

CHAPTER 158

(HB 217)

AN ACT relating to the licensure of surgical assistants.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. KRS 311.878 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) ~~{After June 30, 2006, }~~An applicant for a certificate shall file a written application with the board on a form prescribed by the board and shall pay the application fee set by the board.
- (2) To be eligible for a certificate, a person shall:
 - (a) Hold and maintain certification by one (1) of the following:
 1. The National *Commission for the Certification of Surgical Assistants (NCCSA) or its successor organization*~~[Assistant Association]~~; or
 2. The *National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA) or its successor organization*~~[Liaison Council on Certification for the Surgical Technologist]~~;
 - (b) Document one (1) of the following:
 1. Graduation from a program approved by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP); or
 2. Graduation from a United States Military program that emphasizes surgical assisting; and
 - (c) Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the board the completion of full-time work experience performed in this country under the direct supervision of a physician licensed in this country and consisting of at least eight hundred (800) hours of performance as an assistant in surgical procedures for the three (3) years preceding the date of the application.

➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 311.864 TO 311.890 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) (a) *Based upon verified information contained in the application for certification to practice as a surgical assistant, the board may issue a temporary certificate which shall entitle the holder to practice as a surgical assistant for a maximum of six (6) months from the date of issuance.*
- (b) *After appropriate consultation with the executive director, the board may cancel the temporary certificate at any time, without a hearing, for reasons it deems sufficient.*
- (c) *The executive director shall cancel the temporary certificate immediately upon direction by the board, or upon the board's denial of the holder's application for a regular certificate.*
- (d) *The temporary certificate shall not be renewable.*
- (2) *The board shall consider the application for certification made by the holder of a temporary certificate. If the board issues a regular certificate to the holder of a temporary certificate, the fee paid in connection with the temporary certificate shall be applied to the regular certificate fee.*
- (3) *If the board cancels a temporary certificate:*
 - (a) *It shall promptly notify the holder of the temporary certificate by United States certified mail at the last known address on file with the board; and*
 - (b) *The temporary certificate shall be terminated and shall have no further force or effect three (3) days after the date the notice was sent by certified mail.*

➔Section 3. The following KRS section is repealed:

311.882 Issuance of certificate before July 1, 2005.

Signed by Governor March 26, 2019.

