

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2021 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 873

(Delegate Charles)

Health and Government Operations

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Board for Certification of Residential Child Care Program Professionals –
Certification – Revisions

This bill requires the State Board for Certification of Residential Child Care Program Professionals to maintain an electronic roster of all individuals certified by the board for purposes of electronically verifying certification. The roster must be posted on the board’s website. An individual without website access may contact the board to verify a certificate. The bill repeals the requirement that the board indicate in a renewal notice the date by which a renewal application must be mailed before the certificate expires. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2021.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill’s requirements can be handled with existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The State Board for Certification of Residential Child Care Program Professionals is the State certification authority for residential child care program administrators (RCCPAs) and residential child and youth care practitioners (RCYCPs).

To qualify as an RCCPAs, an individual must (1) be of good moral character; (2) complete a State and national criminal history check and a child protective services background

clearance; (3) be at least 21 years old; (4) have earned a bachelor's degree and have at least four years of experience in the field and three years in a supervisory capacity, or a master's degree and have at least two years of experience in the field and one-year in a supervisory capacity; and (5) pass an examination given by the board.

To qualify as an RCYCPs, an individual must (1) be of good moral character; (2) complete a State and national criminal history check and a child protective services background clearance; (3) be at least 21 years old, or at least 18 years old if they have earned an associate's or bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university; (4) have a high school diploma or equivalent and have completed an approved training program, or at least two years of experience in the field or an associate's or bachelor's degree; and (5) pass an examination given by the board.

At least one month before an individual's certificate expires, the board must send a renewal notice to the last known electronic or physical address of the RCCPAs or RCYCPs. The renewal notice must indicate (1) the date on which the current certificate expires; (2) the date by which the renewal application must be received by the board for the renewal to be issued and mailed before the certificate expires; and (3) the amount of the renewal fee.

Additional Comments: Currently, the board maintains a file with an applicant's current resident and employment addresses and updates these records when a change occurs. The general public does not currently have a way to verify if an RCCPAs or RCYCPs is certified by the board. The majority of health occupations boards provide electronic rosters on their respective websites that allow consumers to verify an individual's licensure or certification.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: HB 1108 of 2020 passed the House and was referred to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, but no further action was taken.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Health; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 16, 2021
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