

# HOUSE BILL 378

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4r1323  
CF SB 330

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By: **Delegate Guzzone**

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 2024

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 20, 2024

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Dietetic Practice – ~~Dietician-Nutritionists~~**  
3 **Dietitian-Nutritionists – ~~Licensure~~ Application Requirements**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the ~~educational~~ application requirements that an individual  
5 must meet to be licensed as a ~~dietician-nutritionist~~ dietitian-nutritionist; and  
6 generally relating to ~~dietician-nutritionists~~ dietitian-nutritionists.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
8 Article – Health Occupations  
9 Section 5–101(a) and (b)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article – Health Occupations  
14 Section 5–101(c), 5–302, and 5–305  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Health Occupations**

20 5–101.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

2 (b) “Board” means the State Board of Dietetic Practice.

3 (c) “Certified nutrition specialist” means an individual certified by the  
4 [Certification] Board for **CERTIFICATION OF** Nutrition Specialists, the accrediting body  
5 of the American [College of] Nutrition **ASSOCIATION**.

6 5–302.

7 (a) To qualify for a license, an applicant shall be an individual who meets the  
8 requirements of this section.

9 (b) The applicant must be of good moral character.

10 (c) The applicant must be at least 18 years old.

11 (d) The applicant for licensure as a dietitian–nutritionist shall:

12 (1) (i) 1. Have satisfactorily completed academic requirements for  
13 the field of dietetics as approved by the Board; and

14 2. Have received AT A MINIMUM a ~~[baccalaureate]~~  
15 ~~MASTER’S~~ degree from a college or university accredited by an educational accrediting  
16 association ~~recognized by the Council on Higher Education and Accreditation~~ AS  
17 REQUIRED BY THE COMMISSION ON DIETETIC REGISTRATION; or

18 (ii) Have received a master’s or doctoral degree from a college or  
19 university accredited by an educational accrediting association recognized by the Council  
20 on Higher Education and Accreditation in nutritional sciences (with emphasis in human  
21 nutrition), food and nutrition, dietetics, human nutrition, community nutrition, public  
22 health nutrition, or equivalent training approved by the Board;

23 (2) Have satisfactorily completed a program of supervised clinical  
24 experience approved by the Board; and

25 (3) (i) Submit to the Board proof of certification by the [Certification]  
26 Board for [Nutritional] **CERTIFICATION OF NUTRITION** Specialists; or

27 (ii) Submit to the Board proof of registration AS A DIETITIAN with  
28 the Commission on Dietetic Registration of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

29 (e) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, the applicant must pass an  
30 examination approved by the Board under this subtitle.

1 (f) The applicant shall meet any other qualifications or requirements that the  
2 Board establishes for license applicants.

3 5–305.

4 (a) Subject to the provisions of this section, the Board may waive an examination  
5 requirement of this title for an individual who:

6 (1) Is licensed to practice dietetics in another state or country;

7 (2) Is registered ~~to practice dietetics~~ AS A DIETITIAN by the Commission  
8 on Dietetic Registration of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics; or

9 (3) Is certified by the [Certification] Board for **CERTIFICATION OF**  
10 Nutrition Specialists.

11 (b) The Board may grant a waiver under this section only if the applicant:

12 (1) Pays the application fee set by the Board under § 5–206 of this title; and

13 (2) Provides adequate evidence that the applicant:

14 (i) Meets the qualifications otherwise required by this subtitle; and

15 (ii) 1. Became licensed in the other state or country after  
16 passing, in that state or country, an examination that the Board determines to be  
17 comparable to the examination for which the applicant is seeking the waiver;

18 2. Became registered AS A DIETITIAN by the Commission on  
19 Dietetic Registration of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics after meeting the  
20 examination waiver requirements of that Commission or its predecessor; or

21 3. Became certified by the [Certification] Board for  
22 **CERTIFICATION OF** Nutrition Specialists after meeting the examination waiver  
23 requirements of that Certification Board or its predecessor.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
25 1, 2024.