



CANNON BUILDING
861 SILVER LAKE BLVD., SUITE 203
DOVER, DELAWARE 19904-2467

STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

TELEPHONE: (302) 744-4500
FAX: (302) 739-2711
WEBSITE: DPR.DELAWARE.GOV

BOARD OF SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS, AUDIOLOGISTS, AND HEARING AID DISPENSERS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR MANDATORY DUTY TO REPORT

Introduction

As a Delaware-licensed healthcare provider, you have mandatory duties to report under Delaware law. The Division of Professional Regulation is enclosing an information sheet similar to this one with the license renewal notices of all healthcare providers. The purpose of the information sheet is to explain the mandatory duties to report that apply to your profession.

To renew your license, you will be required to certify that you understand each mandatory duty to report explained below. Note that, when appropriate, the Division may keep your identity confidential.

Mandatory Duty to Report Medical Practitioners

Delaware law *mandates* you to report a medical practitioner when you reasonably believe that the practitioner is (or may be) guilty of unprofessional conduct or unfit to practice ([24 Del. C. §1731A](#)). The term medical practitioner means anyone who is licensed by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline, including physicians, physician assistants, respiratory practitioners, acupuncture practitioners, and genetic counselors. Unprofessional conduct is explained in [24 Del. C. §1731](#).

You must file your report with the Division of Professional Regulation within 30 days of becoming aware of the information. The law imposes a \$10,000-\$50,000 fine for non-compliance ([24 Del. C. 1731A \(i\)](#)). For information on filing a report, go to the Division's website at www.dpr.delaware.gov and click "Report Healthcare Provider" under "Services" on the menu on the left.

The law allows the Division to keep your identity confidential. It also affords immunity from civil or criminal prosecution for good faith reporting ([24 Del. C. 1731A \(g\)](#)).

Mandatory Duty to Report Child Abuse

Delaware law also *mandates* you to make an immediate oral report to the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families when you know of, or suspect, child abuse or neglect under Chapter 9 of Title 16 of the *Delaware Code* and to follow up with any requested written reports ([16 Del. C. §903](#)).

You may report child abuse or neglect by calling the Department's 24-hour child abuse and neglect hotline at (800) 292-9582. The Department will notify the Division of Professional Regulation of child abuse allegations.

Mandatory Duty to Report Violations by Practitioners

Your Board's Rules and Regulations require you to report if you have evidence that a practitioner has violated the Code of Ethics (Section 9.0 of the [Rules and Regulations](#)) or other law or regulation. On your renewal application, you must certify that you have read Section 9.2.1.6 of the [Rules and Regulations](#) and understand your duty to report.

You must file your report with the Division of Professional Regulation. For information on filing a report, go to the Division's website at www.dpr.delaware.gov - click "Report Healthcare Provider" under "Services" on the menu on the left.

Mandatory Duty to Report Unlicensed Practice

Your Board's Rules and Regulations require you to report if you have evidence that a person is practicing the profession without a license in violation of [24 Del. C. §3707](#). On your renewal application, you must certify that you have read Section 9.3.2.2 of the [Rules and Regulations](#) and understand your duty to report.

You must file your report with the Division of Professional Regulation. For information on filing a report, go to the Division's website at www.dpr.delaware.gov - click "Report Healthcare Provider" under "Services" on the menu on the left.