

PRE-COURT HEARING

At least 16 states use pretrial screening panels to evaluate medical liability claims before they go to court. Here is how some of those panels work.

STATES WITH PANELS

	AK	DE	HI	ID	IN	KS	LA	ME	MA	MT	NE	NH	NM	UT	VA	WY
Evaluation mandatory:																
■ Yes. Before, or at the time, a claim is filed			X	X	X*			X	X	X		X	X			X
■ Not mandatory	X	X				X	X**				X			X	X	
Panel's opinion:																
■ Admissible in court	X	X			X	X	X	X#			X	X#			X	X
■ Inadmissible in court			X	X					X	X			X	X		

SOURCE: AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. NOTES: * EVALUATION MANDATORY FOR CLAIMS EXCEEDING \$15,000; ** APPLIES TO PHYSICIANS COVERED BY STATE PATIENT COMPENSATION FUND; # OPINION ADMISSIBLE IF UNANIMOUS