



Montana Department of  
**LABOR & INDUSTRY**  
Business Standards Division  
Montana Board of Medical Examiners



TO: Montana Medical Association Board of Trustees  
FROM: Ian Marquand, Exec. Director, BOME  
DATE: March 10, 2012  
RE: Report on Physician Licensure Review Times

Physician Licensure in Montana is a complicated and time-consuming endeavor—by design. Montana statutes and rules set forth a rigorous review process that reflects the following:

- 1) The practice of medicine in Montana is a privilege, not a natural right, and that the regulation of the practice of medicine is necessary to ensure the health, happiness, safety, and welfare of the people of Montana. (*37-3-101 MCA*)
- 2) The Board of Medical Examiners ensures that “the public is properly protected against unprofessional, improper, unauthorized, or unqualified practice of medicine. All credentials of physicians...are reviewed by the board to ensure that only those individuals who meet the requirements of the statutes are licensed to practice in Montana.” (*ARM 24.1.101 Sec. 4-a-iii-H*)
- 3) The stated mission of the Board is “to protect the health, safety and well-being of Montana citizens through the licensing of competent health professionals and by the regulation of the related practices to promote the delivery of quality health care.” (*BOME Website*)

The following tables and graph indicate average days from receipt of an application for a Physician license in Montana to date of license approval. The data set analyzed included 582 Physician license applications that completed the review process and were approved by either staff or the Board.

Tables/Graph: Average Days from Receipt of Application to License Approval (by month)

<u>Month</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Average</u>
Jan-10	84.56	Jan-11	89.71
Feb-10	87.03	Feb-11	84.00
Mar-10	68.37	Mar-11	82.13
Apr-10	51.78	Apr-11	83.19
May-10	67.47	May-11	81.26
Jun-10	69.56	Jun-11	78.43
Jul-10	63.11	Jul-11	57.36
Aug-10	92.39	Aug-11	61.87
Sep-10	107.08	Sep-11	63.10
Oct-10	78.00	Oct-11	43.29
Nov-10	95.56	Nov-11	38.64
Dec-10	89.63	Dec-11	26.50

