A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Earn and Learn Act of 2022 – Establishment

FOR the purpose of requiring a professional or occupational licensing board to issue a license to an individual who completes an apprenticeship under certain circumstances; authorizing a board to develop a standard apprenticeship program and to set the minimum requirements for an apprentice to obtain licensure; and generally relating to the Maryland Earn and Learn Act.

BY adding to
Section 1–401 through 1–403 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 4. Maryland Earn and Learn Act”
Annotated Code of Maryland (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Business Occupations and Professions

SUBTITLE 4. MARYLAND EARN AND LEARN ACT.

1–401.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) “APPRENTICESHIP” MEANS AN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM THAT MEETS THE FEDERAL GUIDELINES AS SET FORTH IN 29 C.F.R. PART 29.
(C) “Board” means a board or commission in the Department that regulates an occupation or profession and that issues occupational or professional licenses to individuals.

(D) “License” means a license, certificate, registration, permit, or any other qualification that an individual is required to obtain under this article or the Business Regulation Article before engaging in an occupation or representing to be a member of a profession.

(E) “Scope of practice” means the procedures, actions, processes, and work that an individual may perform under a professional license in the State.

1–402.

(A) A board shall grant a professional or occupational license to an applicant if the applicant:

(1) completes an apprenticeship working under a person licensed in the profession or occupation for which the applicant is seeking licensure;

(2) passes a board required examination; and

(3) pays applicable licensing fees.

(B) A board may establish a standard apprenticeship program that shall include:

(1) the minimum amount of time that an apprentice must spend practicing under a licensed professional before taking an examination for licensure;

(2) a minimum demonstrated knowledge of the scope of practice for the occupation for which an applicant is seeking licensure; and

(3) the minimum amount that a licensed professional may pay an apprentice during the course of the apprenticeship.

(C) (1) A board may require an examination for an apprentice to obtain licensure only if the board requires any applicant for licensure to pass an examination.
(2) A board may not require an apprentice to achieve a higher score on a licensure examination than it requires for other applicants.

(3) (I) Subject to subparagraph (II) of this paragraph, a board may require a fee for an apprentice to obtain a license only if the board requires any applicant for licensure to pay a fee.

(II) The fee required under this paragraph may not exceed the fee a board requires for any applicant for licensure.

(D) A board shall adopt rules or regulations necessary to carry out this subtitle.

1–403.

This subtitle may be cited as the Maryland Earn and Learn Act.

Section 2. And be it further enacted, that this Act shall take effect January 1, 2023.