

# SENATE BILL 120

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(PRE-FILED)

2lr0840  
CF HB 188

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By: **Senator Lam (By Request)**

Requested: October 20, 2021

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2022

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

### 2 **Acupuncture Licensure Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the education requirements that an applicant for licensure by  
4 the State Acupuncture Board must achieve to be issued a license; and generally  
5 relating to the State Acupuncture Board.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article – Health Occupations  
8 Section 1A–302  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2021 Replacement Volume)

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

### 13 **Article – Health Occupations**

14 1A–302.

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

17 (b) The application shall:

18 (1) Be of good moral character;

19 (2) Be at least 18 years old;

20 (3) Demonstrate competence in performing acupuncture by meeting one of  
21 the following standards for education or training:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) Graduation from at least a master's level program or its  
2 equivalent in acupuncture that is:

3 1. Approved by the Maryland Higher Education Commission;

4 2. Accredited by the Accreditation Commission for  
5 Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine; or

6 3. Found by the Board to be equivalent to a course approved  
7 or accredited under item 1 or 2 of this item; or

8 (ii) 1. **[Achievement] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN ITEM 2 OF**  
9 **THIS ITEM, ACHIEVEMENT** of a:

10 **[1.] A.** Diplomate in acupuncture from the National  
11 Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine; **[or] AND**

12 **[2.] B.** Passing score on an examination that is determined  
13 by the Board to be equivalent to the examination given by the National Certification  
14 Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine; **OR**

15 **2. IF THE APPLICANT IS ISSUED A LICENSE ON OR**  
16 **BEFORE MAY 31, 2026, ACHIEVEMENT OF A:**

17 **A. DIPLOMATE IN ACUPUNCTURE FROM THE NATIONAL**  
18 **CERTIFICATION COMMISSION FOR ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL MEDICINE; OR**

19 **B. PASSING SCORE ON AN EXAMINATION THAT IS**  
20 **DETERMINED BY THE BOARD TO BE EQUIVALENT TO THE EXAMINATION GIVEN BY**  
21 **THE NATIONAL CERTIFICATION COMMISSION FOR ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL**  
22 **MEDICINE;**

23 (4) Demonstrate the ability to communicate in the English language; and

24 (5) Meet any other qualifications that the Board establishes in regulations.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 October 1, 2022.