

(b) *Any solicitor aggrieved by any decision of the State Superintendent hereunder, shall have the right to appeal said decision to the circuit court of the county or to the Baltimore City court, as the case may be, wherein said solicitor operates or proposes to operate.*

150. *Penalty.*

Any person violating the provisions of this chapter, or any of the rules and regulations promulgated hereunder, shall, upon conviction thereof be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500) for each such offense.

Chapter 14. *Fraudulent or Substandard Degrees*

151. *Declaration of policy.*

It is the policy of this State to prevent deception of the public resulting from the conferring and use of fraudulent or substandard degrees. Since degrees, diplomas and similar measures of academic achievement are constantly used by employers in judging the training of prospective employees; by public and private professional groups in determining qualifications for admission to and continuance of practice; and by the general public in assessing the extent of competence of persons engaged in a wide range of activities necessary to the general welfare, regulation by law of such evidences of academic achievement is in the public interest. To the same end, the protection of legitimate institutions and of those holding degrees from them is also in the public interest.

152. *Definitions.*

As used in this chapter:

(1) *"Degree-granting institution" means a school, academy, institute, junior college, college, university, or person or entity of whatever kind which furnished or offers to furnish instruction leading toward or prerequisite to an academic or professional degree beyond the secondary school level, and which requires that in order to obtain a degree or diploma the recipient thereof satisfactorily complete an appropriate course of class, laboratory, or research study in person under a faculty whose members hold appropriate academic degrees or an educational organization or entity qualifying to grant degrees under Section 155 of the chapter.*

(2) *"Degree" means any designation, mark, appellation, series of letters or words, or other symbol which signifies, purports or is generally taken to signify satisfactory completion of the requirements of an academic or professional program of study beyond the secondary school level.*

153. *Award of degrees.*

A degree or any object in evidence thereof may be awarded only by a degree-granting institution. Anything in this chapter to the contrary notwithstanding, a degree-granting institution may award honorary degrees; provided that any such degree be clearly represented to be honorary and that any diploma, certificate, or other tangible object issued or purporting to be in evidence thereof be clearly and conspicuously marked in a manner which will convey to the general public that the degree is honorary.