

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

S

1

SENATE BILL 773

Short Title: Universal License Recognition Act. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Edwards, Wells, and Sanderson (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

May 18, 2020

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE A UNIVERSAL RECOGNITION PROCESS FOR LICENSURE,
3 CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ESTABLISH
4 RESIDENCE IN THIS STATE.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 93B of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
7 section to read:

8 "**§ 93B-15.7. Licensure recognition.**

9 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an occupational licensing board, as
10 defined in G.S. 93B-1, shall issue a license, certification, or registration to any applicant who
11 establishes residence in this State, and satisfies all of the following:

- 12 (1) The applicant is currently licensed, certified, or registered in at least one other
13 jurisdiction in the discipline applied for in this State at the same or
14 substantially equivalent practice level, as determined by the occupational
15 licensing board.
- 16 (2) The applicant has been licensed, certified, or registered by another jurisdiction
17 for at least one year.
- 18 (3) The applicant has passed an examination required for the license, certification,
19 or registration in the jurisdiction in which the applicant holds a current license,
20 certification, or registration, if an examination was required.
- 21 (4) The applicant is in good standing in all jurisdictions in which the applicant
22 holds a license, certification, or registration.
- 23 (5) The applicant has not voluntarily surrendered a license, certification, or
24 registration, or had a license, certification, or registration revoked in any other
25 jurisdiction as a result of unprofessional conduct.
- 26 (6) The applicant has met all minimum education, clinical supervision, or work
27 experience requirements in all states that the applicant holds a license,
28 certification, or registration at the time of application.
- 29 (7) The applicant does not have any active or pending disciplinary actions from
30 an occupational licensing board in another jurisdiction, and, if applicable, the
31 occupational licensing board has completed verification under subsection (b)
32 of this section.
- 33 (8) The applicant does not have a disqualifying criminal history record, as defined
34 in G.S. 93B-8.1(a)(3), as determined by the occupational licensing board
35 under G.S. 93B-8.1 and related provisions of law.
- 36 (9) The applicant has paid all applicable fees.



1 **(b)** If the applicant has any prior disciplinary actions from an occupational licensing
2 board at the time of application, the occupational licensing board to which the applicant is
3 applying shall determine and verify that the disciplinary action is pending or resolved, and, if
4 applicable, corrective action has been taken. If the disciplinary action is pending, an occupational
5 licensing board shall suspend the application process for any license, certificate, or registration
6 until the disciplinary action has been resolved.

7 **(c)** Each occupational licensing board shall publish a document that lists the specific
8 criteria or requirements for licensure, certification, or registration by the board, and any necessary
9 documentation needed for satisfying the requirements. The information required by this
10 subsection shall be published on the occupational licensing board's Web site.

11 **(d)** Nothing in this section should be construed to prevent any occupational licensing
12 board in this State from entering into a reciprocity agreement with another jurisdiction, or to
13 invalidate any existing reciprocity agreement between any occupational licensing board in this
14 State and another jurisdiction.

15 **(e)** Any license, certification, or registration granted by an occupational licensing board
16 to any applicant under this section shall be valid only in this State and does not extend validity
17 to other jurisdictions through an interstate compact.

18 **(f)** Any individual who licensed, certified, or registered under this section shall be
19 entitled to the same rights and subject to the same obligations as required of an individual who
20 was licensed, certified, or registered by an occupational licensing board in this State under any
21 other provision of law.

22 **(g)** Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit an individual from proceeding
23 under the existing licensure, certification, or registration requirements established by an
24 occupational licensing board in this State."

25 **SECTION 2.** Report. – Beginning on October 31, 2021, each occupational licensing
26 board shall include all of the following data for the previous fiscal year in the annual report to
27 the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and the Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure
28 Oversight Committee, as required by G.S. 93B-2(a):

- 29 (1) The number of individuals who applied for licensure, certification, or
30 registration in accordance with the provisions provided for in this act.
- 31 (2) The number of individuals who received licensure, certification, or
32 registration in accordance with the provisions provided for in this act.
- 33 (3) The number of individuals who were denied licensure, certification, or
34 registration in accordance with the provisions provided for in this act.

35 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2020, and applies for
36 applications for licensure, certification, or registration received on or after that date.