

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS MEDICAL SPA REGISTRY

Q: What is a medical spa?

A: A medical spa is any entity which offers or performs cosmetic medical services.

Q: What if I am a physician who offers cosmetic medical services in my office? Is my office a medical spa?

A: Yes, for the purposes of Public Chapter 494, you are operating a medical spa. Public chapter 494 amended the definition of medical spa to include doctors' offices.

Q: What is a cosmetic medical service?

A: A cosmetic medical service is any service that uses biologic or synthetic material, a chemical application, a mechanical device, or a displaced energy form of any kind that alters or damages, or is capable of altering or damaging, living tissue to improve the patient's appearance or achieve an aesthetic result.

Q: How do I register my medical spa?

A: The spa's medical director is responsible for submitting the registration form to the Board of Medical Examiners. All applications for registration must be mailed to:

Board of Medical Examiners
ATTN: Medical Spa Registration
665 Mainstream Drive, 2nd Floor
Nashville, TN 37243 (37228 for courier service only)

Q: Is the registration form available online?

A: Yes, you may access the registration form online at <http://www.tn.gov/health/topic/medical-spa-registry>. You may request a paper registration form by email to TN.Health@tn.gov.

Q: Is there a fee to register my medical spa?

A: Not at this time. The registration and renewal fees will be set by rulemaking in 2016.

Q: Do I have to renew my registration?

A: Yes, registration must be renewed annually. Registration renewal is due by the end of the month which is one year from initial registration. For example, if your medical spa application for registration is approved on January 12, 2015, you must renew your medical spa registration by January 31, 2016. An online renewal system is being developed and will be available soon.

Q: What is the difference between a medical director and supervising physician?

A: These terms are used to describe the physician responsible for the provision of cosmetic medical services provided in a medical spa. A spa may have a medical director *and* supervising physician(s), but if the spa has only one supervising physician, that physician is also the medical director as he/she is ultimately responsible for the provision of all cosmetic medical services being provided at that spa.

Q: What are the requirements for a medical director/supervising physician?

A: A medical director or supervising physician must hold an active medical license under chapter 6 or 9 of title 63 and must have an active medical practice in Tennessee. Supervising physicians must have an active and unencumbered license in order to supervise any other provider.

Q: I own a single medical spa with multiple locations; does each location have to be registered?

A: Yes, the medical director or supervising physician of your medical spa must submit a separate application for registration of each spa regardless of whether the spa is operated under the same business name, ownership or management as another spa.

Q: What if I fail to register my medical spa?

A: If you fail to register your medical spa, you are operating a medical spa in violation of TENN. CODE ANN. § 63-1-153 and your failure to register may be reported to the Office of Investigations and Office of General Counsel for formal disciplinary action.