

Frequently Asked Questions for Professions Transitioning into MiPLUS

- **What is the Michigan Professional Licensing User System (MiPLUS)?**

MiPLUS is the new online licensing and regulatory database for health and occupational professionals in Michigan. This new system is administered by the Bureau of Professional Licensing (BPL) within the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA).

- **Why is the Department moving to the new licensing system?**

The new MiPLUS system will replace three main databases that BPL currently uses to manage licensee records. These systems are 20 years old and limit our ability to offer additional functionality and improve the customer experience.

- **What are some of the key benefits in the MiPLUS System?**

- Individuals can apply online, track the status of their application, renew their license, and receive electronic notifications.
- Licensees can modify their existing licensing information and upload documents.
- Licensees can self-report their convictions and disciplinary actions from other states.
- Individuals can verify the status of a licensed professional, file a complaint against a licensed professional, or report a change in staff privileges.
- It allows for electronic transmissions, reducing the time waiting for traditional mail communications.

- **Who can use MiPLUS?**

Phase I of MiPLUS went live on July 17, 2017, which migrated the nursing profession into the new database. Currently the nursing profession is the only profession that has been transitioned to MiPLUS.

Phase II is scheduled to go live on May 6, 2019 and will consist of the following professions:

- Cosmetology
 - Barbers
 - Pharmacy and pharmacy related professions
 - Medicine
 - Optometry
 - Osteopathic Medicine
 - Podiatry
 - Veterinary Medicine related veterinary professions
 - Dentists and dental related professions
 - Physician's Assistant
 - Behavior Analyst/Assistant Behavior Analyst
 - Midwifery
- **Will there be a period of time when the state won't be able to process licenses?**

Yes. In order to allow time for the migration of licensing records from the old system into the new system, our office will be unable to process license applications, license renewals, or changes to licenses between April 12, 2019 and May 6, 2019.

If your profession currently has a paper application process, we will continue to accept paper applications through May 2, 2019. However, please keep in mind that we will not be able to process any paper applications received between April 12, 2019 and May 6, 2019. These applications will have to be hand entered by BPL staff into the new system. As a result, it may take longer than usual to process paper applications submitted after that time period.

- **Can I register my account in MiPLUS before May 6, 2019?**

If your profession is moving to MiPLUS as part of Phase II, please DO NOT attempt to register an account in the system before May 6. Doing this will negatively impact the time it takes you to renew your license and will likely require that you call us for assistance before you are able to complete the renewal process online.

- **Will license verifications be available during this time period?**

We will be able to perform license verification between April 12, 2019 and May 6, 2019 as staff will have limited “view only” access to records. In addition, our online verification webpages will continue to operate during this time. This is available at www.michigan.gov/bpl and then clicking on “Verify a License”. However, the information on these sites will only be current through April 12, 2019.

- **Will the department still be mailing out renewal postcard notifications with the MiPLUS system?**

Yes. Our will office will continue to mail out renewal postcard notifications. In addition, renewal emails will continue to be sent as well.

- **Are license numbers changing?**

The conversion to the new system necessitated that a small group of our licensees be issued new license numbers. These new numbers were assigned, and the impacted licensees received their new licenses in the mail in February 2019. If you did not get a letter and a new license from us, your license number did not change. You can always check your license number by clicking on “Verify a License” at www.michigan.gov/bpl.

- **Will my expiration date be changing?**

The expiration date shown on any current valid license will not change. When you renew your current license for the first time in the MiPLUS system, your new license will have an expiration date that corresponds to the date you first received your professional license. However, the expiration dates for educational limited license types will not change.

New licensees will receive a license for the full length of the license cycle with an expiration date that corresponds to the date the license was issued. Under the old system, initial licenses were often for a duration of only about 1 year. This will no longer be the case.

- **How do I learn how to use MiPLUS?**

Visit www.michigan.gov/miplus to learn more about how to use the new system. As we get closer to the May 6, 2019 launch date, this site will be updated to include videos and instructional information on how to perform a variety of transactions in the new system. This will include: how to register an account; how to apply for a license; how to renew your license; and how to modify your license information. This site will also contain a list of FAQs and information you will need to know before applying for licensure or renewing a license in the system.



Supplemental FAQ's

Frequently Asked Questions for DENTISTS Transitioning into MiPLUS

Controlled Substance licenses (state)

Q: How will state controlled substance licenses be handled? Will they be integrated into the MiPlus system? Will licensees renew controlled substance licenses separately, and have a separate expiration date?

A: Controlled substance licenses will be in MiPLUS as well. They will be renewed at the same time as the dentist license unless the licensee decides not to renew the controlled substance license. Controlled substance licenses that are connected to a dentist license will have the same expiration date as the dentist license. Dentists will be able to apply for a controlled substance license on their initial application or separately after they have obtained their dentist license.

Deadline to register

Q: When is the deadline for licensees to register? When will licensees first be required to use MiPlus to renew?

A: Licensees should not register until May 6, 2019. There is no deadline to register, however a licensee will need to register before renewing his or her license. Licensees will be required to use MiPLUS to renew starting in 2019 and all renewals thereafter.

Dental specialties

Q: Dental specialties are licensed as dentists and dental specialties, and the initial license date is typically different for each license. Under the new system, will these licensees have to renew each license separately? If not, which date will be used as initial licensure?

A: In MiPLUS, dental specialties are configured as specialties of the dentist license, and will not have a separate expiration date apart from the dentist license. The specialty will be able to be renewed at the same time as the dentist license.

Expiration dates

Q: When will the expiration date change for licensees?

A: After your next license renewal, the expiration date of your license will change to the month and date of when your dental license was originally issued. This will extend your next renewal period to more than three years.

Example: If you have to renew your license in August of 2019, then after you renew, your new license expiration date will be the date of your initial license after August, 2022 (3 years). So, if your dental license was originally issued January 15, 2002, then under this example, your new expiration date would be January 15, 2023.

Prepared by the Michigan Dental Association.