

FINAL BILL REPORT

SB 5413

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Concerning physician limited licenses.

Sponsors: Senators Cleveland, Bailey and Kuderer; by request of Washington State Medical Commission.

Senate Committee on Health Care
House Committee on Health Care & Wellness

Background: Physician Licensure. The Medical Quality Assurance Commission (MQAC) is responsible for the licensure and discipline of physicians. To receive a Washington license to practice medicine, a physician must:

- graduate from a medical school within the United States or Canada;
- pass the United States Medication Licensing Examination;
- complete two years of postgraduate medical training;
- have good moral character; and
- prove they maintain the ability to safely practice medicine.

Any applicant for licensure who meets the qualifications for licensure and has been licensed under the laws of another state, territory, or province of Canada may be granted a license without examination. In certain circumstances, MQAC may also issue limited licenses.

Upon nomination by a dean of the University of Washington school of medicine, MQAC may issue a limited license to a physician applicant invited to serve as a teaching-research member of the institution's instructional staff.

Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) Certification. The ECFMG certifies graduates of international medical schools. ECFMG certification is a standard qualification for international medical graduates seeking to enter graduate medical education or practice in the United States.

Summary: A person holding a physician teaching research license may be eligible for full physician licensure if they have:

- not graduated from a school of medicine in the United States or Canada and have passed the ECFMG certification process;
- successfully completed MQAC's exam requirements;
- the ability to read, write, speak, understand, and be understood in English;

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- continuously held a position of associate professor or higher at an accredited Washington State medical school for at least three years; and
- had no disciplinary action taken against them in the previous five years.

Upon nomination by a dean of any accredited school of medicine in Washington, MQAC may issue a limited license to a physician applicant invited to serve as a teaching-research member of the institution's instructional staff.

The prohibition against a fellowship license being renewed for more than two years is eliminated.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	49	0
House	91	6

Effective: July 23, 2017