**02-396**

Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation

**BOARD OF LICENSURE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE**

2025-2026 Regulatory Agenda

AGENCY UMBRELLA-UNIT NUMBER: **02-396**

AGENCY NAME: Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Office of Professional & Occupational Regulation, **Board of Licensure of Podiatric Medicine**

CONTACT INFORMATION for thE agency **RULEMAKING LIAISON**: Penny Vaillancourt, Director, OPOR, 35 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333, 207-441-7153, penny.vaillancourt@maine.gov

**EMERGENCY RULES ADOPTED SINCE THE LAST REGULATORY AGENDA:** None.

**EXPECTED 2025-2026 RULEMAKING ACTIVITY:**

Expected rulemaking will be to implement legislation governing licensure by endorsement and provisional licensure and telehealth services. A review for conformance with statutes and current rules will be conducted and updated as may be necessary, including an update to discontinue the use of the terms “handicap,” “handicapped” and “hearing impaired” pursuant to 36 M.R.S. § 2557, sub-§2.

Expected rulemaking for possible amendments to Chapter 21 ( a joint rule with Board of Licensure in Medicine, Nursing and Osteopathic Doctors) as well as whether to suspend enforcement of certain provisions of the rule that may conflict with recent changes to federal regulations regarding prescribing Suboxone.

**CHAPTER 1**: **Licensing of Podiatrists**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. §§ 3605-B(3), 3651-A, 3652, 3654

PURPOSE: The board may review and revise the application procedure and qualifications for licensure. Provisions may be added pertinent to the staff review of applications.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Applicants for licensure.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 2**: **Fees**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 10 M.R.S. § 8003(2-A)(D)

PURPOSE: The board may repeal existing fee provisions now that the Office of Professional & Occupational Regulation has established fees for this board pursuant to 10 M.R.S. § 8003(2-A)(D) and 02-041 C.M.R., Chapters 10 and 11.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Applicants for licensure and Licensees.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 3**: **Continuing Education for Podiatrists**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. §§ 3605-B(2), (3) and 3652

PURPOSE: The board may review and revise the academic requirements for license renewal.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 21**: **Use of Controlled Substances for Treatment of Pain**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. § 3657

PURPOSE: The board may review and revise the principles of proper pain management and the treatment of pain.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: N/A**

STATUTORY BASIS: 32 M.R.S. §§ 3605-B, 3665

PURPOSE: To adopt rules to establish standards of practice and appropriate restrictions for the various types and forms of telehealth services.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees and members of the public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: N/A**

STATUTORY BASIS: 32 M.R.S. § 3661

PURPOSE: To adopt rules to establish standards of practice and appropriate restrictions for the various types and forms of telehealth services.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees and members of the public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER NUMBER and Title: N/A**

STATUTORY BASIS: 10 M.R.S. § 8003-H, § 8003-5-A(D)(7)

PURPOSE: The Board may adopt rules to establish a process to issue a license by endorsement or to grant provisional licenses to applicants from other jurisdictions.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within the year.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees and members of the public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A