

MECANISM OF MOBILITY FOR FOREIGN MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS IN LAO PDR

(PROPOSED)

**Healthcare Professional Council
Ministry of Health, Lao PDR**

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Situation of Licensing system and Registration in Lao PDR

There are only few Law and Regulations

- Law on Healthcare (2005, revised 2015)
- Strategy on Healthcare Professional Licensing and Registration System 2016-2025
- Regulatory Framework for the Registration and Licensing of Healthcare Professionals in Lao PDR (2016)
- MOH Agreement on Healthcare Professional Council (HPC), Healthcare Professional Boards and Healthcare Professional Bureau (2017)
- Other regulations and guidelines issued by HPC and Department of Healthcare MOH.

Situation of Licensing system and Registration in Lao PDR

- Healthcare Professional Council (HPC) and HP Boards are responsible for developing relevant regulations but HPC just recently re-established in 2017 and not working regularly.
- No Licensing system in Lao PDR before and National licensing exam for Lao citizens new graduates will be organized in 2019 (now in period of preparation: establishing National Exam Committee, defining requirements, rules and procedures, developing blueprint, exam tools,...)

Proposition for mobility of foreign medical practitioners

- Foreigners who wish to practice healthcare profession in the Lao PDR shall apply for registration and license to practice to the relevant HP Board. (regulations are being developed)
- Foreigners may ask for ***Temporary license*** in five domains (Limited practice, Expert visits, Humanitarian missions, Education & training, and Research with patient contact) or ***Full license***
- Considering only Specialist Doctors based on the need of local hospitals or institutions.

Requirements for Temporary license

- Medical qualifications recognized by Lao MOH
- Certificate of Good standing in country of origin
- Experience in Healthcare profession at least 5 years.
- Free of criminal record

After receiving Temporary license, the applicants should ask for relevant Visas (Student Visa: ST-B2; Expert Visas: S-A2; Researcher, person attending short-course: non-immigrant Visa NI-B3)

Required Documents for Temporary license

- Application form (provided)
- Curriculum vitae (provided)
- Certified copy of Passport
- Certified copy of National ID
- Certificate of Professional experience
- Certified copy of Medical Qualification(s)
- Certified copy of Full license Registration in country of origin
- Certified copy of Good standing in country of origin
- Certificate of Free Criminal record from country of origin
- 2 Recent photos size 4x6 cm
- Other documents that are relevant to specific practice

Requirements for Full license

- Medical qualifications recognized by Lao MOH
- Certificate of Good standing in country of origin
- Experience in Healthcare profession at least 5 years.
- Free of criminal record
- Basic knowledge of Lao Language for communication with patients
- Should pass Lao licensure exam
- Have residency in Lao PDR
- Fitness to practice

Required Documents for Full license

Same as Temporary license but should have more documents as follows:

- Certificate of Basic knowledge of Lao Language
- Certificate of Residency in Lao PDR
- Certificate of Good Health (Medical examination)

After receiving full license, the applicant should ask for work permit ID from Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare and Labor Visa from Ministry of Foreign Affairs (LA-B2) which is valid for one year and extendable

Procedure

- All documents should be submitted to the Relevant Board
- Please note that this information is only a proposition and regulations are being developed
- Fee and Duration to obtain a license are not defined yet.
- Regulations and requirements will be applied also to non-ASEAN Practitioners.