

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2015 SESSION

CHAPTER 525

An Act to amend and reenact §§ 54.1-2930, 54.1-2935, and 54.1-2937 of the Code of Virginia and to repeal § 54.1-2933 of the Code of Virginia, relating to supervised clinical training required by the Board of Medicine for licensure.

[S 1120]

Approved March 23, 2015

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 54.1-2930, 54.1-2935, and 54.1-2937 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 54.1-2930. Requirements for licensure.

The Board may issue a license to practice medicine, osteopathy, chiropractic, and podiatric medicine to any candidate who has submitted satisfactory evidence verified by affidavits that he:

1. Is 18 years of age or more;
2. Is of good moral character;
3. Has successfully completed all or such part as may be prescribed by the Board, of an educational course of study of that branch of the healing arts in which he desires a license to practice, which course of study and the educational institution providing that course of study are acceptable to the Board; and
4. Has completed ~~one year~~ *at least 12 months* of satisfactory postgraduate training in a ~~hospital~~ *one program or institution* approved by an accrediting agency recognized by the Board for internships or residency training. At the discretion of the Board, the postgraduate training may be waived if an applicant for licensure in podiatry has been in active practice for four continuous years while serving in the military and is a diplomate of the American Board of Podiatric Surgery. Applicants for licensure in chiropractic need not fulfill this requirement.

In determining whether such course of study and institution are acceptable to it, the Board may consider the reputation of the institution and whether it is approved or accredited by regional or national educational or professional associations including, but not limited to, such organizations as the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, Liaison Committee on Medical Education, Council on Postgraduate Training of the American Osteopathic Association, Council on Osteopathic College Accreditation, College of Family Physicians of Canada, Committee for the Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools, Education Commission on Foreign Medical Graduates, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, or their appropriate subsidiary agencies; by any appropriate agency of the United States government; or by any other organization approved by the Board. Supervised clinical training that is received in the United States as part of the curriculum of an international medical school shall be obtained in an approved hospital, institution or school of medicine offering an approved residency program in the specialty area for the relevant clinical training *or in a program acceptable to the Board and deemed a substantially equivalent experience*. The Board may also consider any other factors that reflect whether that institution and its course of instruction provide training sufficient to prepare practitioners to practice their branch of the healing arts with competency and safety in the Commonwealth.

§ 54.1-2935. Supplemental training or study required of certain graduates.

In the event that an applicant has completed an educational course of study in an institution that is not approved by an accrediting agency recognized by the Board, the applicant shall not be licensed until he has completed two years of satisfactory postgraduate training ~~in a hospital~~. *The two years shall include at least 12 months in one program or institution* approved by an accrediting agency recognized by the Board for internship or residency training *or in a clinical fellowship, acceptable to the Board, in the same or a related field*. The Board may consider other postgraduate training as a substitute for the required postgraduate training if it finds that such training is substantially equivalent to that required by this section.

§ 54.1-2937. Temporary licenses to interns and residents in hospitals and other organizations.

Upon recommendation by the chief of an approved internship or residency program as defined in this chapter, the Board may issue a temporary annual license to practice medicine, osteopathic medicine, *or* podiatry ~~or chiropractic~~ to interns and residents in such programs. No such license shall be issued to an intern or resident who has not completed successfully the preliminary academic education required for admission to examinations given by the Board in his particular field of practice. Such license shall expire upon the holder's withdrawal or termination from the internship or residency program. The Board may prescribe such regulations not in conflict with existing law and require such reports from hospitals or other organizations operating an approved graduate medical education program in the Commonwealth as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

2. That § 54.1-2933 of the Code of Virginia is repealed.