



WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

MAC WARNER

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION

eFILED

6/13/2019 11:01:30 AM

Office of West Virginia
Secretary Of State

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

AGENCY: Massage Therapy Licensure Board

TITLE-SERIES: 194-05

RULE TYPE: Legislative Amendment to Existing Rule: No Repeal of existing rule: No

RULE NAME: Application for Waiver of Initial Licensing Fees For
Certain Individuals

CITE STATUTORY AUTHORITY: §30-1-22 and §30-37-6

COMMENTS LIMITED TO:

Written

DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING:

LOCATION OF PUBLIC HEARING:

DATE WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD ENDS: 07/14/2019 @12:00
midnight

COMMENTS MAY BE MAILED OR EMAILED TO:

NAME: Linda Lyter

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Charleston, WV 25301

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PLEASE INDICATE IF THIS FILING INCLUDES:

RELEVANT FEDERAL STATUTES OR REGULATIONS: No

(IF YES, PLEASE UPLOAD IN THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FIELD)

INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE: No

(IF YES, PLEASE UPLOAD IN THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FIELD)

PROVIDE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE CONTENT OF THE RULE:

Passage of SB396

To require professional licensing boards to issue licenses at no charge for certain applicants that qualify.

SUMMARIZE IN A CLEAR AND CONCISE MANNER CONTENTS OF CHANGES IN THE RULE AND A STATEMENT OF CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING THE RULE:

N/A

SUMMARIZE IN A CLEAR AND CONCISE MANNER THE OVERALL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED RULE:

A. ECONOMIC IMPACT ON REVENUES OF STATE GOVERNMENT:

N/A

B. ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE RULE ON THE STATE OR ITS RESIDENTS:

N/A

C. FISCAL NOTE DETAIL:

Effect of Proposal	Fiscal Year		
	2019 Increase/Decrease (use "-")	2020 Increase/Decrease (use "-")	Fiscal Year (Upon Full Implementation)
1. Estimated Total Cost		0	don't know
Personal Services		0	don't know
Current Expenses		0	don't know
Repairs and Alterations		0	0
Assets		0	0
Other		0	0
2. Estimated Total Revenues		0	don't know

D. EXPLANATION OF ABOVE ESTIMATES (INCLUDING LONG-RANGE EFFECT):

The board has no idea how much the cost of issuing licenses free of charge to those individuals who may request and qualify.

BY CHOOSING 'YES', I ATTEST THAT THE PREVIOUS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

Yes

Linda Lyter -- By my signature, I certify that I am the person authorized to file legislative rules, in accordance with West Virginia Code §29A-3-11 and §39A-3-2.

194CSR5

TITLE 194

LEGISLATIVE RULE
MESSAGE THERAPY LICENSURE BOARD

SERIES 5

APPLICATION FOR WAIVER OF INITIAL LICENSING FEES
FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS

§194-5-1. General.

1.1. Scope. -- This rule establishes procedures for waiving the initial licensing fee for low income individuals and military personnel and their spouses.

1.2. Authority. -- W. Va. Code §30-1-22, and W. Va. Code §30-37-6.

1.3. Filing Date. --

1.4. Effective Date. --

1.5. Sunset Provision. -- This rule shall terminate and have no further force or effect upon the expiration of ten (10) years from final filing date.

§194-5-2. Definitions.

2.1. "Initial" means obtaining a license in West Virginia for the practice of massage therapy for the first time.

2.2 "Local labor market" means every county in West Virginia, and any county outside of West Virginia if any portion of that county is within fifty miles of the border of West Virginia, pursuant to W.Va. Code §21-1C-2.

2.3. "Low-income individual" means an individual in the local labor market as defined in W. Va. Code §21-1C-2, whose household adjusted gross income is below 130 percent of the federal poverty line. This term also includes any person enrolled in a state or federal public assistance program including, but not limited to, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program (TANF), Medicaid, or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

2.4. "Military families" means any person who serves as an active member of the armed forces of the United States, the National Guard, or a reserve component as described in 38 U. S. C. §101, honorably discharged veterans of those forces, and their spouses. This term also includes surviving spouses of deceased service members who have not remarried.

194-5-3. Application for Waiver of Initial Licensure Fees.

3.1. The Board may issue a license to an applicant who meets the requirements of W. Va. Code §30-37-1 et seq. and the rules promulgated by the Board, and the Board shall waive the initial licensure fee if the applicant qualifies as a “low-income individual” or as a member of one or more “military families” as defined in this rule.

3.2. Low-income individuals, as defined in this rule, may seek a waiver of the initial licensure fee for licensure as a professional counselor or marriage and family therapist by submitting with their complete application a low-income waiver of initial licensure fee form, provided by the Board, and all required verification documents as prescribed by the Board. The Board shall review the application and issue a decision within 30 days of receipt of the complete application.

3.3. Military families, as defined in this rule, may seek a waiver of the initial licensure fee for licensure as a professional counselor or marriage and family therapist by submitting with their complete application a military service verification form, provided by the Board, and all required verification documents as prescribed by the Board. The Board shall review the application and issue a decision within 30 days of receipt of the complete application.