

**STATE BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS**

Chairman: Vincent L. Gingerich  
 William H. Adkins II  
 Ward B. Coe, Jr., Secretary  
 Mildred H. Pullen, Clerk to the Board  
 Raymond S. Smethurst, Jr., Special Assistant  
 Joseph A. Kenary, Special Assistant  
 Norman E. Burke, Special Assistant

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The Courts of the Province were first authorized to examine persons seeking to practice law in 1715 (Acts 1715, chap. 48, sec. 12). The examination of attorneys remained as a function of the several courts of the State until 1898, when the Legislature created the State Board of Law Examiners (Chapter 139, Acts of 1898). The Board is composed of three members appointed by the Judges of the Court of Appeals. Twice yearly, in the winter and summer, in the City of Baltimore, the Board conducts examinations for admission to the Bar. It also passes upon the petitions of attorneys from other states desiring admission. The Board passes upon appeals from the findings and recommendations of the Character Committees of the various circuits. Law students expecting to practice in Maryland must register their intentions with the Board. The Court of Appeals formulates the rules governing the Board, but the Board may prescribe rules for the conduct of examinations, providing such rules do not conflict with those made by the Court (Code 1957, Art. 10, secs. 2-8).

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|---------------------|----------|----------|
| Appropriations      | 1967     | 1968     |
| Special Funds ..... | \$52,584 | \$52,727 |
| Staff: None.        |          |          |

**BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF MARYLAND**

President: Walter C. Merkel, M.D., 1968  
 Vice President: Vernon H. Norwood, M.D., 1969  
 Secretary-Treasurer: Frank K. Norris, M.D., 1971  
 Karl F. Mech, M.D., 1968; Wilber R. Ellis, Jr., M.D., 1969; Elmer G. Linhardt, M.D., 1970; William L. Stewart, M.D., 1970; John H. Hornbaker, M.D., 1971.  
 Executive Secretary: Rose F. Barry

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The practice of Medicine was first regulated in Maryland by Chapter 429, Acts of 1888, which required that the State Board of Health license all physicians. By Chapter 296, Acts of 1892, the General Assembly created two Boards of Medical Examiners to carry on this function, one to represent the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty and the other the State Homeopathic Society. The Legislature of 1957 abolished the Homeopathic Board and the practice of medicine in Maryland is now regulated by one Board, composed of eight members elected from and by the members of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty (State Medical Society). Two members are elected each year to serve for four-year terms. All members must be in active practice in the State (Code 1957, 1965 Repl. Vol., Art. 43, secs. 119-149).

The Board tests and licenses physicians for the legal practice of medicine in this State and for certain causes may revoke the license of any physician. Candidates for licenses must be graduates of medical