

AN ACT

relating to the licensing requirements for a foreign-trained physician applicant.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Sections 155.0031(c) and (d), Occupations Code, are amended to read as follows:

(c) Applicants for a license must subscribe to an oath [~~in writing before an officer authorized by law to administer oaths~~]. The written oath is part of the application.

(d) An applicant must present proof satisfactory to the board that:

(1) each medical school attended by the applicant is substantially equivalent to a Texas medical school as determined by board rule; or

(2) the applicant is specialty board certified by a specialty board organization acceptable to the board.

SECTION 2. Section 155.004, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 155.004. ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATES OF CERTAIN FOREIGN MEDICAL SCHOOLS. A license applicant who is a graduate of a medical school that is located outside the United States and Canada must present proof satisfactory to the board that the applicant:

(1) is a graduate of a school whose curriculum meets

1 the requirements for an unapproved medical school as determined by  
2 a committee of experts selected by the Texas Higher Education  
3 Coordinating Board;

4 (2) has successfully completed:

5 (A) at least three years of graduate medical  
6 training in the United States or Canada that was approved by the  
7 board; or

8 (B) at least two years of graduate medical  
9 training in the United States or Canada that was approved by the  
10 board and at least one year of graduate medical training outside the  
11 United States or Canada that was approved for advanced standing by a  
12 specialty board organization approved by the board;

13 (3) ~~[is eligible for a license to practice medicine in~~  
14 ~~the country in which the school is located, except for any~~  
15 ~~citizenship requirements;~~

16 [~~4~~] holds a valid certificate issued by the  
17 Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates; and

18 (4) [~~5~~] is able to communicate in English.

19 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
20 to physician applicants submitting license applications under  
21 Chapter 155, Occupations Code, on or after the effective date of  
22 this Act. An application submitted before that date is covered by  
23 the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of this  
24 Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

25 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3674 was passed by the House on May 7, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3674 was passed by the Senate on May 21, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor