
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2112 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY BERNSTINE, MILLARD, KEEFER, CALTAGIRONE, SAYLOR,
MOUL, POLINCHOCK, GILLEN AND YOUNGBLOOD, DECEMBER 9, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
DECEMBER 9, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 22, 1951 (P.L.317, No.69), entitled "An
2 act relating to the practice of professional nursing;
3 providing for the licensing of nurses and for the revocation
4 and suspension of such licenses, subject to appeal, and for
5 their reinstatement; providing for the renewal of such
6 licenses; regulating nursing in general; prescribing
7 penalties and repealing certain laws," further providing for
8 fees and qualifications for licensure, for education
9 programs, approved lists, distribution and student credits
10 where school removed from list and for certified registered
11 nurse practitioners and qualifications.

12 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
13 hereby enacts as follows:

14 Section 1. Sections 6(a), (b)(2) and (3), 6.2(c) and 8.1(b)
15 (1)(i) of the act of May 22, 1951 (P.L.317, No.69), known as The
16 Professional Nursing Law, are amended to read:

17 Section 6. Fees; Qualifications for Licensure.--(a) No
18 application for licensure as a registered nurse shall be
19 considered unless accompanied by a fee determined by the Board
20 by regulation. Every applicant, to be eligible for examination
21 for licensure as a registered nurse, shall furnish evidence
22 satisfactory to the Board that he or she is of good moral

1 character, has completed work equal to a standard high school
2 course as evaluated by the Board and has satisfactorily
3 completed [an approved] a board-approved program of professional
4 nursing accredited by an accrediting agency approved by the
5 United States Department of Education. Approved programs shall
6 include baccalaureate degree, associate degree, diploma nursing
7 programs and programs in transition from approved diploma- to
8 degree-granting programs when all other requirements of the
9 Board have been met.

10 (b) An applicant applying for licensure as a dietitian-
11 nutritionist shall submit a written application on forms
12 provided by the Board evidencing and insuring to the
13 satisfaction of the Board that the applicant:

14 * * *

15 (2) Has received a baccalaureate or higher degree from a
16 Board-approved[, regionally accredited] college or university
17 accredited by an accrediting agency approved by the United
18 States Department of Education, including a major course of
19 study in human nutrition, food and nutrition, dietetics or food
20 systems management.

21 (3) Has completed a planned continuous preprofessional
22 experience component in dietetic practice of not less than nine
23 hundred (900) hours under the supervision of a registered
24 dietitian, a dietitian-nutritionist licensed under this act or
25 an individual with a doctoral degree conferred by a [regionally
26 accredited] college or university accredited by an accrediting
27 agency approved by the United States Department of Education
28 located in the United States with a major course of study in
29 human nutrition, food and nutrition, nutrition education,
30 dietetics or food systems management as approved by the Board.

1 * * *

2 Section 6.2. Education Programs, Approved Lists,
3 Distribution; Student Credits Where School Removed from List.--*

4 * *

5 (c) (1) Educational programs for the education of clinical
6 nurse specialists that are operated within a [regionally
7 accredited] college or university accredited by an accrediting
8 agency approved by the United States Department of Education and
9 where a master's degree, doctorate in nursing or a post-master's
10 degree is awarded, with a program concentration in the role of a
11 clinical nurse specialist, must be approved by [a national] an
12 accrediting [body] agency for nursing education programs
13 approved by the United States Department of Education recognized
14 by the board and shall be considered approved programs only for
15 the purposes of conferring certification to practice as a
16 clinical nurse specialist.

17 (2) Within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this
18 subsection, the board shall announce on its Internet website the
19 recognized [national] accrediting bodies for purposes of this
20 subsection.

21 (3) Within one hundred eighty (180) days of the effective
22 date of this subsection, education programs meeting these
23 requirements shall submit the name, address and telephone number
24 of the program; name and curriculum vitae of the program
25 director; and proof of accreditation to the board by [a
26 national] an accrediting [body] agency approved by the United
27 States Department of Education and recognized by the board for
28 inclusion on the list of approved clinical nurse specialist
29 education programs.

30 (4) Programs created more than six (6) months after the

1 effective date of this subsection shall submit the information
2 required in this subsection to the board for inclusion on the
3 list of approved programs.

4 Section 8.1. Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners;
5 Qualifications.--* * *

6 (b) (1) Beginning on the effective date of this section, a
7 nurse shall not qualify for initial certification by the board
8 under subsection (a) unless the nurse:

9 (i) is a graduate of [an accredited,] a board-approved
10 master's or post-master's nurse practitioner program which is
11 accredited by an accrediting agency approved by the United
12 States Department of Education; and

13 * * *

14 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.