RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title 49—PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL STANDARDS

STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE
[49 PA. CODE CHS. 16 AND 17]

Examinations

The State Board of Medicine (Board) amends §§ 16.1 and 17.11 and deletes §§ 17.12 and 17.12c, to read as set forth in Annex A.

Effective Date

This final-form rulemaking will be effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

Statutory Authority

Section 24(a) of the Medical Practice Act of 1985 (act) (63 P.S. § 422.24(a)) gives the Board authority to require an applicant to take and pass an examination to the satisfaction of the Board. Section 24(c) of the act requires that all written, oral and practice examinations shall be prepared and administered by a qualified and approved professional testing organization. Under section 24(d) of the act, when the Board accepts an examination given by an examination agency, the Board may establish the criteria for passing or accept the criteria for passing established by the examination agency.

Section 8 of the act (63 P.S. § 422.8) authorizes the Board to "adopt such regulations as are reasonably necessary to carry out the purposes of the act," including the licensure of qualified individuals as physicians.

Background and Need for this Final-Form Rulemaking

The United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) is the examination co-sponsored and administered by the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) and the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME). USMLE was created in response to the need for one path to medical licensure for allopathic physicians in the United States. Before the USMLE, multiple examinations (the NBME Parts Examination and the Federation Licensing Examination [FLEX]) offered paths to medical licensure. It was desirable to create one examination system accepted in every state, to ensure that all licensed medical doctors (MD) pass the same assessment standards regardless of where individuals received education and training. Today, all state medical boards in the United States utilize the USMLE. The USMLE is used for licensure of graduates of accredited MD-granting medical schools in the United States and graduates of International Medical Schools recognized by the Education Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG).

To ensure that all licensed medical doctors have passed the same assessment standards, following the same rules, the Board intends to rely on the FSMB and the NBME to determine individual USMLE standards, including the order in which the steps may be taken, the number of attempts permitted for any one step of the USMLE, and the time required between attempts. In addition to updating its regulations to conform to the current National examination for medical licensure, the Board also considered existing regulatory provisions related to former medical licensure examinations and determined that some updates were necessary. While the Board's existing regulations refer to examinations that are no longer administered, the Board updates those provisions to ensure that the regulations appropriately reflect examination standards for those former examinations so that MDs who have taken older examinations or combinations of the older examinations may apply for licensure or participate in graduate medical training in this Commonwealth.

Summary and Response to Comments

Notice of the proposed rulemaking was published at 51 Pa.B. 6042 (September 18, 2021). Publication was followed by a 30-day public comment period during which the Board received no public comments. Additionally, there were no comments received from Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) other than to say that they have no objections, comments or recommendations to offer. IRRC further advised that if the final form rulemaking is delivered without revisions, and the committees do not take any action, it will be deemed approved. The House Professional Licensure Committee (HPLC) and the Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee (SCP/PLC) did not submit comments.

Fiscal Impact and Paperwork Requirements

The regulation will not have any fiscal impact on licenses, the Board, or the Commonwealth, nor is any additional paperwork anticipated.

Sunset Date

The Board continuously monitors its regulations; therefore, no sunset date has been assigned.

Regulatory Review

Under section 5(a) of the Regulatory Review Act (71 P.S. § 745.5(a)), on October 12, 2022, the Board submitted a copy of this rulemaking and a copy of a Regulatory Analysis Form to IRRC and to the Chairpersons of the SCP/PLC and the HPLC. A copy of this material is available to the public upon request.

Under section 5(c) of the Regulatory Review Act, IRRC, the HPLC and the SCP/PLC were provided with copies of the comments received during the public comment period, as well as other documents when requested. In preparing the final-form rulemaking, the Board has made no revisions based on a lack of comments received from the public, IRRC, the HPLC and the SCP/PLC.

Under section 5.1(g)(3) and (j.2) of the Regulatory Review Act (71 P.S. § 745.5a(g)(3) and (j.2)), on November 16, 2022, the final-form rulemaking was deemed approved by the HPLC and the SCP/PLC. Under section 5.1(e) of the Regulatory Review Act, IRRC met on November 17, 2022, and approved the final-form rulemaking.

Additional Information

Additional information may be obtained by writing to Jasmira Hunter, Board Administrator, State Board of Medicine, P.O. Box 2649, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649, ST-MEDICINE@pa.gov.

Findings

The State Board of Medicine finds that:

- (1) Public notice of proposed rulemaking was given under sections 201 and 202 of the act of July 31, 1968 (P.L. 769, No. 240) (45 P.S. §§ 1201 and 1202), referred to as the Commonwealth Documents Law, and the regulations promulgated under those sections at 1 Pa. Code §§ 7.1 and 7.2 (relating to notice of proposed rulemaking required; and adoption of regulations).
- (2) A public comment period was provided as required by law and no comments were received.
- (3) Amendments were not made to this final-form rulemaking and therefore the final-form rulemaking does not enlarge the original purpose of the proposed rulemaking published at 51 Pa.B. 6042.
- (4) This final-form rulemaking is necessary and appropriate for the administration of the act.

Order

The Board, acting under its authorizing statute, orders that:

- (a) The regulations of the Board at 49 Pa. Code Chapters 16 and 17, are amended by amending §§ 16.1 and 17.11 and deleting §§ 17.12 and 17.12c to read as set forth in Annex A, with ellipses referring to the existing text of the regulations.
- (b) The Board shall submit a copy of this final-form rulemaking to the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of General Counsel for approval as required by law.
- (c) The Board shall submit this final-form rulemaking to IRRC, the HPLC and the SCP/PLC as required by law.
- (d) The Board shall certify this final-form rulemaking and shall deposit it with the Legislative Reference Bureau as required by law.
- (e) This final-form rule making shall take effect immediately upon publication in the $Pennsylvania\ Bulletin.$

MARK B. WOODLAND, MS, MD,

Chairperson

 $(Editor's\ Note:\ See\ 52\ Pa.B.\ 7487\ (December\ 3,\ 2022)$ for IRRC's approval order.)

Fiscal Note: Fiscal Note 16A-4948 remains valid for the final adoption of the subject regulations.

Annex A

TITLE 49. PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL STANDARDS

PART I. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Subpart A. PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

CHAPTER 16. STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Subchapter A. BASIC DEFINITIONS AND INFORMATION

§ 16.1. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter and Chapters 17 and 18 (relating to State Board of Medicine—medical doctors; and State Board of Medicine—practitioners other than medical doctors), have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

* * * * *

 $\it ECFMG$ —The Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates.

FLEX—The Federation Licensing Examination, which was used by the Board to test applicants for a license to practice medicine and surgery without restriction. The examination was comprised of two components—FLEX I and FLEX II. The last regular administration of FLEX I and FLEX II was in December 1993.

Federation—The Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, Inc.

* * * * *

Treatment regimen—The provision of care and practice of a component of the healing arts by a Board-regulated practitioner.

USMLE—The United States Medical Licensing Examination, a single, uniform examination for medical licensure consisting of three steps. The examination is provided by the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) and the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) and replaces the FLEX and the NBME National Boards Parts examination.

Unaccredited medical college—An institution of higher learning which provides courses in the arts and sciences of medicine and related subjects, is empowered to grant professional and academic degrees in medicine, is listed by the World Health Organization or is otherwise recognized as a medical college by the country in which it is situated, and is not accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the Board.

CHAPTER 17. STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE—MEDICAL DOCTORS

Subchapter B. EXAMINATION INFORMATION

- § 17.11. Examination information for license without restriction.
- (a) *FLEX*. FLEX I and FLEX II as outlined in § 17.1(a)(1)(ii) (relating to license without restriction) satisfies the examination requirement for a license without restriction.
- (b) Licensing examination of Federation from June 1968 through December 1984. This three-part examination, also called the FLEX, is the forerunner of the two-component FLEX examination in subsection (a). A passing score on this three-part examination, as outlined in $\S 17.1(a)(1)(iii)$, satisfies the examination requirement for a license without restriction.
- (c) National Boards. This examination comprised of Parts I, II and III was given in most accredited medical colleges. A passing score on this examination satisfies the examination requirement for a license without restriction.
- (d) USMLE. This examination is a uniform examination for licensure which replaces the National Boards Parts I, II and III and FLEX I and FLEX II. Steps 1, 2 and 3 of USMLE are given throughout the year at times and places designated by FSMB and NBME. USMLE eligibility requirements for each step or step component of the USMLE are jointly set by FSMB and NBME. A passing score on all three steps of USMLE, as determined by FSMB and NBME and as outlined in § 17.1(a)(1)(i), satisfies the examination requirement for a license without restriction.
- (e) Examination of the Medical Council of Canada. This is an examination offered in Canada which has been adopted as a licensing examination in most of the provinces of Canada. A passing score on this examination, as determined by the Medical Council of Canada, satisfies

the examination requirement for a license without restriction if the examination was taken in English in or after May 1970.

(f) State Board Examination. This is an examination for a license to practice medicine and surgery without restriction, other than USMLE, FLEX or the forerunner of FLEX, which is used by a licensing authority in another state, territory or possession of the United States. A passing score on this examination, as determined by the licensing authority in the other jurisdiction, satisfies the examination requirement for a license without restriction if the examination was taken in English prior to December 1973.

§ 17.12. [Reserved.]

§ 17.12c. [Reserved.]

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 23-8. Filed for public inspection January 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m.]

Title 49—PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL STANDARDS

STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE [49 PA. CODE CH. 18]

Orthotic Fitter Temporary Permits and Training

The State Board of Medicine (Board) amends §§ 18.841, 18.842 and 18.843 (relating to temporary practice permit; orthotic fitting care experience; and orthotic fitter license) to read as set forth in Annex A. *Effective Date*

This final-form rulemaking will be effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

Statutory Authority

Section 8 of the Medical Practice Act of 1985 (act) (63 P.S. § 422.8) authorizes the Board to "adopt such regulations as are reasonably necessary to carry out the purposes of the act." The act of July 5, 2012 (P.L. 873, No. 90) (Act 90 of 2012) amended the act to require the Board to issue licenses to prosthetists, orthotists, pedorthists and orthotic fitters; and to regulate the practice of these professions. In 2014, the act of July 2, 2014 (P.L. 941, No. 104) amended provisions of the act regarding orthotists, orthotic fitters, prosthetists and pedorthists. Section 13.5(a) of the act (63 P.S. § 422.13e(a)) sets forth licensing qualifications for orthotic fitters and the other professions. Section 13.5(a)(2)(iv) of the act requires successful completion of a board-approved, entry-level education program specific to orthotic fitting, a minimum of 1,000 hours of documented patient care and certification by an orthotic fitting organization recognized by the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE), accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) or approved by the board. Section 8 of the act authorizes the Board to adopt regulations that are reasonably necessary to carry out the purposes of the act.

Background and Need for Amendments

In 2016, the Board promulgated regulations to effectuate Act 90 of 2012. Section 18.841(d) of the Board's regulations authorize an individual to practice as an orthotic fitter trainee for a period of up to 12 months prior to passing the orthotic fitter certification examination by means of a temporary practice permit. The

Board's regulations do not allow renewal of a temporary practice permit. At their meeting on July 24, 2017, the Board's Allied Health Committee (Committee) met with stakeholders to consider a proposal to extend the period for the holder of an orthotic fitter temporary practice permit from 12 months to 24 months.

Under the Board's regulations, an orthotic fitter temporary practice permit may be issued to an individual who has completed a board-approved, entry-level education program specific to orthotic fitting. Completion of the 1,000 hours of orthotic fitting care experience is a prerequisite to be eligible to take the orthotic fitter certification examination offered by the two existing Board-approved certification entities, the Board of Certification (BOC) and the American Board of Certification (ABC). Thus, assuming an individual completes the 1,000 hours of experience within the first 25 weeks of the 1-year temporary practice permit, the individual would have 27 weeks to prepare for and pass the examination. Currently, based upon examination requirements, if an individual fails the examination five times, the individual is required to repeat the board-approved, entry-level education program specific to orthotic fitting before attempting to pass the examination for a sixth time.

There was a question raised as to whether the 27-week period after an individual completes the orthotic fitting care experience is sufficient to allow the temporary practice permit holders to adequately prepare to take the examination. In reviewing this issue, the Board determined that its original intent had been to allow temporary practice permit holders to take the examination up to the five times allowed by the two certification organizations, ABC and BOC. Extending the period that an individual can hold a temporary practice permit from 12 months to 18 months would be consistent with the Board's original intent to allow the temporary practice permit holders to take the test up to five times by providing the permit holders with an additional 6 months to test before the expiration of the initial temporary practice permit. Additionally, the extension from 12 months to 18 months would also be consistent with other states that license orthotic fitters and the national certification standards. Accordingly, the Committee recommended that the Board initiate the process to amend its regulations to extend the period on which the Board voted and approved.

The Committee further considered a proposal to permit an individual to apply for a second temporary practice permit. However, the Committee was concerned that temporary practice permit holders may attempt to secure a second temporary practice permit without first attempting to take the licensure examination. This would allow the temporary practice permit holder to continue to work without meeting the State licensure requirements. The Committee concluded that the best way to ensure that this would not occur would be to only offer the second temporary practice permit to those individuals who had unsuccessfully attempted the certification examination at least three times. The Board decided further that prior to securing a second temporary practice permit, the individual must retake a Board-approved, entry-level education program specific to orthotic fitting. The Board concluded that this advances public safety by ensuring that unsuccessful examinees demonstrate a second successful completion of the educational program, ensuring that their education is up to date and that previously missing knowledge could be remediated.

Summary and Responses to Comments

Notice of the proposed rulemaking was published at 51 Pa.B. 180 (January 9, 2021). Publication was followed by a 30-day public comment period during which the Board received one public comment from BOC. In addition, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) submitted comments. The House Professional Licensure Committee (HPLC) and the Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee (SCP/PLC) did not submit comments.

BOC comment

Zach Chait, the Regulatory and Legislative Analyst from BOC, commented on the proposed rulemaking to suggest some changes to the language relating to the precertification courses for orthotic fitters. Specifically, Zach Chait indicated that neither ICE nor its accreditation arm, NCCA accredit or otherwise recognize specific courses of education, which would make it impossible for orthotic fitters to comply with this requirement. BOC suggests the elimination of this language, in its entirety, to avoid any unintended adverse effects on candidates seeking licensure.

IRRC comment

IRRC submitted three comments for the Board to address. In response to BOC's comment relating to the education program, IRRC first questions whether the amended language in § 18.841(b)(2) should track the act to say a "precertification education program approved by a credentialing organization recognized by ICE, accredited by NCCA and approved by the Board." IRRC asks the Board to clarify how an individual would comply with this requirement for licensure. In its second comment, IRRC asks the Board to clarify the provision in subsection (d) relating to failure of the examination at least three times. Finally, IRRC questions what "all faucets" of orthotic fitting care includes in § 18.842(b) and requests that the Board explain how the regulated community will know if that standard has been met and how it will be verified and implemented by the Board.

§ 18.841(b)(2)

In response to the comments received by BOC and IRRC, the Board amends \S 18.841(b)(2) to clarify educational requirements. Upon review of the comments received, the Board determined that the language the Board proposed related to certification requirements. For the sake of clarity and with the intent to track the act at section 13.5(a)(2)(iv) as it relates to the orthotic fitting education program, the Board amends § 18.841(b)(2), by deleting reference to "precertification education program whose credentialling is recognized by the ICE, accredited by the NCAA and approved by the Board." IRRC suggested that the amended language track the act; the Board agrees. Thus, this final-form rulemaking amends § 18.841(b)(2) to track section 13.5(a)(2)(iv) of the act, which requires successful completion of a Board-approved, entry-level education program specific to orthotic fitting care. The amendments in this final-form rulemaking allow the Board to continue to approve orthotic fitting education programs should new ones come before the Board while continuing to approve the existing ABC and BOC orthotic fitting education programs.

§ 18.841(d)

IRRC also suggested that the Board amend § 18.841(d) to clarify that an individual must fail the certification examination on at least three attempts before they can apply for a second permit after completing a second

approved precertification education program. The Board agrees with IRRC that amending § 18.841(d) to include "at least three times" adds clarity; therefore, the Board includes this phase in this final-form rulemaking. For consistency, the Board also amends subsection (d) to delete the proposed language referring to ICE and NCCA to mirror the language used in subsection (b)(2).

§ 18.842(b)

IRRC's final comment requests clarity on the meaning of "all facets" of orthotic fitting care. Facets of orthotic fitting care include the full scope of practice of orthotic fitting. To help clarify this, this final-form rulemaking amends the language in § 18.842(b) to read "and shall include all facets of the practice of orthotic fitting as defined in § 18.802 (relating to definition of orthotic fitting)." Orthotic fitting is defined as "the fitting, dispensing, and adjusting of prefabricated orthotic devices pursuant to a written prescription of a licensed prescribing practitioner." This amendment clarifies the scope of orthotic fitting care using an already existing definition that can be easily found and relied upon by the regulated community.

§ 18.843(b)

To keep consistency among all sections of the regulations relating to orthotic fitters, the Board amends § 18.843(b) consistent with the amendments in § 18.841(b)(2) and (d)(2) and changes the language relating to the education program to read, "a board-approved, entry-level education program specific to orthotic fitting."

Fiscal Impact

The amendments allow individuals to apply for a second temporary orthotic fitter practice permit. The application fee for the permit will remain unchanged at \$25. This final-form rulemaking will not have any other fiscal impact on licenses. Because the application fee was set to cover the cost of processing the application, it will not have a fiscal impact on the Board. There is no fiscal impact to government generally. Applicants who choose to apply for a second permit will be required to file an application; therefore, additional paperwork will be required for those applicants.

Sunset Date

The Board continuously monitors its regulations; therefore, no sunset date has been assigned.

Regulatory Review

Under section 5(a) of the Regulatory Review Act, 71 P.S. § 745.5(a), on December 22, 2020, the Board submitted the notice of proposed rulemaking, published at 51 Pa.B. 180 (January 9, 2021), to IRRC and to the Chairpersons of the HPLC and the SCP/PLC. Publication was followed by a 30-day public comment period during which the Board received four public comments.

Under section 5(c) of the Regulatory Review Act, IRRC, the HPLC and the SCP/PLC were provided with copies of the comments received during the public comment period, as well as other documents when requested. In preparing the final-form rulemaking, the Board has considered all comments from IRRC and the public. The HPLC and the SCP/PLC did not submit comments.

Under section 5.1(a) of the Regulatory Review Act (71 P.S. § 745.5a(a)), on October 5, 2022, the Board

delivered this final-form rulemaking to IRRC, the HPLC and the SCP/PLC. Under section 5.1(g)(3) and (j.2) of the Regulatory Review Act (71 P.S. § 745.5a(g)(3) and (j.2)), on November 16, 2022, the final-form rulemaking was deemed approved by the HPLC and the SCP/PLC. Under section 5.1(e) of the Regulatory Review Act, IRRC met on November 17, 2022, and approved the final-form rulemaking.

Additional information

Additional information may be obtained by writing to Jasmira Hunter, Board Administrator, State Board of Medicine, P.O. Box 2649, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649, ST-MEDICINE@pa.gov.

Findings

The State Board of Medicine finds that:

- (1) Public notice was given under sections 201 and 202 of the act of July 31, 1968 (P.L. 769, No. 240) (45 P.S. §§ 1201 and 1202), referred to as the Commonwealth Documents Law, and the regulations promulgated thereunder 1 Pa. Code §§ 7.1 and 7.2 (relating to notice of proposed rulemaking required; and adoption of regulations).
- (2) A public comment period was provided as required by law and all comments were considered in drafting this final-form rulemaking.
- (3) The amendments to this final-form rulemaking do not enlarge the original purpose for the proposed regulation published at 51 Pa.B. 180.
- (4) These amendments to the regulations of the State Board of Medicine are necessary and appropriate for the regulation of the practice of orthotic fitting in the Commonwealth.

Order

The Board, acting under its authorizing statute, orders that:

- (A) The regulations of the State Board of Medicine, 49 Pa. Code Chapter 18, are amended by amending §§ 18.841, 18.842 and 18.843 to read as set forth in Annex A.
- (B) The Board shall submit a copy of this final-form rulemaking to the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of General Counsel for approval as required by law.
- (C) The Board shall submit this final-form rulemaking to IRRC, the HPLC and the SCP/PLC as required by law.
- (D) The Board shall certify this final-form rulemaking and shall deposit it with the Legislative Reference Bureau as required by law.
- $({\rm E})$ This final-form rule making shall take effect immediately upon publication in the $Pennsylvania\ Bulletin.$

MARK B. WOODLAND, MS, MD, Chairperson

(*Editor's Note*: See 52 Pa.B. 7487 (December 3, 2022) for IRRC's approval order.)

Fiscal Note: Fiscal Note 16A-4947 remains valid for the final adoption of the subject regulations.

Annex A

TITLE 49. PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL STANDARDS

PART I. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Subpart A. PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

CHAPTER 18. STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE—PRACTITIONERS OTHER THAN MEDICAL DOCTORS

Subchapter L. PROSTHETISTS, ORTHOTISTS, PEDORTHISTS AND ORTHOTIC FITTERS

QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE AS AN ORTHOTIC FITTER

§ 18.841. Temporary practice permit.

- (a) Prior to providing orthotic fitting care, an individual shall obtain a temporary practice permit authorizing the individual to practice orthotic fitting as an orthotic fitter trainee. An individual shall submit an application for a temporary practice permit on forms made available by the Board. The Board may grant a temporary practice permit to an individual who submits a completed application including the necessary supporting documents, pays the application fee in § 16.13(q) (relating to licensure, certification, examination and registration fees) and meets the qualifications in subsection (b).
- (b) The Board may grant a temporary practice permit to an individual who:
 - (1) Is of good moral character.
- (2) Has successfully completed an ABC-approved or BOC-approved orthotic fitter precertification education program or other Board-approved, entry-level education program specific to orthotic fitting. An applicant shall demonstrate completion of an ABC-approved or BOC-approved orthotic fitter precertification education program or other Board-approved, entry-level education program specific to orthotic fitting by having the educational institution submit, directly to the Board, verification of completion.
- (c) The Board may deny an application for a temporary practice permit upon the grounds for disciplinary action in section 41 of the act (63 P.S. § 422.41), § 16.61 or § 18.853 (relating to unprofessional and immoral conduct) or other applicable law, such as 18 Pa.C.S. § 9124 (relating to use of records by licensing agencies).
- (d) A temporary practice permit is valid for a maximum of 18 months. An individual who has failed the certification examination at least three times and whose temporary practice permit has expired may apply for a second temporary practice permit after retaking one of the following:
- (1) ABC-approved or BOC-approved orthotic fitter precertification education program.
- (2) A Board-approved, entry-level education program specific to orthotic fitting.
- (e) The second temporary practice permit is valid for a maximum of 12 months. An individual may not receive a third or subsequent temporary practice permit.
- (f) An individual holding a temporary practice permit may use the title "orthotic fitter trainee" and shall inform patients that the individual is completing a training program and is not fully licensed.

§ 18.842. Orthotic fitting care experience.

- (a) An orthotic fitter trainee with a temporary practice permit shall practice only under the direct supervision of an orthotist or orthotic fitter licensed by the Board. For purposes of this section, "direct supervision" means the supervisor is available for consultation throughout the patient care process and is able to visually assess the care being provided. The supervisor shall review the results of care and the documentation of the services rendered by the orthotic fitter trainee and is responsible for countersigning within 15 days the entries in the patient's clinical record.
- (b) The orthotic fitting care experience shall be obtained subsequent to education and shall include all facets of the practice of orthotic fitting as defined in § 18.802 (relating to definitions).

§ 18.843. Orthotic fitter license.

(a) An applicant for a license to practice as an orthotic fitter shall submit, on forms made available by the Board, a completed application for licensure, including the neces-

- sary supporting documents, and pay the application fee in § 16.13(q) (relating to licensure, certification, examination and registration fees).
- (b) The Board may issue a license to practice as an orthotic fitter to an applicant who:
 - (1) Is of good moral character.
- (2) Has successfully completed an ABC-approved or BOC-approved orthotic fitter precertification education program or other Board-approved, entry-level education program specific to orthotic fitting. Unless previously submitted under § 18.841 (relating to temporary practice permit), an applicant shall demonstrate completion of an ABC-approved or BOC-approved orthotic fitter precertification education program or other Board-approved, entry-level education program specific to orthotic fitting by having the educational institution submit, directly to the Board, verification of completion.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 23-9. Filed for public inspection January 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m.]