



## Welcome Home Act

In accordance with [Act 253 of the 2024 Louisiana Legislative Session](#), the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors will now offer licensure by endorsement to applicants currently licensed in another state. Licensure by endorsement in Louisiana allows applicants who hold a current and valid embalmer and funeral director (dual) or a funeral director license in another state to expand their career opportunities within Louisiana. Whether you're moving to Louisiana or already residing here, this process recognizes your qualifications and facilitates professional growth. To qualify for licensure by endorsement, applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. The applicant holds a current and valid license in another state with an embalmer and funeral director (dual) or a funeral director license.
2. The applicant has held the license for at least one year.
3. The applicant holds a license in good standing issued by another state, province or jurisdiction recognized by the board that is substantially equivalent to the requirements of this state .
4. The applicant must pass the Louisiana Rules and Regulations (LRR) exam.
5. If the applicant has no pending disciplinary action or investigation in another state, the LSBEFD may proceed with issuing a license. However, if there is a pending disciplinary action or investigation, the LSBEFD will delay its decision until the issue is resolved or the applicant meets all criteria for the license to the LSBEFD's satisfaction.

Please complete the license application for which you are applying from our website under "Fees and Forms". The license link will bring you to Certemy for online completion. Also, please email Kim W Michel, indicating your intention to apply for a license by way of the Welcome Home Act.

Applicants who do not meet the requirements of the Welcome Home Act may still apply for a license via LSBEFD's traditional reciprocity process.

## RS 37:842

### §842. Minimum qualifications for license

A. Qualifications for a funeral director license. Any applicant is qualified for a license as a funeral director if he meets all of the following requirements:

- (1) Is at least eighteen years of age.
- (2) Has obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- (3) Is found by the board to be of good moral character and temperate habits.
- (4) Has successfully completed a minimum of thirty semester hours in an accredited college or university as evidenced by a certified copy of the transcript of the college or university. The minimum subject hours shall include twenty-one semester hours of the basic freshman courses, which include but are not limited to the following: English, mathematics, bookkeeping, accounting, business mathematics, psychology, history, science, business administration, biology, economics, chemistry, and marketing or such other minimum hours as the law may provide. Remedial classes and courses such as music, the arts, physical education, and sports shall not be considered as accepted courses.
- (5) Has served an internship in the state of Louisiana for a period of not less than nine months, or thirty-nine weeks, and not more than forty-eight months, or two hundred eight weeks, has actively assisted in at least thirty funerals, and has completed at least one thousand five hundred sixty contact hours during the internship period. A funeral director intern may receive credit for up to two-thirds of the internship requirement prior to the completion of thirty semester hours.
- (6) Has paid the application fee required by R.S. 37:845.
- (7) Passes satisfactorily an examination conducted by the board relative to the practice of the profession of funeral directing as defined in R.S. 37:831.

B. Qualifications for an embalmer and funeral director license. Any applicant is qualified for license as an embalmer and funeral director if he meets all of the following requirements:

- (1) Meets the requirements set forth in Paragraphs (A)(1), (2), (3), and (6) of this Section for funeral directors.
- (2) Has successfully completed a full course in the science of embalming and the profession of funeral directing at an accredited school recognized by the board.
- (3) Passes satisfactorily an examination conducted by the board relative to the practice of the science of embalming and the profession of funeral directing as defined in R.S. 37:831.
- (4) Has served an internship in the state of Louisiana for a period of not less than nine months, or thirty-nine weeks, and not more than forty-eight months, or two hundred eight weeks, actively assisted in at least thirty embalming operations and thirty funerals and completed at least one thousand five hundred sixty contact hours during the internship period. An embalmer and funeral director intern may receive credit for up to two-thirds of the internship requirement prior to graduating from an accredited school recognized by the board.

C. Licensure by endorsement. Any applicant is qualified for license as an embalmer and funeral director or funeral director by endorsement in this state if he meets all of the following requirements:

- (1) Holds a license in good standing issued by another state, province, or jurisdiction recognized by the board that is substantially equivalent to the requirements of this state and who meets the requirements of this Chapter.
- (2) Meets all of the requirements of Paragraphs (A)(1), (2), (3), and (6) of this Section for an embalmer and funeral director or funeral director license.
- (3) Has worked for a period of not less than three months within the state of Louisiana under the authority of a temporary license.

D. Qualifications for an embalmer and funeral director temporary license. Any applicant is qualified for an embalmer and funeral director temporary license by endorsement in this state if he meets the requirements of Paragraphs (A)(1), (2), (3), and (6) of this Section and furnishes the board with all of the following:

- (1) Proof that he holds a valid embalmer and funeral director license in good standing from another state, province, or jurisdiction recognized by the board. The board may waive this requirement in those cases where the recognized state, province, or jurisdiction does not license embalmers or funeral directors.
- (2) Proof that he has graduated from an accredited program in mortuary science recognized by the board.
- (3) Proof that he has passed a nationally recognized examination.
- (4) Proof that he has practiced the science of embalming and the profession of funeral directing for a period of not less than one year during the prior three-year period.
- (5) Proof in the form of a statement that all of the following are true:
  - (a) No proceeding has been instituted against the applicant for the cancellation, suspension, or revocation of the license in the state, province, or jurisdiction that issued the license.
  - (b) No prosecution is pending against the applicant in a state or federal court for an offense that, under the laws of this state, is a felony or is a misdemeanor related to the science of embalming or the profession of funeral directing.
  - (c) The qualifications made in the application for licensure in this state are correct.

E. Qualifications for a funeral director temporary license. Any applicant is qualified for a funeral director temporary license by endorsement in this state if he meets the requirements of Paragraphs (A)(1), (2), (3), and (6) of this Section and furnishes the board with all of the following:

(1) Proof that he holds a valid funeral director license in good standing from another state, province, or jurisdiction recognized by the board. The board may waive this requirement in those cases where the recognized state, province, or jurisdiction does not license funeral directors.

(2) Proof that he has passed a recognized examination.

(3) Proof that he has practiced the profession of funeral directing for a period of not less than one year during the prior three-year period.

(4) Proof in the form of a statement that all of the following are true:

(a) No proceeding has been instituted against the applicant for the cancellation, suspension, or revocation of the license in the state, province, or jurisdiction that issued the license.

(b) No prosecution is pending against the applicant in a state or federal court for an offense that, under the laws of this state, is a felony or is a misdemeanor related to the science of embalming or the profession of funeral directing.

(c) The qualifications made in the application for licensure in this state are correct.

F. Any establishment where the business of funeral directing or embalming as defined in R.S. 37:831 is conducted within this state shall be duly licensed. An establishment shall be qualified to be licensed to operate as such if it meets all of the following requirements:

(1) It is managed or is to be managed by a funeral director holding a valid license, other than a temporary license, from the state of Louisiana. The funeral director shall manage the establishment on a full-time basis and funeral directing shall be his principal occupation.

(2) Embalming is performed only by an embalmer and funeral director holding a valid license from the state of Louisiana or a registered intern under the supervision of a state-licensed embalmer and funeral director.

(3)(a) It is found, after proper investigation to meet the requirements established by the board with respect to all of the following:

(i) Licensed personnel, including those working under the authority of a temporary license.

(ii) Registered interns.

(iii) Embalming facilities for the sanitation, disinfection, and preparation of a human body.

(iv) Adequate buildings.

(v) Display rooms for displaying funeral merchandise consisting of, but not limited to a minimum of six adult caskets of a variety of styles and quality.

(vi) Other necessary facilities, furnishings, and equipment to adequately serve the public.

(b) The embalming facilities and display rooms described in this Paragraph are required in every funeral establishment that is not a branch establishment.

(4) Furnishes such further information as the board may require regarding its qualifications and operations.

(5) Makes payment to the board of the fee required by R.S. 37:845.

G. Licenses issued pursuant to Subsection F of this Section shall be for a specific name and location, and amended from time to time to show any change of name or location upon the payment of a charge equaling a license renewal fee.

H. Every license issued hereunder shall be signed by the president and secretary of the board, and bear the imprint of the board's seal. The board shall register each license holder as being duly licensed for the purpose covered by such license.

Acts 1958, No. 28, §1; Acts 1963, No. 12, §1; Acts 1966, No. 19, §1, eff. June 15, 1966 at 10:30 A.M.; Acts 1974, No. 3, §2; Acts 1977, No. 283, §2; Acts 1990, No. 415, §1, eff. Sept. 1, 1990; Acts 2010, No. 372, §1; Acts 2014, No. 264, §1; Acts 2015, No. 25, §1; Acts 2020, No. 329, §1, eff. June 12, 2020.

SENATE BILL NO. 60

BY SENATOR PRESSLY

## AN ACT

To enact Chapter 1-E of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 37:51 through 59, relative to universal occupational license recognition; to provide for definitions; to provide for conditions for application; to provide for occupational licensing requirements; to require proof of residency; to provide for jurisprudential examination; to provide for board decisions on applications; to provide for appeals of a board decision on applications; to provide for state law and jurisdiction; to provide for exemptions; to provide for limitations; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Chapter 1-E of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 37:51 through 59, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 1-E. WELCOME HOME ACT****§51. Definitions**

**The words defined in this Section have the meanings given to them for purposes of this Chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.**

**(1) "Board" means any state executive branch board, commission, department, or other agency that regulates the entry of persons into a particular profession or occupation or that is authorized to issue or revoke occupational licenses or certifications.**

**(2) "Occupational license" means a nontransferable authorization issued by a state to an individual to legally practice or engage in a regulated profession or occupation.**

**(3) "Other state" or "another state" means any United States territory or state in the United States other than this state.**

**(4) "Scope of practice" means the procedures, actions, processes, and work that a person may perform pursuant to an occupational license or**

1 certification issued in this state.

2 §52. Occupational license or certification

3 A. Notwithstanding any other law, a board shall issue an occupational  
4 license or certification to a person upon application, if all of the following apply:

5 (1) The applicant holds a current and valid occupational license or  
6 certification in another state in a lawful occupation with a similar scope of  
7 practice, as determined by the board in this state.

8 (2) The applicant has held the occupational license or certification in the  
9 other state for at least one year.

10 (3) The other state required the applicant to pass an examination, or to  
11 meet education, training, or experience standards.

12 (4) The other state holds the applicant in good standing.

13 (5) The applicant does not have a disqualifying criminal record as  
14 determined by the board in this state under state law.

15 (6) The applicant does not have a disciplinary action or investigation  
16 pending in another state. If the applicant has a disciplinary action or  
17 investigation pending, the board in this state shall not issue or deny an  
18 occupational license or certification to the person until the disciplinary action  
19 or investigation is resolved or the person otherwise meets the criteria for an  
20 occupational license or certification in this state to the satisfaction of the board  
21 in this state.

22 (7) The applicant pays all applicable fees in this state.

23 (8) The applicant lives in this state and provides proof of residency as  
24 outlined in R.S. 37:53.

25 B. If another state issued the applicant a certification, but this state  
26 requires an occupational license to work, the board in this state shall issue an  
27 occupational license to the applicant if the applicant otherwise satisfies  
28 Subsection A of this Section.

29 C. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the  
30 Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners and the Louisiana Board of

Veterinary Medicine shall issue a conditional license or certification, pending normal licensure, to an applicant who otherwise satisfies Subsection A of this Section.

D. In addition to the requirements of Subsection A of this Section, the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry may require that an applicant for dental licensure has successfully completed an initial clinical licensure examination in a jurisdiction that included a hand skills assessment.

E. A license issued under this Chapter may contain the following statement: "Licensed by Endorsement, R.S. 37:51 et seq."

#### §53. Residency

For purposes of this Chapter, residency may be established by producing proof of one of the following:

(1) A current state-issued identification card.

(2) A state-issued voter registration card.

(3) Documentation of current in-state employment or notarized letter of promise of employment of the applicant or his spouse. If an applicant uses this method to obtain licensure, a board shall require another form of proof of residency listed in this Section, six months after licensure is granted.

(4) A current homestead exemption for this state.

#### §54. Examination

A. A board may require an applicant to pass a jurisprudential examination specific to relevant state laws that regulate the occupation if an occupational license or certification in this state requires an applicant to pass a jurisprudential examination specific to relevant state statutes and administrative rules that regulate the occupation or certification.

B. If the Horticulture Commission of Louisiana administers an examination as part of the licensure process, it may require applicants to take and pass all or part of the examination as may be necessary to demonstrate competence regarding Louisiana specific flora or Louisiana specific environmental issues.

1        **§55. Decision**

2                **A board shall provide an applicant with a written decision regarding his**  
3                **application within sixty days after receiving a completed application.**

4        **§56. Appeal**

5                **A. An applicant may appeal a board's decision to a court of general**  
6                **jurisdiction.**

7                **B. An applicant may appeal any of the following:**

8                        **(1) The board's denial of an occupational license or certification.**

9                        **(2) The board's determination of the occupation or certification.**

10                      **(3) The board's determination of the similarity of the scope of practice**  
11                      **of the occupational license or certification issued.**

12        **§57. State laws and jurisdiction**

13                **A person who obtains an occupational license or certification pursuant**  
14                **to this Chapter is subject to the laws regulating the occupation in this state and**  
15                **the jurisdiction of the board in this state.**

16        **§58. Exceptions**

17                **A. This Chapter does not apply to an occupation regulated by the state**  
18                **supreme court.**

19                **B. This Chapter shall not apply to peace officers, as defined in R.S.**  
20                **40:2402.**

21        **§59. Limitations**

22                **A. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to prohibit a person from**  
23                **applying for an occupational license or certification under another statute or**  
24                **rule in state law.**

25                **B. An occupational license or certification issued pursuant to this**  
26                **Chapter is valid only in this state. It does not make the person eligible to work**  
27                **in another state under an interstate compact or reciprocity agreement unless**  
28                **otherwise provided by law.**

29                **C. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to prevent the state from**  
30                **entering into a licensing compact, professional national mobility agreement, or**

1        reciprocity agreement with another state, foreign province, foreign country,  
2        international organization, or other entity. A person may apply for licensure  
3        under this Chapter or may apply for licensure pursuant to the terms of the  
4        applicable licensing compact, professional national mobility agreement, or  
5        reciprocity agreement.

6                D. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to prevent the state from  
7        recognizing occupational credentials issued by a private certification  
8        organization, foreign province, foreign country, international organization, or  
9        other entity.

10               E. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to require a private  
11        certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any  
12        individual.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

\_\_\_\_\_  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_