



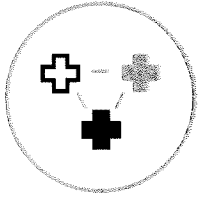
**FRESENIUS
KIDNEY CARE**



Social Work Licensure Compact

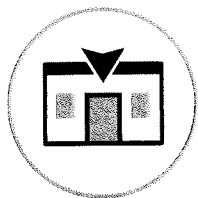
The Social Work Licensure Compact is an ideal solution for the people in your state who need dialysis. It also helps dialysis providers staff their facilities with experienced dialysis social workers as well as provide telehealth services across state boundaries.

Fresenius Kidney Care operates 13 clinics and provides life-sustaining dialysis treatments to nearly 725 people living in Maine by over 180 caring employees. Like other healthcare positions, social workers are also impacted by the shortage of healthcare workers.



HOW DOES THE SOCIAL WORK LICENSURE COMPACT WORK?

An interstate compact is a legal contract between two or more states or territories that allows social workers to practice in each other's jurisdiction and enables social workers licensure mobility. Social workers must have a compact license in their home state. This allows them to practice in any other state that has enacted the Social Work Licensure Compact.



HOW WILL IT BENEFIT DIALYSIS PROVIDERS IN YOUR STATE?

Dialysis social work is a specialized field. Fresenius Kidney Care and other providers rely on the ability to bring in trained dialysis social workers from other states in times of critical need.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services requires every person receiving dialysis to receive social work services from a Master's-level licensed social worker. Because our company operates in many states, we are able to move our social workers to areas of greatest need quickly as circumstances may require. Social workers have similar licensing and educational requirements across all states, making them appropriate for a professional compact.

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HOW WILL IT BENEFIT PATIENTS IN YOUR STATE?

Compacts assist in improving patients' access to quality and timely services. During COVID-19, the issue of access to care became particularly acute. When COVID-19 surges occurred, the ability to bring in qualified out-of-state health professionals quickly was critical for outpatient dialysis facilities to provide life-sustaining treatments for patients. This included social workers, dietitians, nurses, and our patient care technicians traveling to other states to help with COVID-19 surges.

Many of our social workers also provided, and continue to provide, telehealth services. Telehealth is specifically listed in the Social Work Licensure Compact model language as a reason for creating the Compact.

The time has come to pass Social Work Licensure Compact legislation.

According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), employment of social workers is projected to grow 9 percent from 2021 to 2031, faster than the average for all occupations. About 74,700 openings for social workers are projected each year, on average, over the decade.

While temporary social work licenses may be available in some states, they are not a permanent fix to emergency situations. And, often there is a backlog in licensure processing. The U.S. Department of Defense (DOD), as part of an initiative to promote licensure portability for military spouses, awarded a \$500,000 grant for the development of the interstate licensure compact for social workers. The Compact will become operational when seven states have enacted it. Be a part of this groundbreaking legislation.

Social Work Licensure Compact information and resources:

- <https://compacts.csg.org/compact-updates/social-work/>
- <https://www.socialworkers.org/Advocacy/Interstate-Licensure-Compact-for-Social-Work>

We ask for your support of the Social Work Licensure Compact.

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ABOUT FRESENIUS KIDNEY CARE

Fresenius Kidney Care, a division of Fresenius Medical Care, provides kidney care education, dialysis treatment, and support services to more than 200,000 people with kidney disease every year whether in their own homes or at more than 2,600 facilities nationwide. Fresenius Kidney Care's dedicated teams help address the physical and emotional aspects of kidney disease through personalized care, education, and lifestyle support services. For more information about Fresenius Kidney Care, visit [FreseniusKidneyCare.com](https://www.FreseniusKidneyCare.com).

