COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE

POLICY 2021-01

INTERIM POLICY ON EMERGENCY TEMPORARY LICENSES TO WORK AT VACCINATION SITES FOR RECENTLY RETIRED PHYSICIANS AND LAPSED LICENSES

January 17, 2021

amended February 3, 2022

On March 10, 2020, Governor Baker declared a State of Emergency in Massachusetts in Executive Order No. 591, Declaration of a State of Emergency to Respond to COVID-19. Thereafter, on May 28, 2021, Governor Charles D. Baker terminated the March 10, 2020 declaration. Separately on May 28, 2021, pursuant to Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, Governor Baker declared that an emergency exists that is detrimental to the public health in the Commonwealth due to the continuing threat of COVID-19. In order to ensure an adequate supply of physicians to staff vaccinations sites and vaccination clinics, the Board of Registration in Medicine (“Board”) issues this policy which shall remain in effect until the public health emergency declared on May 28, 2021 is terminated or the Board rescinds this policy, whichever occurs sooner.

The Board hereby establishes an Emergency Temporary License that allows a physician to work only at a vaccination site or clinic being utilized for the purposes of the statewide vaccination effort and shall be valid until the end of the public health emergency declared on May 28, 2021. In order to qualify for this Emergency Temporary License, the physician’s Full Massachusetts license must have lapsed within six years of this policy or the physician must have retired within six years of the policy, the license was in good standing (no prior Board action that resulted in a suspension or revocation) and there are no open Board complaints that call into question the physician’s ability to practice medicine safely. The Board may, at any time, request additional documentation.

Staff may present any request for an Emergency Temporary License to the Chair of the Board or his designee should staff believe that review of the application is warranted.