

The AMA Path to Private Practice

It takes the same kind of independent judgement and effective collaboration with colleagues to succeed in a private practice setting that it does to successfully treat patients.

The right roadmap can make private practice a reality.



1. Take stock of your work style and local health care climate.

Be honest about how well you and your new business venture will weather the pressures of the current private practice landscape.

2. Develop a tailored business model.

Your office structure and operations should fit the needs of your community and enable you to practice medicine with confidence.



4. Familiarize yourself with available medical and management technology.

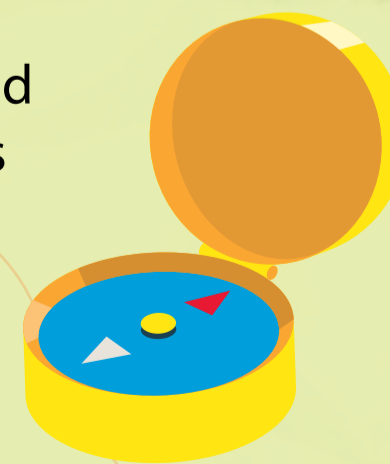
The right suite of technology and tools can streamline processes and ensure that physician owners and their staff aren't overworked or underequipped.

3. Follow standards.

Understand the legal and regulatory requirements a practice must meet, at both the federal and state level, and implement policies that adhere to guidelines.

5. Be ready to navigate new payment models.

Anticipating, understanding and adapting to payment policies is fundamental to preserving private practices and may require negotiating new payment contracts.



6. Build a strong, diverse team.

A practice is only as strong as its staff. Seek to build a team of staff members with complementary skills and a work setting that fosters a collaborative practice culture.



7. Develop an operations plan.

The right operational processes and procedures won't just maintain viability. A practice's operational efficiencies can improve practice culture and patient care. Learn more at stepsforward.org.

8. Plan for growth.

After establishing a foundation for success, private practices must have a plan for expansion — developing the marketing and lining up the resources needed to scale.

The AMA is dedicated to supporting physicians' pursuit of practice arrangements that enable the delivery of high-quality care to their patients.

The AMA's in-depth resources offer insights and step-by-step guidance for physicians who want to be their own boss. To start your journey toward private practice, explore the AMA's [essential tools and resources](#).

Sources:

<https://www.ama-assn.org/about/research/physician-practice-benchmark-survey>

<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/payment-delivery-models/physician-payment-delivery-models>

<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/private-practices/why-private-practice-should-be-your-radar>