



GEORGIA  
SOCIETY OF  
ANESTHESIOLOGISTS, INC.

# e-News



June 25, 2013

[Click here to register for the 2013 GSA Summer Meeting.](#)

## **Apply NOW for pain clinic license**

Pursuant to [House Bill 178](#), many pain management clinics in the state of Georgia are required to be licensed by the Georgia Composite Medical Board. The licensure applies to any medical facility or doctor's office where the term "pain" is used in the name of the clinic or office or "treatment of pain" is included in the promotional materials or where more than 50 percent of the care provided patients is for chronic pain. The legislation does not apply to hospital-owned facilities or ambulatory surgical centers and excludes hospice, home health care and skilled-nursing facilities.

[Apply now!](#) The new law goes into effect on July 1, 2013.

The Georgia Composite Medical Board published the application and guidelines for the state's new pain management clinic license on Friday, June 21, 2013. The application is available for download at the Board's website, [www.medicalboard.georgia.gov](http://www.medicalboard.georgia.gov). The application forms are available at the following page: <http://medicalboard.georgia.gov/pain-management-clinic-license-forms>

The application implements [House Bill 178](#), the Georgia Pain Management Clinic Act, which was signed on May 2, 2013 by Governor Nathan Deal. Passed with overwhelming majorities in the state House of Representatives (150 to 15) and state Senate (44 to 5), HB 178 requires that all pain management clinics operating in Georgia are licensed effective July 1, 2013.

The new law defines a pain management clinic as any medical practice that advertises services in the treatment of pain, uses the word "pain" in the name of the clinic or practice, or has more than 50 percent of its annual patient population for chronic, non-terminal pain by the use of Schedule II or Schedule III controlled substances. Each pain management clinic location must be licensed individually.

The application process includes payment of a \$500 application fee, a criminal background check, and other documents. Clinics must be wholly owned by licensed physicians, with exemptions for qualifying clinics that were already operating in Georgia on June 30, 2013. Clinics and practices owned or operated by

hospitals do not need to be licensed, but must file an annual notification with the Board.

For a copy of [HB 178](#), go to <http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/20132014/135382.pdf>

For more information, contact James E. "Jet" Toney, GSA Executive Secretary, at [jet.toney@politics.org](mailto:jet.toney@politics.org).

## Two discount rooms available at Omni

The deadline to receive the [GSA Summer Meeting](#) discount at the Omni has passed. However, GSA has two rooms available at the discount rate, if you book your reservations through Kristin Strickland Andris, GSA Member Services Manager. Contact Kristin immediately at 404-249-9178 x 6 or [kristin.strickland@politics.org](mailto:kristin.strickland@politics.org) for more information.

[The GSA 2013 Summer Meeting](#) will be held July 19-21, 2013, at the Omni Oceanfront Resort in Hilton Head, SC. Activity Co-Directors are Sona Arora, MD and Ratna Vadlamudi, MD. The theme, "Advances in Anesthesia: Updates to Improve Patient Care" offers 8 CME hours. [Click here to register.](#) [Click here for a full list of presentations and learning objectives](#) or [here for the agenda.](#)

## Share your hobby on the GSA Facebook page

The 2013 summer edition of *scope* will be themed "Physician's Health: How Anesthesiologists Stay Happy and Healthy." In light of the upcoming issue, GSA staff would like to know what activities members enjoy. If you are active in a unique sport or hobby, share your pictures on the GSA Facebook page.

[Click here to like us on Facebook and share your photos.](#)

Facebook followers will receive immediate news alerts, meeting reminders, and other valuable information from GSA.

**Communications Committee Chair & Editor of *scope*:** [Ginger Zarse, MD](#)

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**Executive Secretary:** [James E. "Jet" Toney](#)

**Member Services Manager:** [Kristin Strickland Andris](#)

For more information about GSA Government Affairs, GSA-PAC or public policy please email [Jet Toney](#).

Direct Correspondence to: GSA Newsletter, 1231-J Collier Rd. NW, Atlanta, GA 30318.

Phone: 404-249-9178. Fax: 404-249-8831. [www.gsahq.org](http://www.gsahq.org)