



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB3769

Introduced 2/5/2026, by Sen. Mattie Hunter

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Medical Assistant Practice Act. Provides that the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation shall issue credentials for Registered Medical Assistants (RMA-IL) and Licensed Medical Assistants (LMA-IL). Provides that an applicant for registration as a Registered Medical Assistant (RMA-IL) shall be at least 18 years of age; complete not less than one academic year of approved education; pass a Department-approved examination; and meet the requirements established by rule. Provides that an applicant for licensure as a Licensed Medical Assistant (LMA-IL) shall meet all requirements for registration as a RMA-IL; complete not less than 2 academic years of approved education; pass a Department-approved licensure examination; and meet the requirements established by rule. Sets forth provisions concerning examinations; education and training programs; transition; experienced-based education credit; renewal and continuing education; and rulemaking. Effective July 1, 2026.

LRB104 20677 AAS 34176 b

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Medical Assistant Practice Act.

6 Section 5. Findings. The General Assembly finds that:

7 (1) Medical Assistants perform essential clinical and
8 administrative functions within healthcare settings across
9 Illinois.

10 (2) Medical Assistants frequently engage in tasks that
11 directly affect patient safety and quality of care.

12 (3) Illinois currently lacks uniform education,
13 competency, and licensure standards for Medical Assistants.

14 (4) The absence of standardized requirements creates risks
15 to patient safety and inconsistent quality of care.

16 (5) Tiered credentialing tied to education and competency
17 promotes proportional regulation and workforce development.

18 (6) Establishing minimum standards for education,
19 curriculum, examination, and licensure serves the public
20 interest.

21 Section 10. Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to protect
22 the public health, safety, and welfare by establishing minimum

1 education, competency, registration, and licensure standards
2 for Medical Assistants practicing in the State of Illinois.

3 Section 15. Definitions.

4 "Academic year" means not fewer than 900 clock hours of
5 combined instruction and supervised clinical training, or the
6 equivalent, as determined by rule.

7 "Approved medical assistant education program" means a
8 program approved by the Department that provides didactic
9 instruction, supervised laboratory training, and supervised
10 clinical experience.

11 "Department" means the Department of Financial and
12 Professional Regulation.

13 "Licensed Medical Assistant (LMA-IL)" means an individual
14 licensed under this Act who has completed a minimum of 2
15 academic years of approved education and met licensure
16 examination requirements.

17 "Registered Medical Assistant (RMA-IL)" means an
18 individual registered under this Act who has completed a
19 minimum of one academic year of approved education and met
20 examination requirements.

21 Section 20. Credentials issued.

22 (a) The Department shall issue credentials for a:

23 (1) Registered Medical Assistant (RMA-IL); or

24 (2) Licensed Medical Assistant (LMA-IL).

1 (b) An applicant for registration as a Registered Medical
2 Assistant (RMA-IL) shall:

3 (1) be at least 18 years of age;

4 (2) complete not less than one academic year of
5 approved education;

6 (3) pass the examination required by Section 25; and

7 (4) meet the requirements established by rule.

8 (c) An applicant for licensure as a Licensed Medical
9 Assistant (LMA-IL) shall:

10 (1) meet all requirements for registration as a
11 RMA-IL;

12 (2) complete not less than 2 academic years of
13 approved education;

14 (3) pass the licensure examination required by Section
15 25; and

16 (4) meet the requirements established by rule.

17 (d) The Department shall establish an advancement pathway
18 from RMA-IL to LMA-IL.

19 Section 25. Examinations.

20 (a) Applicants shall pass a Department-approved
21 examination appropriate to the credential sought.

22 (b) Examinations may include a written knowledge component
23 and a practical or clinical competency component.

24 (c) The Department may approve multiple examinations and
25 contract for administration.

1 (d) Examination requirements may differ between
2 registration and licensure.

3 Section 30. Education and training programs.

4 (a) The Department shall approve medical assistant
5 education programs.

6 (b) Approved programs shall include didactic instruction,
7 supervised laboratory training, and supervised clinical
8 externship.

9 (c) Program length shall be at least one academic year for
10 RMA-IL and at least 2 academic years for LMA-IL.

11 (d) The Department may approve bridge or accelerated
12 programs meeting competency standards.

13 Section 35. Transition provisions; experience-based
14 education credit.

15 (a) All individuals seeking registration or licensure
16 under this Act shall be required to complete education and
17 pass the applicable examination.

18 (b) The Department shall establish by rule a system of
19 education credit for prior qualified Medical Assistant
20 experience.

21 (c) Applicants with at least 2 years of qualified
22 experience may receive up to 100 clock hours of education
23 credit per year of experience, not to exceed 500 clock hours
24 total.

1 (d) The Department shall approve specialized education
2 programs for experienced Medical Assistants to prepare for
3 examinations and allow expedited completion of remaining
4 education requirements.

5 (e) The Department shall determine experience
6 qualifications, documentation, credit limits, and transition
7 timelines by rule.

8 (f) Examination requirements shall not be waived.

9 Section 40. Renewal and continuing education. Credentials
10 shall be renewed biennially and require continuing education
11 as determined by rule.

12 Section 45. Rulemaking authority. The Department shall
13 adopt rules necessary to implement and administer this Act.

14 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
15 2026.