

ASSEMBLY, No. 5283

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 9, 2023

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman P. CHRISTOPHER TULLY

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblywoman GABRIELA M. MOSQUERA

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Moen, Assemblywomen Speight, Swain and Murphy

SYNOPSIS

Requires calculation of national average time needed to approve applications for initial credential in profession or occupation and use of average time as standard in New Jersey.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2023)

1 AN ACT concerning the approval of applications for initial
2 professional and occupational credentials and supplementing
3 P.L.1999, c.403 (C.45:1-3.3).

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. a. A professional board specified in section 2 of P.L.2013,
9 c. 253 (C.45:1-15), and any other entity hereafter created under
10 Title 45 to license or otherwise regulate a profession or occupation,
11 shall collect, from each state in the United States where the
12 professions or occupations regulated by the corresponding New
13 Jersey board are regulated, data on the amount of time, or the
14 average amount of time, the other states need or are required to take
15 to approve an application for an initial credential in the profession
16 or occupation. A board may contact a national or regional
17 association to obtain data regarding average approval times in other
18 states.

19 b. (1) Based on the information collected pursuant to
20 subsection a. of this section, a national average of the time required
21 or necessary to approve an application for an initial credential shall
22 be calculated by each board for each profession or occupation it
23 regulates.

24 (2) The calculated national average of the time for each
25 profession and occupation shall be presented to the director of the
26 Division of Consumer Affairs, or a designee, for review and
27 approval. Upon approval by the director or a designee, the
28 calculated national average of the time shall, on the first day of the
29 next month after approval, be applied by the corresponding board as
30 the timeline in which applications for initial credentials are to be
31 approved for applications received after that date.

32 c. (1) After one year of using the calculated national
33 average of times by the boards, the division shall review if the
34 boards are meeting the requisite calculated average times for
35 approval of applications for initial credentials.

36 (2) If the review demonstrates a board is not meeting the
37 calculated time, licensing fees collected by the corresponding board
38 shall be used to contract with a third-party, with expertise in the
39 professions or occupations regulated by the specific board, to
40 determine best practices the board is to implement to meet the
41 calculated average time for application approval. Upon completion
42 of the review by the third-party, the board shall implement the best
43 practices immediately. The division shall review the data regarding
44 approval of applications for initial credentials by the board subject
45 to the provisions of this subparagraph after six months to ensure the
46 calculated national average time is met.

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1 practices immediately. The division is to review the data on the
2 approval of applications for initial credentials by the board six
3 months after the implementation of best practices to ensure the
4 calculated national average time is met.

5 The boards have six months after the effective date of the bill to
6 complete the initial collection of data and calculate the national
7 average time. Additionally, an annual review of the calculated
8 national average time is to be performed by each board, in
9 collaboration with the director or a designee, to determine the
10 accuracy of the calculations. The bill stipulates that each board is
11 entitled to retain all funds collected as a result of fees paid for an
12 initial credential and for the renewal, reactivation, and
13 reinstatement of a credential in order to administer the provisions of
14 this bill, until the board is meeting or surpassing its calculated
15 national average time for application approval.