
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2278 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY BERNSTINE, HILL-EVANS, GUENST, ROTHMAN, ORTITAY,
GAYDOS, SAYLOR, KEEFER, WARNER, STURLA AND HEFFLEY,
JANUARY 26, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
JANUARY 26, 2022

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 22, 1951 (P.L.317, No.69), entitled "An
2 act relating to the practice of professional nursing;
3 providing for the licensing of nurses and for the revocation
4 and suspension of such licenses, subject to appeal, and for
5 their reinstatement; providing for the renewal of such
6 licenses; regulating nursing in general; prescribing
7 penalties and repealing certain laws," further providing for
8 fees and qualifications for licensure, for education
9 programs, approved lists, distribution and student credits
10 where school removed from list and for certified registered
11 nurse practitioners and qualifications.

12 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
13 hereby enacts as follows:

14 Section 1. Sections 6(a), (b)(2) and (3), 6.2(c) and 8.1(b)
15 (1)(i) of the act of May 22, 1951 (P.L.317, No.69), known as The
16 Professional Nursing Law, are amended to read:

17 Section 6. Fees; Qualifications for Licensure.--(a) No
18 application for licensure as a registered nurse shall be
19 considered unless accompanied by a fee determined by the Board
20 by regulation. Every applicant, to be eligible for examination
21 for licensure as a registered nurse, shall furnish evidence

1 satisfactory to the Board that he or she is of good moral
2 character, has completed work equal to a standard high school
3 course as evaluated by the Board and has satisfactorily
4 completed [an approved] a Board-approved program of professional
5 nursing accredited by an accrediting agency approved by the
6 United States Department of Education. Approved programs shall
7 include baccalaureate degree, associate degree, diploma nursing
8 programs and programs in transition from approved diploma- to
9 degree-granting programs when all other requirements of the
10 Board have been met.

11 (b) An applicant applying for licensure as a dietitian-
12 nutritionist shall submit a written application on forms
13 provided by the Board evidencing and insuring to the
14 satisfaction of the Board that the applicant:

15 * * *

16 (2) Has received a baccalaureate or higher degree from a
17 Board-approved[, regionally accredited] college or university
18 accredited by an accrediting agency approved by the United
19 States Department of Education, including a major course of
20 study in human nutrition, food and nutrition, dietetics or food
21 systems management.

22 (3) Has completed a planned continuous preprofessional
23 experience component in dietetic practice of not less than nine
24 hundred (900) hours under the supervision of a registered
25 dietitian, a dietitian-nutritionist licensed under this act or
26 an individual with a doctoral degree conferred by a [regionally
27 accredited] college or university accredited by an accrediting
28 agency approved by the United States Department of Education
29 located in the United States with a major course of study in
30 human nutrition, food and nutrition, nutrition education,

1 dietetics or food systems management as approved by the Board.

2 * * *

3 Section 6.2. Education Programs, Approved Lists,
4 Distribution; Student Credits Where School Removed from List.--*
5 * *

6 (c) (1) Educational programs for the education of clinical
7 nurse specialists that are operated within a [regionally
8 accredited] college or university accredited by an accrediting
9 agency approved by the United States Department of Education and
10 where a master's degree, doctorate in nursing or a post-master's
11 degree is awarded, with a program concentration in the role of a
12 clinical nurse specialist, must be approved by [a national] an
13 accrediting [body] agency for nursing education programs
14 approved by the United States Department of Education recognized
15 by the board and shall be considered approved programs only for
16 the purposes of conferring certification to practice as a
17 clinical nurse specialist.

18 (2) Within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this
19 subsection, the board shall announce on its Internet website the
20 recognized [national] accrediting bodies for purposes of this
21 subsection.

22 (3) Within one hundred eighty (180) days of the effective
23 date of this subsection, education programs meeting these
24 requirements shall submit the name, address and telephone number
25 of the program; name and curriculum vitae of the program
26 director; and proof of accreditation to the board by [a
27 national] an accrediting [body] agency approved by the United
28 States Department of Education and recognized by the board for
29 inclusion on the list of approved clinical nurse specialist
30 education programs.

1 (4) Programs created more than six (6) months after the
2 effective date of this subsection shall submit the information
3 required in this subsection to the board for inclusion on the
4 list of approved programs.

5 Section 8.1. Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners;
6 Qualifications.--* * *

7 (b) (1) Beginning on the effective date of this section, a
8 nurse shall not qualify for initial certification by the board
9 under subsection (a) unless the nurse:

10 (i) is a graduate of [an accredited,] a board-approved
11 master's or post-master's nurse practitioner program which is
12 accredited by an accrediting agency approved by the United
13 States Department of Education; and

14 * * *

15 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.