

Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners



The Louisiana legislature sought to regulate the practice of medicine in the state for well over a century. The Louisiana Medical Practice Act was enacted in 1894 and was eventually expressed as a constitutional provision in the Constitution of 1921. The [Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners](#) was first established in 1894.

Louisiana has had five members of its board serve as FSMB presidents, including [Arthur B. Brown, M.D.](#), who was the first FSMB president (1912-13), [Roy B. Harrison, M.D.](#) (1939-40), [Edwin H. Lawson, M.D.](#) (1959-60), [Rhett McMahan, M.D.](#) (1967-68) and [Charles B. Odom, M.D.](#) (1983-84).

The Louisiana board adopted pain management rules in 1997 that were used as a model for the FSMB publication: "Responsible Opioid Prescribing: A Physician's Guide." In 2004, the board adopted rules to govern the practice of office-based surgery by physicians. Louisiana was the first state to require, in 2006, the licensure of polysomnographers. Following the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Louisiana established a telemedicine permit in 2008 to allow for the practice of medicine across state lines. The board currently has [offices](#) in downtown New Orleans.

Several members have served on the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners for more than 20 years, including: Charles B. Odom, M.D., J. Morgan Lyons, M.D., Ike Muslow, M.D., F. P. Bordelon Jr., M.D., Richard M. Nunnally, M.D., and Elmo J. Laborde, M.D.