

Chapter 715

(House Bill 927)

AN ACT concerning

State Board of Social Work Examiners – Out-of-State Applicants – Licensure

FOR the purpose of exempting certain applicants for licensure as a certain social worker or a certain social worker–clinical from certain requirements under certain circumstances; requiring certain applicants to meet certain requirements, hold certain licensure or registration, have passed certain examinations, and have performed certain practice over a certain period of time; repealing the requirement that the State Board of Social Work Examiners waive certain examination requirements under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the licensure of out-of-state applicants for licensure as a certified social worker or a certified social worker–clinical.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Health Occupations
Section 19–302(a) and (g)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2009 Replacement Volume)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Health Occupations
Section 19–302(d) and (e)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2009 Replacement Volume)

BY adding to

Article – Health Occupations
Section 19–302.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2009 Replacement Volume)

BY repealing

Article – Health Occupations
Section 19–305
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2009 Replacement Volume)

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

Article – Health Occupations

19–302.

(a) To obtain a license, an applicant shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Board that the applicant:

(1) Has submitted a complete written application in the form prescribed by the Board;

(2) Is at least 18 years old;

(3) Is of good moral character;

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this title, has successfully passed an examination or examinations prescribed by the Board pertinent to the license sought; and

(5) Has paid all applicable fees specified by the Board relative to the licensure process.

(d) **[To] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 19–302.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, TO** obtain a certified social worker license, an applicant shall:

(1) Meet the requirements of subsection (a) of this section;

(2) Have received a master’s degree from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education or an equivalent organization approved by the Council on Social Work Education; and

(3) **[Provide] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (G) OF THIS SECTION, PROVIDE** in a form prescribed by the Board, documentation of having completed 2 years as a licensee with supervised experience of at least 3,000 hours after receiving the master’s degree with a minimum of 144 hours of periodic face-to-face supervision in the practice of social work under the terms and conditions that the Board determines by regulation.

(e) **[To] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 19–302.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, TO** obtain a certified social worker–clinical license, an applicant shall:

(1) Meet the requirements of subsection (a) of this section;

(2) Have received a master’s degree in social work and documentation of clinical course work from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education or an equivalent organization approved by the Council on Social Work Education; and

(3) Provide in a form prescribed by the Board, documentation of having completed 2 years as a licensee with supervised experience of at least 3,000 hours after receiving the master's degree with a minimum of 144 hours of periodic face-to-face supervision in the assessment, formulation of a diagnostic impression, and treatment of mental disorders and other conditions and the provision of psychotherapy under the terms and conditions that the Board determines by regulation.

(g) If an applicant who is licensed or registered to practice social work in another state has obtained 2 years of supervised experience under circumstances that are otherwise equivalent to those required under subsection (d) of this section, the Board may waive the supervision requirement.

19-302.1.

TO OBTAIN A CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER LICENSE OR A CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER-CLINICAL LICENSE, AN OUT-OF-STATE APPLICANT SHALL:

- (1) MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 19-302(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE;**
- (2) BE LICENSED OR REGISTERED TO PRACTICE SOCIAL WORK IN ANOTHER STATE AT A LEVEL OF LICENSURE THAT IS EQUIVALENT TO A CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER LICENSE OR A CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER-CLINICAL LICENSE;**
- (3) HAVE PASSED AN EXAMINATION IN THAT STATE AS A CONDITION OF LICENSURE; AND**
- (4) HAVE PERFORMED AT LEAST 1,000 HOURS OF COMPENSATED SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE PER YEAR FOR 5 YEARS OUT OF THE 10 YEARS PRECEDING APPLICATION TO THE BOARD.**

[19-305.

(a) Subject to the provisions of this section, the Board shall waive the examination requirements of this title for an applicant who is licensed or registered to practice social work in any other state.

- (b) The Board may grant a waiver under this section only if the applicant:
- (1) Is of good moral character;
 - (2) Pays the application fee required by the Board under § 19-303 of this subtitle;

- (3) Provides adequate evidence that the applicant:
- (i) Meets the qualifications comparable to those required by this title;
 - (ii) Is currently licensed or registered in another state;
 - (iii) Became licensed or registered in another state under requirements substantially equivalent to the requirements of this title; and
 - (iv) Became licensed or registered in the other state after passing in that or any other state an examination that is the same as the examination for which the applicant is seeking the waiver; and
- (4) Did not previously receive a waiver of the examination requirement from the Board.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2010.

Approved by the Governor, May 20, 2010.