
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2850

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By House Committee on Health Care (originally sponsored by Representatives Morrell, Benson, Darneille, Campbell and Bush; by request of Department of Health)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/04.

1 AN ACT Relating to eliminating credentialing barriers for health
2 professions; amending RCW 18.06.050, 18.29.180, 18.29.190, 18.34.070,
3 18.79.160, 18.83.050, 18.83.070, 18.83.072, 18.83.082, and 18.83.170;
4 adding a new section to chapter 18.79 RCW; and creating a new section.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the health care
7 work force shortage is contributing to the health care crisis. The
8 legislature also finds that some unnecessary barriers exist that slow
9 or prevent qualified applicants from becoming credentialed health care
10 providers. The legislature further finds that eliminating these
11 initial barriers to licensure will contribute to state initiatives
12 directed toward easing the health care personnel shortage in
13 Washington.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.06.050 and 1991 c 3 s 7 are each amended to read as
15 follows:

16 Any person seeking to be examined shall present to the secretary at
17 least forty-five days before the commencement of the examination:

1 (1) A written application on a form or forms provided by the
2 secretary setting forth under affidavit such information as the
3 secretary may require; and

4 (2) Proof that the candidate has:

5 (a) Successfully completed a course, approved by the secretary, of
6 didactic training in basic sciences and acupuncture over a minimum
7 period of two academic years. The training shall include such subjects
8 as anatomy, physiology, (~~bacteriology,~~) microbiology, biochemistry,
9 pathology, hygiene, and a survey of western clinical sciences. The
10 basic science classes must be equivalent to those offered at the
11 collegiate level. However, if the applicant is a licensed chiropractor
12 under chapter 18.25 RCW or a naturopath licensed under chapter 18.36A
13 RCW, the requirements of this subsection relating to basic sciences may
14 be reduced by up to one year depending upon the extent of the
15 candidate's qualifications as determined under rules adopted by the
16 secretary;

17 (b) Successfully completed (~~a course, approved by the secretary,~~)
18 five hundred hours of clinical training in acupuncture (~~over a minimum~~
19 ~~period of one academic year. The training shall include a minimum of:~~
20 ~~(i) Twenty nine quarter credits of supervised practice, consisting of~~
21 ~~at least four hundred separate patient treatments involving a minimum~~
22 ~~of one hundred different patients, and (ii) one hundred hours or nine~~
23 ~~quarter credits of observation which shall include case presentation~~
24 ~~and discussion)) that is approved by the secretary.~~

25 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.29.180 and 1991 c 3 s 57 are each amended to read
26 as follows:

27 The following practices, acts, and operations are excepted from the
28 operation of this chapter:

29 (1) The practice of dental hygiene in the discharge of official
30 duties by dental hygienists in the United States armed services, coast
31 guard, public health services, veterans' bureau, or bureau of Indian
32 affairs;

33 (2) Dental hygiene programs approved by the secretary and the
34 practice of dental hygiene by students in dental hygiene programs
35 approved by the secretary, when acting under the direction and
36 supervision of persons licensed under chapter 18.29 or 18.32 RCW acting
37 as instructors;

1 (3) The practice of dental hygiene by students in accredited dental
2 hygiene educational programs when acting under the direction and
3 supervision of instructors licensed under chapter 18.29 or 18.32 RCW.

4 **Sec. 4.** RCW 18.29.190 and 1993 c 323 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The department shall issue ((a)) an initial temporary license
7 without the examination required by this chapter to any applicant who,
8 as determined by the secretary:

9 (a) Holds a valid license in another state that allows the scope of
10 practice in subsection (3)(a) through (j) of this section;

11 (b) Is currently engaged in active practice in another state. For
12 the purposes of this section, "active practice" means five hundred
13 sixty hours of practice in the preceding twenty-four months;

14 (c) Files with the secretary documentation certifying that the
15 applicant:

16 (i) Has graduated from an accredited dental hygiene school approved
17 by the secretary;

18 (ii) Has successfully completed the dental hygiene national board
19 examination; and

20 (iii) Is licensed to practice in another state;

21 (d) Provides information as the secretary deems necessary
22 pertaining to the conditions and criteria of the uniform disciplinary
23 act, chapter 18.130 RCW;

24 (e) Demonstrates to the secretary a knowledge of Washington state
25 law pertaining to the practice of dental hygiene, including the
26 administration of legend drugs;

27 (f) Pays any required fees; and

28 (g) Meets requirements for AIDS education.

29 (2) The term of the initial temporary license issued under this
30 section is eighteen months and it is ((~~nonrenewable~~)) renewable upon
31 demonstration of successful passage of the examination for
32 administering local anesthetic and nitrous oxide/oxygen analgesia.

33 (3) A person practicing with ((a)) an initial temporary license
34 granted under this section has the authority to perform hygiene
35 procedures that are limited to:

36 (a) Oral inspection and measuring of periodontal pockets;

37 (b) Patient education in oral hygiene;

- 1 (c) Taking intra-oral and extra-oral radiographs;
- 2 (d) Applying topical preventive or prophylactic agents;
- 3 (e) Polishing and smoothing restorations;
- 4 (f) Oral prophylaxis and removal of deposits and stains from the
- 5 surface of the teeth;
- 6 (g) Recording health histories;
- 7 (h) Taking and recording blood pressure and vital signs;
- 8 (i) Performing subgingival and supragingival scaling; and
- 9 (j) Performing root planing.

10 (4)(a) A person practicing with ((a)) an initial temporary license
11 granted under this section may not perform the following dental hygiene
12 procedures unless authorized in (b) or (c) of this subsection:

- 13 (i) Give injections of local anesthetic;
- 14 (ii) Place restorations into the cavity prepared by a licensed
- 15 dentist and afterwards carve, contour, and adjust contacts and
- 16 occlusion of the restoration;
- 17 (iii) Soft tissue curettage; or
- 18 (iv) Administer nitrous oxide/oxygen analgesia.

19 (b) A person licensed in another state who can demonstrate
20 substantively equivalent licensing standards in the administration of
21 local anesthetic may receive a temporary endorsement to administer
22 local anesthesia.

23 (c) A person licensed in another state who can demonstrate
24 substantively equivalent licensing standards in restorative procedures
25 may receive a temporary endorsement for restorative procedures.

26 (5)(a) A person practicing with a renewed temporary license granted
27 under this section may:

- 28 (i) Perform hygiene procedures as provided under subsection (3) of
- 29 this section;
- 30 (ii) Give injections of local anesthetic;
- 31 (iii) Perform soft tissue curretage; and
- 32 (iv) Administer nitrous oxide/oxygen analgesia.

33 (b) A person practicing with a renewed temporary license granted
34 under this section may not place restorations into the cavity prepared
35 by a licensed dentist and afterwards carve, contour, and adjust
36 contacts and occlusion of the restoration.

1 **Sec. 5.** RCW 18.34.070 and 1991 c 3 s 76 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 Any applicant for a license shall be examined if he or she pays an
4 examination fee determined by the secretary as provided in RCW
5 43.70.250 and certifies under oath that he or she:

6 (1) Is eighteen years or more of age; and

7 (2) Has graduated from an accredited high school; and

8 (3) ~~((Is a citizen of the United States or has declared his or her
9 intention of becoming such citizen in accordance with law; and~~

10 ~~(4))~~) Is of good moral character; and

11 ~~((5))~~ (4) Has either:

12 (a) Had at least three years of apprenticeship training; or

13 (b) Successfully completed a prescribed course in opticianry in a
14 college or university approved by the secretary; or

15 (c) Been principally engaged in practicing as a dispensing optician
16 not in the state of Washington for five years.

17 **Sec. 6.** RCW 18.79.160 and 1994 sp.s. c 9 s 416 are each amended to
18 read as follows:

19 (1) An applicant for a license to practice as a registered nurse
20 shall submit to the commission:

21 (a) An attested written application on a department form;

22 (b) ~~((Written))~~ An official ~~((evidence of a diploma from))~~
23 transcript demonstrating graduation and successful completion of an
24 approved ~~((school))~~ program of nursing; and

25 (c) Any other official records specified by the commission.

26 (2) An applicant for a license to practice as an advanced
27 registered nurse practitioner shall submit to the commission:

28 (a) An attested written application on a department form;

29 (b) ~~((Written))~~ An official ~~((evidence of))~~ transcript
30 demonstrating graduation and successful completion of an advanced
31 registered nurse practitioner ~~((training))~~ program meeting criteria
32 established by the commission; and

33 (c) Any other official records specified by the commission.

34 (3) An applicant for a license to practice as a licensed practical
35 nurse shall submit to the commission:

36 (a) An attested written application on a department form;

1 (b) Written official evidence that the applicant is over the age of
2 eighteen;

3 (c) (~~Written official evidence of a high school diploma or general~~
4 ~~education development certificate or diploma;~~

5 ~~(d) Written~~) An official ((evidence of completion of)) transcript
6 demonstrating graduation and successful completion of an approved
7 practical nursing program, or its equivalent; and

8 ((~~e~~)) (d) Any other official records specified by the commission.

9 (4) At the time of submission of the application, the applicant for
10 a license to practice as a registered nurse, advanced registered nurse
11 practitioner, or licensed practical nurse must not be in violation of
12 chapter 18.130 RCW or this chapter.

13 (5) The commission shall establish by rule the criteria for
14 evaluating the education of all applicants.

15 NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. A new section is added to chapter 18.79 RCW
16 to read as follows:

17 A licensed practical nurse with an active license who has completed
18 the coursework of a nontraditional registered nurse program approved by
19 the commission can obtain the required clinical experience when: (1)
20 The experience is obtained under the immediate supervision of a
21 registered nurse who agrees to act as the preceptor with the
22 understanding that the licensed practical nurse is practicing under the
23 preceptor's registered nurse license. The preceptor must have an
24 unrestricted license with at least two years of clinical practice in
25 the same type of practice setting where the preceptorship will occur;
26 and (2) the experience is obtained within six months of completion of
27 the approved nontraditional program.

28 **Sec. 8.** RCW 18.83.050 and 1994 c 35 s 2 are each amended to read
29 as follows:

30 (1) The board shall adopt such rules as it deems necessary to carry
31 out its functions.

32 (2) The board shall examine the qualifications of applicants for
33 licensing under this chapter, to determine which applicants are
34 eligible for licensing under this chapter and shall forward to the
35 secretary the names of applicants so eligible.

1 (3) The board shall administer examinations to qualified applicants
2 on at least an annual basis. The board shall determine the subject
3 matter and scope of the examination(~~(s and shall require both written~~
4 ~~and oral examinations of each applicant)~~), except as provided in RCW
5 18.83.170. The board may allow applicants to take the ((~~written~~))
6 examination upon the granting of their doctoral degree before
7 completion of their internship for supervised experience.

8 (4) The board shall keep a complete record of its own proceedings,
9 of the questions given in examinations, of the names and qualifications
10 of all applicants, and the names and addresses of all licensed
11 psychologists. The examination paper of such applicant shall be kept
12 on file for a period of at least one year after examination.

13 (5) The board shall, by rule, adopt a code of ethics for
14 psychologists which is designed to protect the public interest.

15 (6) The board may require that persons licensed under this chapter
16 as psychologists obtain and maintain professional liability insurance
17 in amounts determined by the board to be practicable and reasonably
18 available.

19 **Sec. 9.** RCW 18.83.070 and 1995 c 198 s 11 are each amended to read
20 as follows:

21 An applicant for a license as "psychologist" must submit proof to
22 the board that:

23 (1) The applicant is of good moral character.

24 (2) The applicant holds a doctoral degree from a regionally
25 accredited institution, obtained from an integrated program of graduate
26 study in psychology as defined by rules of the board.

27 (3) The applicant has had no fewer than two years of supervised
28 experience(~~(, at least one of which shall have been obtained subsequent~~
29 ~~to the granting of the doctoral degree)~~). The board shall adopt rules
30 defining the circumstances under which supervised experience shall
31 qualify the candidate for licensure.

32 (4) The applicant has passed the ((~~written or oral~~)) examination or
33 examinations(~~(, or both, as prescribed)~~) required by the board.

34 Any person holding a valid license to practice psychology in the
35 state of Washington on June 7, 1984, shall be considered licensed under
36 this chapter.

1 **Sec. 10.** RCW 18.83.072 and 1996 c 191 s 65 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) Examination of applicants shall be held in Olympia, Washington,
4 or at such other place as designated by the secretary, at least
5 annually at such times as the board may determine.

6 (2) ~~((Any applicant shall have the right to discuss with the board
7 his or her performance on the examination.~~

8 (3)) Any applicant who fails to make a passing grade on the
9 examination may be allowed to retake the examination. Any applicant
10 who fails the examination a second time must obtain special permission
11 from the board to take the examination again.

12 ((4)) (3) The board may approve an examination prepared or
13 administered by a private testing agency or association of licensing
14 authorities.

15 **Sec. 11.** RCW 18.83.082 and 1996 c 191 s 67 are each amended to
16 read as follows:

17 A person, not licensed in this state, who wishes to perform
18 practices under the provisions of this chapter for a period not to
19 exceed ninety days within a calendar year, must petition the board for
20 a temporary permit to perform such practices. If the person is
21 licensed or certified in another state deemed by the board to have
22 standards equivalent to this chapter, or if the person is a member of
23 a professional organization and holds a certificate deemed by the board
24 to meet standards equivalent to this chapter, a permit may be issued.
25 No fee shall be charged for such temporary permit.

26 **Sec. 12.** RCW 18.83.170 and 1996 c 191 s 70 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 Upon compliance with administrative procedures, administrative
29 requirements, and fees determined under RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280,
30 the board may grant a license, without ~~((written))~~ oral examination, to
31 any applicant who has not previously failed any examination held by the
32 board of psychology of the state of Washington and furnishes evidence
33 satisfactory to the board that the applicant:

34 (1) Holds a doctoral degree with primary emphasis on psychology
35 from an accredited college or university; and

1 (2)(a) Is licensed or certified to practice psychology in another
2 state or country in which the requirements for such licensing or
3 certification are, in the judgment of the board, essentially equivalent
4 to those required by this chapter and the rules and regulations of the
5 board. Such individuals must have been licensed or certified in
6 another state for a period of at least two years; or
7 (~~(3)~~) (b) Is a diplomate in good standing of the American Board
8 of Examiners in Professional Psychology; or
9 (c) Is a member of a professional organization and holds a
10 certificate deemed by the board to meet standards equivalent to this
11 chapter.

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