

22 MRSA §256-A. Health care occupations report

Beginning in 2006, the Department of Labor, in conjunction with the Office of Health Data and Program Management's Office of Data, Research and Vital Statistics, shall compile and annually update a health care occupations report to be completed and presented to the health workforce forum established in section 257 by September 15th. The report must be posted on a publicly accessible site on the Internet maintained by the Department of Labor and provide the following information: [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

1. Listing. A listing of all health care occupations licensed, registered or certified under the authority of the boards listed in section 256-B, including: [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

A. A brief description of each occupation; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

B. Minimum education requirements; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

C. Schools in the State offering education in those health care occupations, including current enrollment and annual number of graduates; and [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

D. Average starting salary for each health care occupation listed; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

2. Future outlook. An analysis of trends and the current outlook in employment supply and demand, including implications for the state and health care industry; and [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

3. Financial aid. Financial aid available for education. [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).] PL 2005, Ch. 327, §2 (NEW).

§256-B. Collection of professional data

1. Voluntary surveys. All licensed, registered or certified persons, including all dependent practitioners, under the authority of the following boards must receive a voluntary survey with their licensure, registration or certification renewal beginning January 1, 2006: [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

A. Emergency Medical Services Board; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

B. Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

C. Board of Occupation Therapy Practice; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

D. Board of Examiners on Speech Pathology and Audiology; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

E. Maine Board of Pharmacy; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

F. State Board of Nursing; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

G. Board of Licensure in Medicine; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

H. Board of Osteopathic Licensure; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

I. Board of Examiners in Physical Therapy; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

J. Board of Respiratory Care Practitioners; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

K. Board of Licensing of Dietetic Practice; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

L. State Board of Social Worker Licensure; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

M. Board of Dental Examiners; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

N. State Board of Alcohol and Drug Counselors; and [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

O. State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

2. Information requested on survey. The voluntary surveys issued pursuant to subsection 1 must request the following information from persons seeking renewal of their licenses, registrations and certifications: [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

A. Home zip code; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

B. Business zip code; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

C. Birth year; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

D. Gender; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

E. Race; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

F. Current employment status: employed in a health care field, employed in another field, seeking health care employment, temporarily not working and not seeking work, retired or not intending to return to work, or some specified other status; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

G. Practice setting: a hospital, private practice, community clinic or nursing home; an academic, governmental or other institution; or some specified other setting; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

H. Field of licensure, registration or certification; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new).]

I. Specialty credential, if any; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new) .]

J. Whether the person plans to be working in health care 5 years from now; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new) .]

K. Basic and advanced education, degree earned and state where educated; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new) .]

L. Number of hours hired to work in the person's primary position per week, average hours worked per week, preferred number of hours per week and number of hours providing direct care per week; [2005, c. 327, §2 (new) .]

M. In addition to the person's primary position, number of hours worked per week for other health care employers, if any; and [2005, c. 327, §2 (new) .]

N. If not working in a health care occupation, the reasons: issues of wages or benefits, inability to find position desired, pursuit of education opportunities, pursuit of other career opportunity, retirement or some other specified reason. [2005, c. 327, §2 (new) .]

3. Submission of surveys. All surveys conducted pursuant to subsection 1 must be submitted to the Office of Health Data and Program Management's Office of Data, Research and Vital Statistics for analysis, and survey data from which personally identifiable information has been eliminated must be publicly available. [2005, c. 327, §2 (new) .]

4. Rulemaking. Rules adopted to implement this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. [2005, c. 327, §2 (new) .] PL 2005, Ch. 327, §2 (NEW) .

§257. Health workforce forum

The department shall convene at least once annually a health workforce forum to review the report developed under section 256 and discuss health care workforce issues. The forum must include representatives of health professionals, licensing boards, employers, health education programs and the Department of Labor. [2005, c. 327, §3 (amd) .]

1. Inventory. [2005, c. 327, §3 (rp) .]

2. Research. [2005, c. 327, §3 (rp) .]

The department shall use the information gathered through the forum to develop its health policy and planning decisions authorized under this Title and to make appropriate policy recommendations based on its analysis of the health care workforce. The department shall post its annual report and recommendations on a publicly accessible site on the Internet maintained by the department by December 31st of each year, beginning in 2006. [2005, c. 327, §3 (amd) .]