

**HEALTH OCCUPATIONS
TITLE 19. SOCIAL WORKERS**

SUBTITLE 2. STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

§ 19-202. Membership

(a) Composition; appointment of members. --

(1) The Board consists of 12 members.

(2) Of the 12 Board members:

(i) 10 shall be licensed social workers of whom:

1. Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, 1 is a licensed bachelor social worker;

2. Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, 1 is a licensed graduate social worker at the time of appointment;

3. Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, at least 1 is a licensed certified social worker;

4. Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, at least 4 are licensed certified social workers-clinical;

5. 1 is a licensed social worker employed by the Department of Human Resources; and

6. Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, 1 is a licensed social worker who is:

A. Primarily engaged in social worker education at a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education; and

B. Nominated from a list of names submitted by the deans and directors of the Maryland Social Work Education Programs; and

(ii) 2 shall be consumer members.

(3) If a licensed bachelor social worker, a licensed graduate social worker, a licensed certified social worker, a licensed certified social worker-clinical, or a licensed social worker is not appointed to the Board under paragraph (2)(i) of this subsection within 3 months of a vacancy, a licensee of any license level shall be appointed immediately if that licensee is qualified to be a member of the Board under subsections (b) and (d) of this section.

(4) The Governor shall appoint all members of the Board with the advice of the Secretary and the advice and consent of the Senate.

(5) The Governor shall appoint all social work members of the Board from a list of nominees containing names submitted by:

- (i) Professional social work associations in the State;
 - (ii) Any person who provides a statement of nomination signed by at least 15 social workers licensed in the State;
 - (iii) The secretaries of public agencies of the State where social workers are employed;
or
 - (iv) The corporate executive officers or executive directors of private organizations where social workers are employed.
- (b) State residency. -- Each member of the Board shall be a resident of this State.
- (c) Qualifications of consumer member. -- Each consumer member of the Board:
- (1) Shall be a member of the general public;
 - (2) May not be or ever have been a social worker or in training to become a social worker;
 - (3) May not have a household member who is a social worker or in training to become a social worker;
 - (4) May not participate or ever have participated in a commercial or professional field related to social work;
 - (5) May not have a household member who participates in a commercial or professional field related to social work; and
 - (6) May not have had within 2 years before appointment a substantial financial interest in a person regulated by the Board or a person that employs a person regulated by the Board.
- (d) Licensing requirement. -- Except for the licensed bachelor social worker member and the licensed graduate social worker member, each social worker member of the Board shall have been licensed in the State for 5 years immediately preceding the appointment and actively employed in the field of social work for at least 3 of the 5 years immediately preceding the appointment.
- (e) No financial interest by consumer member. -- While a member of the Board, a consumer member may not have a substantial financial interest in a person regulated by the Board or a person that employs a person regulated by the Board.
- (f) Oath. -- Before taking office, each appointee to the Board shall take the oath required by Article I, § 9 of the Maryland Constitution.
- (g) Terms; vacancies. --
- (1) The term of a member is 4 years.
 - (2) The terms of members are staggered as required by the terms provided for members of the Board on July 1, 1981.
 - (3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and

qualifies.

(4) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(5) A member may not serve more than 2 consecutive full terms.

(6) To the extent practicable, the Governor shall fill any vacancy on the Board within 60 days of the date of the vacancy.

(h) Removal. --

(1) The Governor may remove a member for incompetence, misconduct, or neglect of duty.

(2) Upon the recommendation of the Secretary, the Governor may remove a member whom the Secretary finds to have been absent from 2 successive Board meetings without adequate reason.