

CHAPTER 70**(HB 419)**

AN ACT relating to physician assistants.

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

➔Section 1. KRS 311.844 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) To be licensed by the board as a physician assistant, an applicant shall:
 - (a) Submit a completed application form with the required fee;
 - (b) Be of good character and reputation;
 - (c) Be a graduate of an approved program; and
 - (d) Have passed an examination approved by the board within three (3) attempts.
- (2) A physician assistant who is authorized to practice in another state and who is in good standing may apply for licensure by endorsement from the state of his or her credentialing if that state has standards substantially equivalent to those of this Commonwealth.
- (3) A physician assistant's license shall be valid for two (2) years and shall be renewed by the board upon fulfillment of the following requirements:
 - (a) The holder shall be of good character and reputation;
 - (b) The holder shall provide evidence of completion, during the previous two (2) years, of a minimum of one hundred (100) hours of continuing education approved by the American Medical Association, the American Osteopathic Association, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Physician Assistants, or by another entity approved by the board. The one hundred (100) hours of continuing education required by this paragraph shall include:
 1. During the first two (2) years of licensure or prior to the first licensure renewal:
 - a. One (1) continuing education course on the human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; and
 - b. One and one-half (1.5) hours of continuing education in the prevention and recognition of pediatric abusive head trauma, as defined in KRS 620.020; and
 2. If the license holder is authorized, pursuant to KRS 311.858(5), to prescribe and administer Schedule III, IV, or V controlled substances, a minimum of *seven and one-half (7.5)*~~five (5)~~ hours of approved continuing education relating to controlled substance diversion, pain management, addiction disorders, use of the electronic system for monitoring controlled substances established in KRS 218A.202, or any combination of two (2) or more of these subjects; *and*
 - ~~(c)~~ The holder, if authorized, pursuant to KRS 311.858(5), to prescribe and administer Schedule III, IV, or V controlled substances, shall provide evidence of completion, during the previous two (2) years, of a minimum of five (5) hours, in addition to the continuing education requirements established in paragraph (b) of this subsection, of continuing education relating to controlled substance diversion, pain management, addiction disorders, use of the electronic system for monitoring controlled substances established in KRS 218A.202, or any combination of two (2) or more of these subjects; and
 - ~~(d)~~(c) The holder shall provide proof of current certification with the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants.

Signed by Governor March 22, 2021.