

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0149

Volunteer health care professionals certification.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Law, Jorgensen, McMurtrey,
Meuli and Tipton and Senator(s) Barrasso,
Larson and Mockler

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to volunteer health care professionals;
2 providing a volunteer license for retired dentists and
3 dental hygienists, nurses, optometrists, physicians,
4 osteopaths and physician assistants as specified; and
5 providing for an effective date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 33-15-131, 33-21-157, 33-23-117 and
10 33-26-601 are created to read:

11

12 **33-15-131. Dentist and dental hygienist volunteer**
13 **license.**

14

15 (a) As used in this section:

16

1 (i) "Low income uninsured person" means a person
2 who meets all of the following requirements:

3

4 (A) The person's income is not greater than
5 two hundred percent (200%) of the current poverty level as
6 defined by federal law, as amended;

7

8 (B) The person currently is not receiving
9 medical, disability or other assistance under any federal
10 or state government health care program; and

11

12 (C) Either of the following applies:

13

14 (I) The person is not a policyholder,
15 certificate holder, insured, contract holder, subscriber,
16 enrollee, member, beneficiary or other covered individual
17 under a health insurance or health care policy, contract or
18 plan; or

19

20 (II) The person is a policyholder,
21 certificate holder, insured, contract holder, subscriber,
22 enrollee, member, beneficiary or other covered individual
23 under a health insurance or health care policy, contract or
24 plan, but the insurer, policy, contract or plan denies

1 coverage or is the subject of insolvency or bankruptcy
2 proceedings in any jurisdiction.

3

4 (ii) "Nonprofit health care facility" means a
5 charitable nonprofit corporation or association organized
6 and operated under title 17, chapter 19 or 22 of the
7 Wyoming statutes, or any charitable organization not
8 organized and not operated for profit, that provides health
9 care services to low income uninsured persons, except that
10 "health care facility" does not include a hospital,
11 including a swing bed hospital, facility or center defined
12 under W.S. 35-2-901 or any other medical facility that is
13 operated for profit.

14

15 (b) For purposes of this section, a person shall be
16 considered retired from practice if the person's license or
17 certificate has expired.

18

19 (c) The state board of dental examiners may issue,
20 without examination, a volunteer's certificate to a person
21 who is retired from practice so that the person may provide
22 dental services to low income uninsured persons at
23 nonprofit health care facilities. The board shall deny
24 issuance of a volunteer's certificate to a person who is

1 not qualified under this section to hold a volunteer's
2 certificate.

3

4 (d) An application for a volunteer's certificate
5 shall include all of the following:

6

7 (i) A copy of the applicant's dentistry or
8 dental hygienist degree;

9

10 (ii) One (1) of the following, as applicable:

11

12 (A) A copy of the applicant's most recent
13 license or certificate authorizing the practice of
14 dentistry or dental hygiene issued by a jurisdiction in the
15 United States that licenses persons to practice dentistry
16 or dental hygiene; or

17

18 (B) A copy of the applicant's most recent
19 license equivalent to a license to practice dentistry or
20 dental hygiene in one (1) or more branches of the United
21 States armed services that the United States government
22 issued.

23

1 (iii) Evidence of one (1) of the following, as
2 applicable:

3

4 (A) That the applicant has maintained for
5 at least ten (10) years immediately prior to retirement
6 full licensure in good standing in any jurisdiction in the
7 United States that licenses persons to practice as a
8 dentist or dental hygienist; or

9

10 (B) That the applicant has practiced for at
11 least ten (10) years immediately prior to retirement in
12 good standing as a dentist or dental hygienist in one (1)
13 or more of the branches of the United States armed
14 services; and

15

16 (iv) A notarized statement from the applicant,
17 on a form prescribed by the board, that the applicant:

18

19 (A) Will not accept any form of
20 remuneration for any dental or dental hygiene services
21 rendered while in possession of a volunteer's certificate;

22

23 (B) Will devote his practice exclusively
24 and totally to providing dental or dental hygiene services

1 to low income uninsured persons at a nonprofit health care
2 facility in this state; and

3

4 (C) Will provide any other documentation
5 that the board reasonably may require.

6

7 (e) The holder of a volunteer's certificate may
8 provide dental or dental hygiene services only on the
9 premises of a nonprofit health care facility in this state
10 and only to low income uninsured persons. The holder shall
11 not accept any form of remuneration for providing dental or
12 dental hygiene services while in possession of the
13 certificate. The board may revoke a volunteer's certificate
14 on receiving proof satisfactory to the board that the
15 holder has engaged in practice in this state outside the
16 scope of the certificate.

17

18 (f) A volunteer's certificate shall be valid for a
19 period of one (1) year, unless earlier revoked under
20 subsection (e) of this section or pursuant to title 33,
21 chapter 15 of the Wyoming statutes. A volunteer's
22 certificate may be renewed upon the application of the
23 holder. The board shall maintain a register of all persons
24 who hold volunteer's certificates. The board shall not

1 charge a fee for issuing or renewing a certificate pursuant
2 to this section.

3

4 (g) To be eligible for renewal of a volunteer's
5 certificate, the holder of the certificate shall certify to
6 the board completion of any continuing education required
7 under this act as if the holder of the certificate were in
8 active practice. The board shall not renew a certificate if
9 the holder has not complied with the continuing education
10 requirements. The nonprofit health care facility in which
11 the holder provides dental or dental hygiene services may
12 pay for or reimburse the holder for any costs incurred in
13 obtaining the required continuing education.

14

15 (h) The board shall issue to each person who
16 qualifies under this section a volunteer's certificate that
17 states the certificate holder is authorized to provide
18 dental or dental hygiene services pursuant to the laws of
19 this state.

20

21 (j) Except as provided in this section, any person
22 holding a volunteer's certificate issued by the board under
23 this section shall be subject to the requirements of this
24 act and the jurisdiction of the board as if he were

1 licensed to practice dentistry or dental hygiene under this
2 act.

3

4 (k) The board shall adopt rules to administer and
5 enforce this section.

6

7 **33-21-157. Nurses volunteer license.**

8

9 (a) As used in this section:

10

11 (i) "Low income uninsured person" has the same
12 meaning as in W.S. 33-15-131(a);

13

14 (ii) "License" means a volunteer's practical
15 nurse or registered nurse license as issued under this
16 section;

17

18 (iii) "Nonprofit health care facility" has the
19 same meaning as in W.S. 33-15-131(a).

20

21 (b) For purposes of this section, a person shall be
22 considered retired from practice if the person:

23

1 (i) Currently holds a license to practice
2 nursing, either as a licensed practical nurse or a
3 registered nurse and such license is due to expire unless
4 renewed; or

5
6 (ii) Has retired from the practice of nursing,
7 either as a licensed practical nurse or a registered nurse,
8 and is not currently engaged in the practice of nursing
9 either full time or part time and has, prior to retirement,
10 maintained full licensure in good standing in any state or
11 territory of the United States.

12
13 (c) The state board of nursing may issue, by
14 endorsement or relicensure, a license to a person who is
15 retired from practice so that the person may provide either
16 licensed practical or registered nursing services to low
17 income uninsured persons at nonprofit health care
18 facilities. The board shall deny issuance of a license to a
19 person who is not qualified under this section to hold a
20 license.

21
22 (d) An application for a license shall meet the
23 qualifications for licensure as specified in W.S. 33-21-127
24 through 33-21-130. In addition, the application shall

1 contain a notarized statement from the applicant, on a form
2 prescribed by the board, that the applicant:

3

4 (i) Will not accept any form of remuneration for
5 any nursing services rendered while in possession of a
6 license;

7

8 (ii) Will devote the practice exclusively and
9 totally to providing nursing services to low income
10 uninsured persons at a nonprofit health care facility in
11 this state; and

12

13 (iii) Will provide any other documentation that
14 the board reasonably may require.

15

16 (e) The holder of a license may provide nursing
17 services only on the premises of a nonprofit health care
18 facility in this state and only to low income uninsured
19 persons. The holder shall not accept any form of
20 remuneration for providing nursing services while in
21 possession of the license. The board may revoke a license
22 on receiving proof satisfactory to the board that the
23 holder has engaged in practice in this state outside the
24 scope of the license.

1

2 (f) A license shall be valid for a period of two (2)
3 years, unless earlier revoked under subsection (e) of this
4 section or pursuant to title 33, chapter 21 of the Wyoming
5 statutes. A license may be renewed upon the application of
6 the holder. The board shall maintain a register of all
7 persons who hold licenses. The board shall not charge a fee
8 for issuing or renewing a license pursuant to this section.

9

10 (g) To be eligible for renewal of a license, the
11 holder of the license shall certify to the board completion
12 of any continuing education required under this act as if
13 the holder of the license were in active practice. The
14 board shall not renew a license if the holder has not
15 complied with the continuing education requirements. The
16 nonprofit health care facility in which the holder provides
17 nursing services may pay for or reimburse the holder for
18 any costs incurred in obtaining the required continuing
19 education.

20

21 (h) The board shall issue to each person who
22 qualifies under this section a license that states the
23 certificate holder is authorized to provide nursing
24 services pursuant to the laws of this state.

1

2 (j) Except as provided in this section, any person
3 holding a license issued by the board under this section
4 shall be subject to the requirements of this act and the
5 jurisdiction of the board as if he were licensed to
6 practice as a licensed practical or registered nurse.

7

8 (k) The board shall adopt rules to administer and
9 enforce this section.

10

11 **33-23-117. Optometry volunteer license.**

12

13 (a) As used in this section, "low income uninsured
14 person" and "nonprofit health care facility" have the same
15 meanings as in W.S. 33-15-131(a).

16

17 (b) For purposes of this section, a person shall be
18 considered retired from practice if the person's license or
19 certificate has expired.

20

21 (c) The state board of optometry may issue, without
22 examination, a volunteer certificate to a person who is
23 retired from practice so that the person may provide
24 optometry services to low income uninsured persons at

1 nonprofit health care facilities. The board shall deny
2 issuance of a volunteer's certificate to a person who is
3 not qualified under this section to hold a volunteer's
4 certificate.

5

6 (d) An application for a volunteer's certificate
7 shall include all of the following:

8

9 (i) A copy of the applicant's optometry degree;

10

11 (ii) One (1) of the following, as applicable:

12

13 (A) A copy of the applicant's most recent
14 license or certificate authorizing the practice of
15 optometry issued by a jurisdiction in the United States
16 that licenses persons to practice optometry; or

17

18 (B) A copy of the applicant's most recent
19 license equivalent to a license to practice optometry in
20 one (1) or more branches of the United States armed
21 services that the United States government issued.

22

23 (iii) Evidence of one (1) of the following, as
24 applicable:

1

2 (A) That the applicant has maintained for
3 at least ten (10) years immediately prior to retirement
4 full licensure in good standing in any jurisdiction in the
5 United States that licenses persons to practice optometry;
6 or

7

8 (B) That the applicant has practiced for at
9 least ten (10) years immediately prior to retirement in
10 good standing as an optometrist in one (1) or more of the
11 branches of the United States armed services; and

12

13 (iv) A notarized statement from the applicant,
14 on a form prescribed by the board, that the applicant:

15

16 (A) Will not accept any form of
17 remuneration for any optometric services rendered while in
18 possession of a volunteer certificate;

19

20 (B) Will devote his practice exclusively
21 and totally to providing medical services to low income
22 uninsured persons at a nonprofit health care facility in
23 this state; and

24

1 (C) Will provide any other documentation
2 that the board reasonably may require.

3

4 (e) The holder of a volunteer's certificate may
5 provide optometric services only on the premises of a
6 nonprofit health care facility in this state and only to
7 low income uninsured persons. The holder shall not accept
8 any form of remuneration for providing optometric services
9 while in possession of the certificate. The board may
10 revoke a volunteer's certificate on receiving proof
11 satisfactory to the board that the holder has engaged in
12 practice in this state outside the scope of the
13 certificate.

14

15 (f) A volunteer's certificate shall be valid for a
16 period of one (1) year, unless earlier revoked under
17 subsection (e) of this section or pursuant to title 33,
18 chapter 23 of the Wyoming statutes. A volunteer's
19 certificate may be renewed upon the application of the
20 holder. The board shall maintain a register of all persons
21 who hold volunteer's certificates. The board shall not
22 charge a fee for issuing or renewing a certificate pursuant
23 to this section.

24

1 (g) To be eligible for renewal of a volunteer's
2 certificate, the holder of the certificate shall certify to
3 the board completion of any continuing education required
4 under this act as if the holder of the certificate were in
5 active practice. The board shall not renew a certificate if
6 the holder has not complied with the continuing education
7 requirements. The nonprofit health care facility in which
8 the holder provides optometric services may pay for or
9 reimburse the holder for any costs incurred in obtaining
10 the required continuing education.

11

12 (h) The board shall issue to each person who
13 qualifies under this section a volunteer's certificate that
14 states the certificate holder is authorized to provide
15 optometric services pursuant to the laws of this state.

16

17 (j) Except as provided in this section, any person
18 holding a volunteer certificate issued by the board under
19 this section shall be subject to the requirements of this
20 act and the jurisdiction of the board as if he were
21 licensed to practice optometry under this act.

22

23 (k) The board shall adopt rules to administer and
24 enforce this section.

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ARTICLE 6

VOLUNTEER PHYSICIANS AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

**33-26-601. Physician and physician assistant special
volunteer license.**

(a) As used in this section, "low income uninsured person" and "nonprofit health care facility" have the same meanings as in W.S. 33-15-131(a).

(b) For purposes of this section, a person shall be considered retired from practice if the person's license has expired.

(c) The state board of medicine may issue, without examination, a volunteer's license to a person who is retired from practice so that the person may provide medical services to low income uninsured persons at nonprofit health care facilities. The board shall deny issuance of a volunteer's license to a person who is not qualified under this section to hold a volunteer's license.

1 (d) An application for a volunteer's license shall
2 include all of the following:

3

4 (i) A copy of the applicant's medical education
5 and postgraduate training documents certified as true and
6 accurate by the state licensing authority with whom the
7 physician or physician's assistant holds current licensure
8 or has most recently held current licensure;

9

10 (ii) A copy of the applicant's most recent
11 license authorizing the practice of medicine issued by a
12 jurisdiction in the United States that licenses persons to
13 practice medicine;

14

15 (iii) Evidence of one (1) of the following, as
16 applicable:

17

18 (A) That the applicant has maintained for
19 at least ten (10) years immediately prior to retirement
20 full licensure in good standing in any jurisdiction in the
21 United States that licenses persons to practice allopathic
22 or osteopathic medicine or to practice as a physician
23 assistant; or

24

1 (B) That the applicant has practiced for at
2 least ten (10) years immediately prior to retirement in
3 good standing as a doctor of allopathic or osteopathic
4 medicine or as a physician assistant in one (1) or more of
5 the branches of the United States armed services; and

6

7 (iv) A notarized statement from the applicant,
8 on a form prescribed by the board, that the applicant:

9

10 (A) Will not accept any form of
11 remuneration for any medical services rendered while in
12 possession of a volunteer's license;

13

14 (B) Will devote his practice exclusively
15 and totally to providing medical services to low income
16 uninsured persons at a nonprofit health care facility in
17 this state; and

18

19 (C) Will provide any other documentation
20 that the board reasonably may require.

21

22 (e) The holder of a volunteer's license may provide
23 medical services only on the premises of a nonprofit health
24 care facility in this state and only to low income

1 uninsured persons. The holder shall not accept any form of
2 remuneration for providing medical services while in
3 possession of the license. The board may revoke a
4 volunteer's license on receiving proof satisfactory to the
5 board that the holder has engaged in practice in this state
6 outside the scope of the license.

7

8 (f) A volunteer's license shall be valid for a period
9 of one (1) year, unless earlier revoked under subsection
10 (e) of this section or pursuant to title 33, chapter 26 of
11 the Wyoming statutes. A volunteer's license may be renewed
12 upon the application of the holder. The board shall
13 maintain a register of all persons who hold volunteer's
14 licenses. The board shall not charge a fee for issuing or
15 renewing a license pursuant to this section.

16

17 (g) To be eligible for renewal of a volunteer's
18 license, the holder of the license shall certify to the
19 board completion of any continuing education required under
20 this chapter as if the holder of the license were in active
21 practice. The board shall not renew a license if the holder
22 has not complied with the continuing education
23 requirements. The nonprofit health care facility in which
24 the holder provides medical services may pay for or

1 reimburse the holder for any costs incurred in obtaining
2 the required continuing education.

3

4 (h) The board shall issue to each person who
5 qualifies under this section a volunteer's license. The
6 volunteer's medical license shall permit the general
7 practice of medicine under this chapter.

8

9 (j) Except as provided in this section, any person
10 holding a volunteer's license issued by the board under
11 this section shall be subject to the requirements of this
12 chapter and the jurisdiction of the board.

13

14 (k) The board shall adopt rules to administer and
15 enforce this section.

16

17 **Section 2.** W.S. 33-15-128(a)(xvii) and
18 33-21-120(a)(xii) are amended to read:

19

20 **33-15-128. Definitions.**

21

22 (a) As used in this act:

23

1 (xvii) "This act" means W.S. 33-15-101 through
2 ~~33-15-130~~ 33-15-131 and may be cited as the "Wyoming Dental
3 Practice Act".

4

5 **33-21-120. Definitions.**

6

7 (a) As used in this act:

8

9 (xii) "This act" means W.S. 33-21-119 through
10 ~~33-21-156~~ 33-21-157.

11

12 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2003.

13

14

(END)