

1 AN ACT in relation to nursing.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Nursing and Advanced Practice Nursing Act
5 is amended by changing Section 10-30 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 65/10-30)

7 Sec. 10-30. Qualifications for licensure.

8 (a) Each applicant who successfully meets the
9 requirements of this Section shall be entitled to licensure
10 as a Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse, whichever
11 is applicable.

12 (b) An applicant for licensure by examination to
13 practice as a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse
14 shall:

15 (1) submit a completed written application, on
16 forms provided by the Department and fees as established
17 by the Department;

18 (2) for registered nurse licensure, have completed
19 an approved professional nursing education program of not
20 less than 2 academic years and have graduated from the
21 program; for licensed practical nurse licensure, have
22 completed an approved practical nursing education program
23 of not less than one academic year and have graduated
24 from the program;

25 (3) have not violated the provisions of Section
26 10-45 of this Act. The Department may take into
27 consideration any felony conviction of the applicant, but
28 such a conviction shall not operate as an absolute bar to
29 licensure;

30 (4) meet all other requirements as established by
31 rule;

1 (5) pay, either to the Department or its designated
 2 testing service, a fee covering the cost of providing the
 3 examination. Failure to appear for the examination on the
 4 scheduled date at the time and place specified after the
 5 applicant's application for examination has been received
 6 and acknowledged by the Department or the designated
 7 testing service shall result in the forfeiture of the
 8 examination fee.

9 If an applicant neglects, fails, or refuses to take an
 10 examination or fails to pass an examination for a license
 11 under this Act within 3 years after filing the application,
 12 the application shall be denied. However, the applicant may
 13 make a new application accompanied by the required fee and
 14 provide evidence of meeting the requirements in force at the
 15 time of the new application.

16 An applicant who has never been licensed previously in
 17 any jurisdiction that utilizes a Department-approved
 18 examination and who has taken and failed to pass the
 19 examination within 3 years after filing the application must
 20 submit proof of successful completion of a
 21 Department-authorized nursing education program or
 22 recompletion of an approved registered nursing program or
 23 licensed practical nursing program, as appropriate, prior to
 24 re-application.

25 An applicant shall have one year from the date of
 26 notification of successful completion of the examination to
 27 apply to the Department for a license. If an applicant fails
 28 to apply within one year, the applicant shall be required to
 29 again take and pass the examination unless licensed in
 30 another jurisdiction of the United States within one year of
 31 passing the examination.

32 (c) An applicant for licensure who is a registered
 33 professional nurse or a licensed practical nurse licensed by
 34 examination under the laws of another state or territory of

1 the United States shall:

2 (1) submit a completed written application, on
3 forms supplied by the Department, and fees as established
4 by the Department;

5 (2) for registered nurse licensure, have completed
6 an approved professional nursing education program of not
7 less than 2 academic years and have graduated from the
8 program; for licensed practical nurse licensure, have
9 completed an approved practical nursing education program
10 of not less than one academic year and have graduated
11 from the program;

12 (3) submit verification of licensure status
13 directly from the United States jurisdiction of
14 licensure;

15 (4) have passed the examination authorized by the
16 Department;

17 (5) meet all other requirements as established by
18 rule.

19 (d) All applicants for licensure pursuant to this
20 Section who are graduates of nursing educational programs in
21 a country other than the United States or its territories
22 must submit to the Department certification of successful
23 completion of the Commission of Graduates of Foreign Nursing
24 Schools (CGFNS) examination. An applicant, who is unable to
25 provide appropriate documentation to satisfy CGFNS of her or
26 his educational qualifications for the CGFNS examination,
27 shall be required to pass an examination to test competency
28 in the English language which shall be prescribed by the
29 Department, if the applicant is determined by the Board to be
30 educationally prepared in nursing. The Board shall make
31 appropriate inquiry into the reasons for any adverse
32 determination by CGFNS before making its own decision.

33 An applicant licensed in another state or territory who
34 is applying for licensure and has received her or his

1 education in a country other than the United States or its
2 territories shall be exempt from the completion of the
3 Commission of Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS)
4 examination if the applicant meets all of the following
5 requirements:

6 (1) successful passage of the licensure examination
7 authorized by the Department;

8 (2) holds an active, unencumbered license in
9 another state; and

10 (3) has been actively practicing for a minimum of 2
11 years in another state.

12 (e) (Blank). ~~No applicant shall be issued a license as~~
13 ~~a registered nurse or practical nurse under this Section~~
14 ~~unless he or she has passed the examination authorized by the~~
15 ~~Department within 3 years of completion and graduation from~~
16 ~~an approved nursing education program, unless such applicant~~
17 ~~submits proof of successful completion of a~~
18 ~~Department authorized remedial nursing education program or~~
19 ~~recompletion of an approved registered nursing program or~~
20 ~~licensed practical nursing program, as appropriate.~~

21 (f) Pending the issuance of a license under subsection
22 (b) of this Section, the Department may grant an applicant a
23 temporary license to practice nursing as a registered nurse
24 or as a licensed practical nurse if the Department is
25 satisfied that the applicant holds an active, unencumbered
26 license in good standing in another jurisdiction. If the
27 applicant holds more than one current active license, or one
28 or more active temporary licenses from other jurisdictions,
29 the Department shall not issue a temporary license until it
30 is satisfied that each current active license held by the
31 applicant is unencumbered. The temporary license, which
32 shall be issued no later than 14 working days following
33 receipt by the Department of an application for the temporary
34 license, shall be granted upon the submission of the

1 following to the Department:

2 (1) a signed and completed application for
3 licensure under subsection (a) of this Section as a
4 registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse;

5 (2) proof of a current, active license in at least
6 one other jurisdiction and proof that each current active
7 license or temporary license held by the applicant is
8 unencumbered;

9 (3) a signed and completed application for a
10 temporary license; and

11 (4) the required permit fee.

12 (g) The Department may refuse to issue an applicant a
13 temporary license authorized pursuant to this Section if,
14 within 14 working days following its receipt of an
15 application for a temporary license, the Department
16 determines that:

17 (1) the applicant has been convicted of a crime
18 under the laws of a jurisdiction of the United States:
19 (i) which is a felony; or (ii) which is a misdemeanor
20 directly related to the practice of the profession,
21 within the last 5 years;

22 (2) within the last 5 years the applicant has had a
23 license or permit related to the practice of nursing
24 revoked, suspended, or placed on probation by another
25 jurisdiction, if at least one of the grounds for
26 revoking, suspending, or placing on probation is the same
27 or substantially equivalent to grounds in Illinois; or

28 (3) it intends to deny licensure by endorsement.

29 For purposes of this Section, an "unencumbered license"
30 means a license against which no disciplinary action has been
31 taken or is pending and for which all fees and charges are
32 paid and current.

33 (h) The Department may revoke a temporary license issued
34 pursuant to this Section if:

1 (1) it determines that the applicant has been
2 convicted of a crime under the law of any jurisdiction of
3 the United States that is (i) a felony or (ii) a
4 misdemeanor directly related to the practice of the
5 profession, within the last 5 years;

6 (2) it determines that within the last 5 years the
7 applicant has had a license or permit related to the
8 practice of nursing revoked, suspended, or placed on
9 probation by another jurisdiction, if at least one of the
10 grounds for revoking, suspending, or placing on probation
11 is the same or substantially equivalent to grounds in
12 Illinois; or

13 (3) it determines that it intends to deny licensure
14 by endorsement.

15 A temporary license or renewed temporary license shall
16 expire (i) upon issuance of an Illinois license or (ii) upon
17 notification that the Department intends to deny licensure by
18 endorsement. A temporary license shall expire 6 months from
19 the date of issuance. Further renewal may be granted by the
20 Department in hardship cases, as defined by rule. However, a
21 temporary license shall automatically expire upon issuance of
22 the Illinois license or upon notification that the Department
23 intends to deny licensure, whichever occurs first. No
24 extensions shall be granted beyond the 6-month period unless
25 approved by the Director. Notification by the Department
26 under this Section shall be by certified or registered mail.
27 (Source: P.A. 90-61, eff. 12-30-97; 90-742, eff. 8-13-98.)

28 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
29 becoming law.