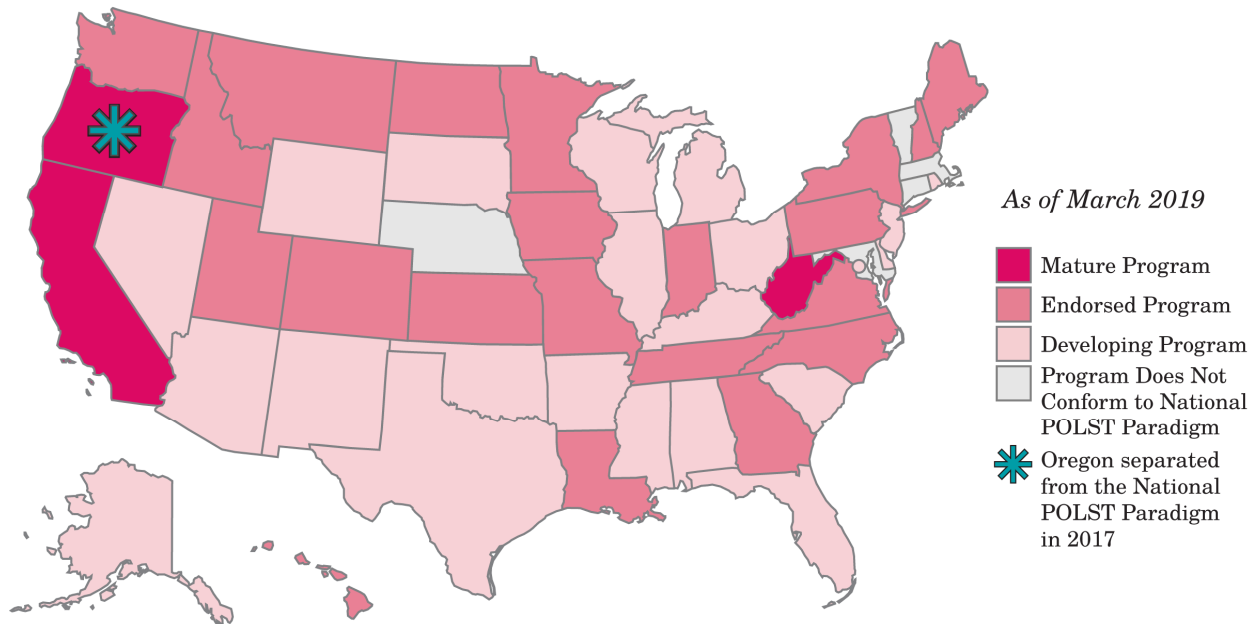


National POLST Program Designations

As of March 2019



The National POLST Paradigm set standards for recognizing a program as developing, endorsed, mature, or non-conforming. POLST Program leaders must proactively apply for endorsement or mature status.

Mature: This is the highest level of endorsement and reserved solely for programs where use of the POLST Paradigm is statewide part of the standard of care for persons with serious illness or frailty whose health care professionals wouldn't be surprised if they died. This is objectively measured by reviewing regional data (e.g., as defined by established criteria such as EMS, Department of Health, or the Dartmouth Atlas) and confirming that 50% or more of hospitals, nursing homes or nursing home resident population, and hospices in each region use the POLST Paradigm. These programs are actively gathering data for quality assurance programs and have considered centralized POLST form databases.

Endorsed: Endorsed programs have developed and implemented a POLST Paradigm program and form meeting the National POLST Paradigm standards. While various elements are reviewed before providing this designation, key elements include having a single form for the state or territory and having a coalition of diverse stakeholders working towards statewide implementation. Endorsed programs have also addressed legal and regulatory issues associated with the POLST Paradigm and developed strategies for ongoing implementation, education, and quality assurance.

Developing: Programs are recognized as developing when they have submitted an application and presented their form and program to the National POLST Paradigm. Developing programs may be at various stages of development, ranging from the initial design of a POLST form to active usage of the POLST form, and are working towards the goal of implementing the POLST Paradigm statewide.

Non-conforming: These states that have developed POLST-like programs that, either from how the form or program was developed or implemented or for legislative reasons, are considered non-conforming because they are not on the pathway towards endorsement. Learn more by going to www.polst.org/map and clicking on the state.