

for examination shall be given by posters placed at each mine and local postoffice in or contiguous to coal mining territory throughout the State.

40. No applicant for a first-class certificate of competency shall be admitted to an examination until he has filed upon a form to be provided by the Bureau, a sworn statement as to all matters of fact establishing his right to receive the examination, a certificate of good character and temperate habits signed by at least ten residents of the community in which he lives, and the fee prescribed for the examination to be taken, together with the following particular qualifications shown:

(a) Applicants for first-class mine foreman certificate of competency shall produce evidence satisfactory to the Examining Board that they are citizens of Maryland, at least 24 years of age; and shall furnish a verified history of their experience in mining employment, showing in detail the several mines in which they have worked, their location, the particular occupations followed therein during a period of at least five years, and particularly their knowledge of gaseous mines and the extent of the experience therein; and shall pay an examination fee of five dollars to the State.

(b) Applicants for "permits of competency" shall produce evidence satisfactory to the Director of the Bureau of Mines that they are qualified by experience to take the examination for such permit. Such examination shall be given by the Director, or by a district inspector duly designated by said Director, and may be either oral or written at the discretion of the Director. If such examination is oral it shall be reduced to writing and filed among the records of the Bureau. The examination shall include practical mining questions relating to the operation of small mines including questions relating to ventilation and the methods of detecting noxious and explosive gases in mines. The applicant must by written or oral examination demonstrate to the Director or other person or persons conducting the examination that he is qualified to supervise the operation of a small mine. If the Director or inspector fails to qualify the applicant the applicant may sixty days after each unsuccessful examination request another examination and it shall be the duty of the Director to conduct such other examination as soon after the request is made as is practicable. If for any reason the applicant shall fail to qualify he may request the Examining Board to conduct an examination and said Board shall