

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 736

An act relating to certification of clinical nurse specialists; amending s. 464.0115, F.S.; revising the requirements for obtaining certification as a clinical nurse specialist; requiring an applicant to submit proof to the Department of Health that he or she has the required academic and clinical experience to be certified as a clinical nurse specialist; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 464.0115, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

464.0115 Certification of clinical nurse specialists.—

(1) Any nurse seeking certification as a clinical nurse specialist must apply to the department and submit proof that he or she holds a current license to practice professional nursing, a master's degree in a clinical nursing specialty, and either:

(a) Proof of current certification in a specialty area as a clinical nurse specialist from a nationally recognized certifying body as determined by the board; or-

(b) Proof that he or she holds a master's degree in a specialty area for which there is no certification within the clinical nurse specialist role and specialty and proof of having completed 1,000 hours of clinical experience in the clinical specialty for which he or she is academically prepared, with a minimum of 500 hours of clinical practice after graduation. The applicant for certification as a clinical nurse specialist must submit an affidavit to the Board of Nursing affirming the required hours of clinical experience. Falsification of the affidavit constitutes grounds for discipline in accordance with s. 464.018(1)(f).

Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2008.

Approved by the Governor June 17, 2008.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 17, 2008.