

HOUSE BILL 26

J2
HB 911/22 – HGO

(PRE-FILED)

3lr0876

By: **Delegate Bagnall**

Requested: November 17, 2022

Introduced and read first time: January 11, 2023

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Occupations – Psychologists – Licensure Qualification**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the qualifications an individual must have to be licensed as a
4 psychologist by the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists; and generally
5 relating to the licensure of psychologists.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
7 Article – Health Occupations
8 Section 18–101(a)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Health Occupations
13 Section 18–101(c) and 18–302(f)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Health Occupations**

19 18–101.

20 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

21 (c) (1) “Doctoral degree in psychology” means:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) A degree received from a program that at the time the degree was
2 awarded:

3 1. Is accredited by the American Psychological Association or
4 the Canadian Psychological Association; or

5 2. Is listed in the designated doctoral programs in psychology
6 published by the Council for the National Register of Health Service Providers in
7 Psychology; [or]

8 (ii) **A DEGREE RECEIVED FROM A DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN**
9 **PSYCHOLOGY FROM A SCHOOL OR UNIVERSITY THAT, AT THE TIME THE DEGREE WAS**
10 **AWARDED, HAD A REGIONAL ACCREDITATION RECOGNIZED BY THE COUNCIL FOR**
11 **HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION OR THE CANADIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL**
12 **ASSOCIATION; OR**

13 [(ii)] (iii) A doctoral degree in psychology that the Council for the
14 National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology determines meets its criteria
15 for a doctoral degree in psychology, if the degree was received from a doctoral program in
16 psychology that:

17 1. Is located outside the United States and Canada;

18 2. Is currently accredited or designated in accordance with
19 item (i) of this paragraph, but was not accredited or designated at the time the degree was
20 awarded;

21 3. Was completed prior to 1981 for United States programs;

22 4. Was completed prior to 1988 for Canadian programs; or

23 5. Is no longer in existence.

24 (2) (i) A determination by the Council under paragraph [(1)(ii)] **(1)(III)**
25 of this subsection that a doctoral degree in psychology meets its criteria shall be considered
26 by the Board as prima facie evidence that the degree meets those criteria.

27 (ii) In determining whether the degree in psychology meets the
28 criteria described in paragraph [(1)(ii)] **(1)(III)** of this subsection and subparagraph (i) of
29 this paragraph, the Board may consider the completion of postdoctoral course work in
30 psychology, not to exceed 9 semester hours.

31 18–302.

32 (f) In addition to the other requirements of this section, to qualify to be a licensed
33 psychologist, an applicant [shall] **MUST HAVE:**

1 (1) (I) [Have a] A doctoral degree in psychology AS DEFINED IN §
2 18-101(C)(1)(I) OR (III) OF THIS TITLE; and

3 [(2)] (II) [Have at] AT least 2 years of professional, supervised experience
4 in psychology that is approved by the Board in accordance with regulations adopted by the
5 Board; OR

6 (2) (I) A DOCTORAL DEGREE IN PSYCHOLOGY AS DEFINED IN §
7 18-101(C)(1)(II) OF THIS TITLE;

8 (II) RECEIVED A POSTDOCTORAL RESPECIALIZATION
9 CERTIFICATE FROM A DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY THAT, AT THE TIME THE
10 CERTIFICATE WAS ISSUED, HAD A DEGREE PROGRAM THAT WAS ACCREDITED BY THE
11 AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OR THE CANADIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL
12 ASSOCIATION;

13 (III) COMPLETED A MINIMUM OF 1,500 HOURS OF
14 POSTCERTIFICATION ADVANCED TRAINING HOURS OR PRECERTIFICATION HOURS
15 OF SERVICE AS A REGISTERED PSYCHOLOGY ASSOCIATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH
16 REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD; AND

17 (IV) AT LEAST 2 YEARS OF PROFESSIONAL, SUPERVISED
18 EXPERIENCE IN PSYCHOLOGY THAT IS APPROVED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE
19 WITH REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 October 1, 2023.