
STATE MEDICAL BOARD (MED)

- Permits, rather than requires, the State Medical Board to administer a licensure examination for a certificate to practice the limited branches of medicine of massage therapy and cosmetic therapy.
- Provides that if it administers an examination, the Board must adopt by rule a fee for administering the examination.
- Provides that if it does not administer an examination, the Board must adopt rules specifying an acceptable examination and an acceptable score.
- Eliminates both the \$250 licensure examination fee and the \$35 examination of preliminary education fee and instead establishes a \$150 certificate application fee.
- Increases the biennial certificate registration fee to \$100 (from \$50).

Limited branches of medicine – massage and cosmetic therapy

(R.C. 4731.15, 4731.16, 4731.17, 4731.171, 4731.18 (repealed), and 4731.19)

The State Medical Board regulates the practices of massage therapy and cosmetic therapy. Prior law required the Board to administer licensure examinations for certificates to practice these "limited branches of medicine." The examinations were required to be administered in accordance with rules adopted by the Board. For the purpose of administering examinations, the Board was permitted to receive assistance from a reputable person in the limited branch for which the examination was held. The licensure examination fee was \$250. The act eliminates this fee.

The act instead permits the Board to administer a licensure examination for a certificate to practice a limited branch of medicine. If it administers an examination, the Board must establish by rule a fee to cover the cost of administration. If the Board does not administer an examination, it must adopt rules specifying an acceptable examination and an acceptable score that constitutes evidence of passing the examination.

Application for a certificate

A person seeking a certificate to practice a limited branch of medicine must file with the Board an application in a manner prescribed by the Board. In addition to



continuing application requirements, the act adds requirements that the application include or be accompanied by evidence that the applicant is at least age 18 and of good moral character, evidence of attaining high school graduation or its equivalent, and any other information the Board requires. The application must also be accompanied by an affidavit signed by the applicant attesting to the accuracy and truthfulness of the information submitted and consenting to release of information.

Under the act, an applicant seeking an Ohio license based on licensure in another state is no longer required to hold certification from a national certification body, but instead must have held a current license, registration, or certificate in good standing in that state for massage therapy or cosmetic therapy for not less than five years preceding application.

Under prior law, an applicant for a certificate was required to pay a \$35 fee for the Board to examine the applicant's preliminary education. The act eliminates this fee, as well as the \$250 license examination fee, and establishes a single certificate application fee of \$150. It specifies that no application is considered filed until the Board receives the application fee.

The act authorizes the Board to investigate licensure application materials and contact any agency or organization for recommendations or other information about an applicant.

Prior law required the Board to issue a certificate to practice a limited branch of medicine if an applicant passed the examination and paid the required fees. Under the act, the Board must review all applications received. The Board must determine whether the applicant meets the requirements for a certificate. An affirmative vote of not fewer than six members of the Board is required to determine that an applicant meets the requirements for a certificate. If the Board determines that the requirements have been met and that the documentation required for a certificate is acceptable, the Board must issue the appropriate certificate to practice. Each certificate must be signed by the President and Secretary of the Board and attested by the Board's seal.

Biennial registration fee

A certificate to practice a limited branch of medicine is valid for a two-year period. Continuing law requires a person seeking to renew a certificate to apply for renewal with the Board and submit a biennial certificate registration fee. The act increases the renewal fee to \$100 (from \$50).

