

## Chapter 238

**(Senate Bill 365)**

AN ACT concerning

**Security Guards – Certification Renewal – Requirements**

FOR the purpose of altering certain certification renewal requirements for security guards; repealing a certain certification renewal late fee; ~~repealing the requirement that a licensed security guard agency or security guard employer submit a certain declaration to the Secretary of State Police by a certain date;~~ and generally relating to certification renewal requirements for security guard agencies, security guard employers, and security guards.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
 Article – Business Occupations and Professions  
 Section 19–101(a) and (j) and 19–401(a)  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
 Article – Business Occupations and Professions  
 Section 19–404.1  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2025 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**

19–101.

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

(j) “Secretary”, unless the context requires otherwise, means the Secretary of State Police.

19–401.

(a) Except as provided under subsection (b) of this section, a licensed security guard agency may provide an individual for hire as a security guard only if the individual is certified by the Secretary as a security guard.

19–404.1.

(a) [By regulation, the Secretary shall stagger the terms of the certifications.

(b) Unless a certification is renewed for a 3-year term as provided in this section, the certification expires on the [date the Secretary sets] **LAST DAY OF THE CERTIFICATION HOLDER'S BIRTH MONTH.**

**(B) (1) AT LEAST 90 DAYS, 60 DAYS, AND 30 DAYS BEFORE A CERTIFICATION EXPIRES, THE SECRETARY SHALL SEND A RENEWAL NOTICE TO A CERTIFICATION HOLDER THAT STATES:**

**(I) THE DATE ON WHICH THE CERTIFICATION EXPIRES; AND**

**(II) THAT THE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION MUST BE RECEIVED AND ACCEPTED BY THE SECRETARY BEFORE THE DATE THE CERTIFICATION EXPIRES.**

**(2) THE SECRETARY SHALL SEND A RENEWAL NOTICE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION BY ELECTRONIC MEANS TO THE LAST KNOWN E-MAIL ADDRESS OF THE CERTIFICATION HOLDER.**

(c) [At least 90 days before] **BEFORE** a certification expires, the applicant shall submit to the Secretary in the manner and format designated by the Secretary:

(1) a renewal application; **AND**

(2) the amount of the renewal fee in a method approved by the Secretary[;  
and

(3) the amount of any late fee, as determined by the Secretary].

(d) An individual periodically may renew the certification for an additional 3-year term, if the individual:

(1) otherwise is entitled to be certified;

(2) pays to the Secretary in a method approved by the Secretary:

(i) a renewal fee of \$10; **AND**

(ii) payment for the cost of a fingerprint card record check by the Federal Bureau of Investigation; [and

(iii) any late fee required under this subtitle;]

(3) (i) satisfactorily completes 8 hours of continuing security training that is approved by the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission under § 19–412 of this subtitle; and

(ii) submits to the Secretary supporting documentation that demonstrates completion of the training; and

(4) submits to the Secretary a renewal application in the manner and format designated by the Secretary.

(e) [(1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, if a complete application for renewal of certification as required under this subtitle is not received by the Secretary on or before the first business day of the next calendar month immediately following the renewal date, the Secretary shall assess a late fee of \$5 per day until the application is received by the Secretary.

(2) (i) The Secretary may not charge a late fee under paragraph (1) of this subsection if the applicant did not make timely renewal because of incapacity, hospitalization, being called to active military duty, or other hardship.

(3)] The Secretary may not certify any applicant under this subtitle if the applicant has outstanding [late fee] obligations **UNDER THIS SUBTITLE**.

(f) (1) The Secretary shall renew the certification of each individual who meets the requirements of this section.

(2) Within 5 days after the Secretary refuses to renew the certification of an individual as a security guard, the Secretary shall send written notice of the refusal to the individual who submitted the renewal application.

[(g) At least 90 days before a certification expires, the licensed security guard agency or security guard employer shall submit a declaration to the Secretary under the penalties of perjury stating whether it knows that a certified security guard who provides security guard services on the security guard agency's behalf or for the security guard employer no longer satisfies all of the criteria for certification under § 19–402 of this subtitle.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2026.

**Approved by the Governor, April 28, 2026.**