

Ready to retire?



Retiring from the active practice of clinical medicine is a big life change, which may affect your decision to maintain an active professional license. Here are some of the most common choices for retirees:

Remain licensed – Many licensees keep an active license, even though they plan to cease active clinical practice. If this is your choice, you must continue to renew annually and complete all required continuing medical education (CME). If you later decide to resume clinical practice you may do so with no delay.

Be a volunteer – If you want the flexibility to volunteer medical services in retirement, you may switch from a full license to a “retired volunteer” license. You will be restricted to providing care to indigent clinics in NC for free. You will still need to complete required CME and renew annually, but there is no fee.

Go inactive – Inactivating your license is a more permanent choice for those who have no intention to continue to actively practice clinical medicine. If circumstances change, you would essentially have to submit a new license application and, if two or more years have passed since you last held an active license, you might be required to comply with reentry provisions.

Visit www.ncmedboard.org/retire for more information, and to access the volunteer application and other forms, if needed.