

Vermont Board of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons



When Vermont was admitted to the Union as the 14th state in 1791, the first addition to the original 13 colonies, anyone could call him- or herself a doctor and practice medicine. It wasn't until 1876 that the state authorized medical societies to elect a Board of Censors to examine and license practitioners of medicine, surgery and midwifery. The boards, which consisted of three members, were authorized in 1902 to receive an application fee of \$5.

With the establishment of rules for the practice of medicine, the state gained its first hospital. The Mary Fletcher Hospital was established in Burlington, Vt., in 1879.

In 1904, a law was passed creating a State Board of Medical Registration and a Board of Osteopathic Examination and Registration. The latter was the predecessor of the current [Vermont Board of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons](#). The Board of Osteopathic Examination and Registration was composed of three practicing osteopaths appointed by the governor. Each member served a three-year term, received a \$5 per diem and necessary expenses. The state authorized an examination fee of \$25.

Today, the Vermont Board of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons is a five-member board that acts to ensure applicants are qualified for licensure; sets standards for the profession by proposing statutes and adopting administrative rules; and, with the assistance of the state's Office of Professional Regulation, investigates complaints of unprofessional conduct and takes disciplinary action against licensees when necessary to protect the public.