license application for licensing approval. A decision on licensing will be communicated within that 30 business-day time frame; if licensure is granted, the initial license will issue within 45 business days of the license application packet completion.
- c. Any periods of time between the initial notice of license application packet completion requirements outlined in subsection (a) and license application packet completion outlined in subsection (b) are not considered part of priority processing, as document ordering, submission of fingerprints, receipt of criminal history report, receipt of other required documents, and submission timeliness are dependent on applicant and external vendor actions and availability not controlled by the Board. The 30-day review and approval deadline noted under subsection (b) commences on the business day immediately following the Board's receipt from an external entity the final outstanding required document needed for packet completion.

Section 3. Definition of Historically Underserved Community

For purposes of this regulation, a "historically underserved community" is a geographic location (county, city, town, zip code area, etc.) in Nevada that is:

- a. Designated as a qualified census tract by the U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development;
- b. A census tract where, in the immediately preceding census, at least 20-percent of households were not proficient in the English language; or
- c. Qualified tribal land under NRS 370.0325.

Section 4. Applicant Determinations and Board Presumptions

1. An initial license applicant who indicates that such applicant qualifies for priority processing under this regulation must determine whether the applicant's employer's location meets the definition of a historically underserved community or whether the applicant qualifies for priority processing pursuant to statewide workforce shortages identified by the Nevada Health Authority.

2. The Board will presume the validity of such determinations by the applicant and the Board need not perform its own analysis of whether the geographic location of employment validly meets the definition of “historically underserved community,” whether the applicant reasonably expects to provide health care primarily in such a historically underserved community, or whether the applicant intends to practice in a geographic area, population, or specialty identified by the Nevada Health Authority as experiencing a critical shortage.

3. Later discovery by the Board of a false, misleading or fraudulent indication that an applicant qualified for priority processing under this regulation may result in denial of the initial license application, denial of license renewal applications, or referral for disciplinary proceedings.

Section 5. Monitoring, Metrics, and Updates

1. The Board shall establish and maintain metrics to monitor the processing times of all applications eligible for priority processing under this regulation to ensure compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements.

2. The Board shall, in collaboration with the Nevada Health Authority, annually update the geographic areas, populations, and specialties that qualify for priority processing based on the most recent statewide health care workforce assessment conducted pursuant to NRS 439A.

3. Eligibility for priority processing based on employment in a historically underserved community is independent of, and in addition to, eligibility based on statewide workforce or specialty shortages.