

January 20, 2017

Did Your Medical Corporation Renew its License before the January 1 Deadline?

It's worth a moment of your time to double-check.

The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) has alerted ISMIE to an unusually high number of medical corporations, limited liability companies and professional service corporations that failed to renew their licenses before January 1.

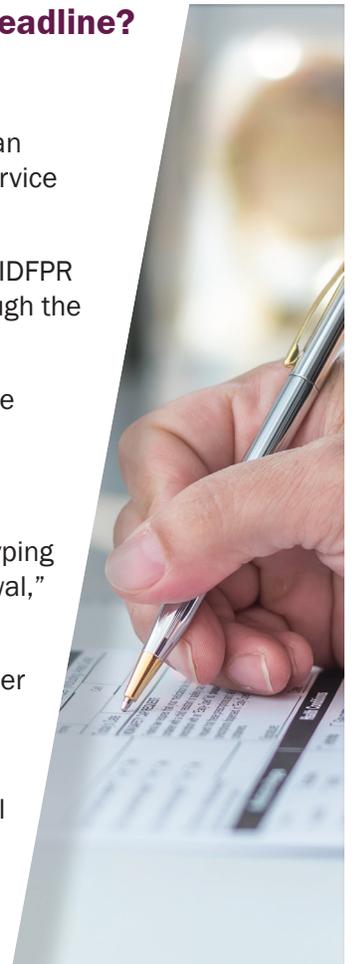
Could this be your practice? We've heard that some offices missed the deadline because the IDFPR has moved to an online license renewal reminder system instead of traditional reminders through the U.S. mail.

Unfortunately, failure to receive an electronic notification does not provide any leniency from the state. **An expired license is an expired license.**

If you still need to renew, you'll need to go online. Here are your steps:

- You'll need to go to the IDFPR's online license renewal page, which you can reach by typing in www.ismie.com/renewals. Once you're there, click "Professions Currently in Renewal," and click on your type of corporation to proceed.
- Then click "Print Renewal," and have your corporation's license number and PIN number handy. Your PIN number is located on your license renewal notification email; **if you do not have this email, you will need to call IDFPR at 800-560-6420 to get your PIN.**
- You must print the renewal form to be mailed to IDFPR, along with your license renewal fee. Fortunately, there is no financial penalty for restoring your entity's license – **but you must act fast if your license has expired.**

Questions or concerns? Go straight to IDFPR by calling 800-560-6420 or submit a written question to the agency by typing in www.ismie.com/questions.



Not all physicians are part of medical corporations, limited liability companies, or professional service corporations. We recommend that you speak to your practice attorney regarding questions about your corporate structure if you are unsure.

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It's the New Year – Have You Enrolled in the Illinois Prescription Monitoring Program?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that 91 Americans die each day from an opioid overdose. For the health of your patients and more effective risk management at your practice, consider enrolling in the **Illinois Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)**.

The PMP is a voluntary, free online database located at www.ILPMP.org. It collects information on controlled substance prescriptions reported each day by Illinois retail pharmacies. All registered prescribers and dispensers of controlled substances are eligible to receive a user ID and password to query their patients' prescription histories.

Here are four good reasons to register for the PMP, according to the Illinois State Medical Society (ISMS):

1. **It's now part of Illinois' controlled substance licensing process.** All physicians will be asked to register in the PMP when they renew their controlled substance licenses this year. Renewal opens late this spring and concludes **July 31, 2017**.
2. **Your APNs and PAs may qualify for registration if you register first.** Authorized mid-level health care professionals may be assigned access to the PMP. However, state rules require that a collaborating/supervising physician **must enter this delegation authority into the PMP** or their advance practice nurses (APNs) and physician assistants (PAs) won't get access. After a physician enrolls, they can sign in to the PMP and choose "PMP Collaborative Practice Agreement Registration" to allow their APNs and/or PAs to enroll.
3. **To better understand your patients' prescription histories for therapeutic and clinical reasons.** Records are viewable for 12 months and kept on record for two years.
4. **To help fight prescription drug abuse locally and nationally.** The Illinois PMP and other prescription monitoring programs around the nation are seen as an important weapon against overprescribing opioid pain medications and a helpful tool to curb "doctor shopping" by patients seeking these substances. For more information, visit www.isms.org/PMPCaseStudy.

