

FAQ: Sign Language Interpreter Medical License – Repealed as of January 1, 2026

ISSUED ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

OVERVIEW & BACKGROUND

During the 2025 Legislative Session, SB 950 (2025) was passed and signed into law by the Governor on May 28, 2025. The new law repeals the sign language interpreter (SLI) medical license, effective January 1, 2026. However, any SLI medical license issued between June 8, 2024, and December 31, 2025, will remain valid through January 1, 2029, allowing SLI medical license holders three additional years to practice.

Beginning January 1, 2026, the SLI medical license will no longer be issued or renewed due to SB 950 (2025), which repeals this license type.

The Health Licensing Office (HLO) has provided a FAQ to help understand how the current law aligns with SB 950 (2025).

PERMANENT BOARD SLI MEDICAL LICENSE

Q1: When did HLO begin issuing permanent¹ Board of Sign Language Interpreters (Board) SLI medical licenses?

A: HLO began issuing permanent Board SLI medical licenses on June 8, 2024.

¹ To obtain a permanent Board SLI medical license a person had to apply and provide all required information, meet all qualifications, and pay application and license fees.

Q2: When will HLO stop issuing permanent Board SLI medical licenses?

A: HLO will stop issuing permanent Board SLI medical licenses on December 31, 2025.

Q3: Does my permanent Board SLI medical license qualify me for the extension ending January 1, 2029?

A: Yes. Your permanent Board SLI medical license will automatically be extended until January 1, 2029.

Q4: Do I have to renew my permanent Board SLI medical license before December 31, 2025, to have my permanent Board SLI medical license extended until January 1, 2029?

A: No. You do not have to renew your permanent Board SLI medical license to have it extended until January 1, 2029.

Q5: Does my permanent Board SLI medical license need to be active on January 1, 2026, to have my permanent Board SLI medical license extended until January 1, 2029?

A: No. Your permanent Board SLI medical license doesn't have to be active on January 1, 2026, to be extended until January 1, 2029.

Q6: Can I renew my permanent Board SLI medical license after December 31, 2025?

A: No. Starting January 1, 2026, the permanent Board SLI medical license can no longer be renewed due to SB 950 (2025) repealing the SLI medical license.

Q7: Can I obtain a permanent Board SLI medical license after December 31, 2025?

A: No. Starting January 1, 2026, permanent Board SLI medical licenses will no longer be issued due to SB 950 (2025) repealing the SLI medical license.

Q8: If I was issued a permanent Board SLI medical license between June 8, 2024, and December 31, 2025, where can I provide sign language interpretation services after January 1, 2026?

A: From January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2029, you can provide services in settings that the Board authorizes without needing extra licenses. The Board will set the specific rules related to settings by January 1, 2026.

Q9: If I was issued a permanent Board SLI medical license in 2024 or 2025, can I get a refund or transfer the fees?

A: No. Once the license has been issued and fees paid, those fees can't be refunded or transferred.

Q10: If I renewed my permanent Board SLI medical license in 2024 or 2025, can I get a refund or transfer the fees?

A: No. Once the license has been issued and fees paid, those fees can't be refunded or transferred.

TEMPORARY SLI MEDICAL LICENSE

Q11: When were temporary² SLI medical licenses issued?

A: Temporary SLI medical licenses were issued between January 1, 2024, and June 7, 2024, at 11:59 p.m.

Q12: When did temporary SLI medical licenses become null and void?

A: Temporary SLI medical licenses became null and void on June 7, 2024, at 11:59 p.m.

² There were no fees required to obtain a temporary license issued from January 1, 2024, to June 7, 2024.

Q13: Does my temporary SLI medical license qualify me for the extension ending January 1, 2029?

A: No. The temporary SLI medical license does not qualify you for the extension ending January 1, 2029.

LIMITED WAIVER ON ENFORCEMENT

Q14: When does the limited waiver on enforcement end?

A: The limited waiver on enforcement began on January 1, 2024, ends on June 30, 2026.

Q15: If I choose to work under the limited waiver on enforcement and do not obtain a permanent Board SLI educational, medical or legal license, do I qualify for the extension ending January 1, 2029?

A: No. If you choose to work under the limited waiver on enforcement and do not obtain a permanent Board SLI educational, medical or legal license, you do not qualify for the extension ending January 1, 2029.

RESOURCES AND CONTACT INFORMATION AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

Please note: The information and links below are likely to change as of January 1, 2026, due to changes in SB 950 (2025) and the completion of rulemaking.

SLI Supervisory License

- Application Form: https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HLO/Forms/SLI-Supervisory_Sign_Language_Interpreter_License_Application.pdf
- How to get licensed: <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HLO/Pages/Board-Sign-Language-Interpreters-Supervisory-License.aspx>
- Fees: Application \$150, One-year License: \$200

SLI Generalist License:

- Application Form: https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HLO/Forms/SLI-Generalist_Sign_Language_Interpreter_License_Application.pdf
- How to get licensed: <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HLO/Pages/Board-Sign-Language-Interpreters-Standard-License.aspx>
- Fees: Application \$100, One-year License: \$150

SLI Provisional License:

- Application form: https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HLO/Forms/SLI-Provisional_Sign_Language_Interpreter_License_Application.pdf
- How to get licensed: <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HLO/Pages/Board-Sign-Language-Interpreters-Provisional-License.aspx>
- Fees: Application \$75, One-year License: \$100

Resource Information:

- Meeting information: <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HLO/Pages/Board-Sign-Language-Interpreters-Meetings.aspx>
- Meeting videos: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLg51XtPQ_i12YOz4s46gqmW-Wx521TYIi
- Current rules and laws: <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HLO/Pages/Board-Sign-Language-Interpreters-Laws-Rules.aspx>
- How to receive up-to-date Board information: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORHA/signup/38181>

Contact Information:

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