



**Secretary of State
Office of Professional Regulation**

**NATUROPATHIC PHYSICIANS
Application Instructions**

EXAMINATION

1. Submit an online application and pay the non-refundable application fee. Applications are found within the online licensing system at:
https://secure.professionals.vermont.gov/prweb/PRServlet/app/default/ybVBleIGIHMIPa8qpM9BaiNEZfDPENuF*!STANDARD
2. Request official transcripts from an approved Naturopathic Medical College be sent to the Office directly from the institution by US mail or email to SOS.OPRLicensing2@vermont.gov. If the school provides you with your transcript, it will only be accepted if they are in a sealed envelope from the school.
3. Official NPLEX Results - Proof of passing both Basic Science and the Clinical Components and Minor Surgery. NPLEX results must be sent directly to this office by NABNE.

ENDORSEMENT

To qualify to be licensed, an applicant must be licensed or certified in good standing in another jurisdiction in which the standards and qualifications required for regulation in that jurisdiction are substantially equivalent to Vermont's.

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https://secure.professionals.vermont.gov/prweb/PRServlet/app/default/ybVBleIGIHMIPa8qpM9BaiNEZfDPENuF*!STANDARD
2. Request an official verification of license be sent to OPR for your initial state of licensure and most recent state of licensure. This must be sent directly from the licensing authority and can be sent by email to SOS.OPRLicensing2@vermont.gov or by post office mail. It is not required that the other state complete the Vermont verification form.
3. Request official transcripts from an approved Naturopathic Medical College be sent to the Office directly from the institution by US mail or email to SOS.OPRLicensing2@vermont.gov. If the school provides you with your transcript, it will only be accepted if they are in a sealed envelope from the school.
4. Official NPLEX Results - Proof of passing both Basic Science and the Clinical Components and Minor Surgery. NPLEX results must be sent directly to this office by NABNE.
5. Upload proof of completing 30 hours of continuing education (5 credits must be in Pharmacology)

Provisional Licensure

If you are otherwise qualified for licensure **and** verification of licensure is the ONLY outstanding deficiency and all other licensing requirements are met including applicable education and exam requirements, you may be issued a 90-day provisional license while the Office awaits receipt of your license verification. If you wish to request a provisional license (if applicable), please indicate within the application.

FAST TRACK ENDORSEMENT:

To qualify to be licensed, an applicant must be actively licensed or certified in good standing in another jurisdiction for three or more years preceding this application.

1. Submit an online application and pay the non-refundable application fee. Applications are found within the online licensing system at:
https://secure.professionals.vermont.gov/prweb/PRServlet/app/default/ybVBlElGIHMIPa8qpM9BaiNEZfDPENuF*!/STANDARD
2. Request an official verification of license be sent directly to the Office. Verification must show proof of continuous licensure in good standing for 3 years preceding the date of this application. This must be sent directly from the licensing authority and can be sent by email to SOS.OPRLicensing2@vermont.gov or by post office mail. It is not required that the other state complete the Vermont verification form.

Provisional Licensure

If you are otherwise qualified for licensure **and** verification of licensure is the ONLY outstanding deficiency and all other licensing requirements are met including applicable education and exam requirements, you may be issued a 90-day provisional license while the Office awaits receipt of your license verification. If you wish to request a provisional license (if applicable), please indicate within the application.

Childbirth Endorsement

If applying post Vermont licensure, you will need to log in and select “add specialty”

(A) Show evidence of completion of a **naturopathic childbirth or midwifery program** from an approved naturopathic college or hospital and furnish a signed log showing evidence that sections (1), (2) and (3) of this subsection have been completed under the direct supervision of a licensed practitioner with specialty training in obstetrics or natural childbirth.

(1) The licensee must take part in the care of 50 cases each in prenatal and postnatal care.

(2) The licensee must have observed and assisted in the intrapartum care and delivery of 50 natural childbirths in a hospital or alternative birth setting 3 of which must have occurred within the last two years. A minimum of 26 of these births must be under the supervision of a naturopathic physician. No more than 10 of the 50 births may be under the supervision of a medical doctor (allopathic or osteopathic physician). No more than 10 of the births may be observation only. A labor and delivery that starts under the care of a naturopathic physician and includes hospitalization shall count as a birth.

(3) The course work must consist of at least 200 hours in naturopathic childbirth.

(B) Hold a current **cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification** for adults and newborns and for neonatal resuscitation. The Director will accept courses in external cardiopulmonary resuscitation which are approved by the Vermont Heart Association or the American Red Cross and for courses in **neonatal resuscitation** approved by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP).

(C) **ACNO EXAM**-Pass a specialty examination in naturopathic childbirth approved by the Director.

(D) File with the Director a **written plan for consultation** with other health care providers for emergency transfer and transport of an infant or a maternity patient, or both, to an appropriate health care facility.

3.5 SPECIAL LICENSE ENDORSEMENT FOR PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS

(a) The naturopathic pharmacology examination, defined at 26 V.S.A. §4121(13), the passage of which is required for the special prescriptive license endorsement pursuant to 26 V.S.A. §4125(d), shall be the National Board of Medical Examiners (“NBME”) subject matter examination in pharmacology, or the examination(s) given in the Medical Pharmacology course taught within the Department of Pharmacology through Continuing Medical Education at the University of Vermont’s College of Medicine, or a substantially equivalent examination approved by the Director after consultation with the Commissioner of Health. In order to obtain the special license endorsement which shall authorize a naturopathic physician to prescribe, dispense, and administer prescription medicines, an otherwise qualified naturopathic physician will be required to pass the NBME pharmacology examination, or the Medical Pharmacology course examination(s) at the University of

Vermont, or a substantially equivalent examination approved by the Director, after consultation with the Commissioner of Health. Approval for a substantially equivalent examination may be obtained by applying to the Office at any time, but no later than 90 days before the alternate course begins.

(b) For no less than one year after receiving the special license endorsement, and until the first one hundred (100) drug prescriptions are issued, prescriptions shall be reviewed by an objective and independent supervising physician licensed under Chapter 23 or 33 of Title 26, or a naturopathic physician licensed under Chapter 81 of Title 26. The supervising physician shall possess an unencumbered license and have been prescribing and administering prescription drugs without limitation for five years or more in Vermont. The supervising physician shall evaluate the naturopathic physician's ability to:

- (1) Safely prescribe and administer prescription drugs within the naturopath's scope of practice;
- (2) Comply with federal and state statutes; and
- (3) Comply with the applicable administrative rules of the Vermont Board of Pharmacy.

(c) The naturopathic and supervising physicians shall have a formal written agreement. The agreement shall address the requirements of subsection (b) of this rule. The agreement shall be available for inspection upon request by the Office.

(d) A naturopathic physician who satisfies the supervision requirement in subsection (b) of this rule shall notify the Office that this requirement has been met and file a certificate of completion signed by the supervisor.

(e) The Director may waive the prescription review requirement in subsection (b) of this rule if the newly endorsed naturopathic physician can show that they have substantial experience in prescribing prescription medicines under the laws of another jurisdiction that has standards and qualifications for a naturopathic physician to prescribe prescription medications at least equal to those required under these rules.

(f) The use of prescription medications in a manner that has not been approved by the FDA is referred to as "off-label." In addition to the use of prescription medications in a manner approved by the FDA, a naturopathic physician who has appropriate competency, training and experience may prescribe medications in an "off-label" manner in conformance with generally accepted standards of practice, including safety and efficacy, for both allopathic and naturopathic physicians.

NOTE: Any change of address or other contract information, by an applicant or licensee, must be forwarded to this office no later than thirty (30) days after change occurs.