

# MEDICAL LICENSURE QUESTIONS ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The types of mental health questions on physician licensure applications were categorized based on types of questions and consistency with the American with Disabilities Act.

## Type 1

Asks "no mental health questions for licensure."

ADA compliant

## Type 2

Asks about "current fitness" related to "mental and/or physical disability" (e.g. "Do you have a medical or physical condition that currently impairs your ability to practice medicine?")

ADA compliant

## Type 3

Asks about hypothetical questions about "impairment because of mental and/or physical disability." (e.g. "Do you presently have any physical or mental problems or disabilities which could affect your ability to competently practice your particular branch of the healing arts or your particular specialty?")

ADA non-compliant

## Type 4

Asks about "any past impairment from mental illness...ranging from the past five years to...any time in the applicant's life." (e.g. "Have you ever had any physical, emotional, or mental illness which has impaired or would be likely to impair your ability to practice medicine?")

ADA non-compliant

## Type 5

Asks about "history of hospitalization, commitment, and incompetence determination for mental illness" from the "last five years to ... any time in the applicant's life." (e.g. "Within the past five years have you been hospitalized for, missed work because of, or been significantly impaired by any mental or emotional condition?")

ADA non-compliant

## Type 6

Asks broad questions "about diagnosis or treatment for psychiatric illness or other mental health conditions" focusing on the illness without asking about impairment. (e.g. "Have you been treated for or do you have a diagnosis for any mental health condition?")

ADA non-compliant

