

PREAMBLE

The State Library Board has been given the responsibility and authority by the General Assembly, pursuant to 42.1-15.1 of the **Code of Virginia** for the establishment of qualifications of professional librarians in certain public libraries. The State Library Board hereby enacts the following regulations to implement and interpret its authority over public librarian qualifications. The regulations supersede all previous regulations on this subject enacted by this Board.

PART I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Issuing authority, individuals covered and exempt from regulations.

- 1.1 Professional Librarian's Certificates shall be issued by the State Library Board to any individual who has met the educational requirements for certification as set forth in these regulations. Librarians employed by the State Law Library or law libraries of counties or cities, libraries of colleges and universities, libraries of institutions, and school libraries are exempt.

PART II. CERTIFICATION PROCESS

Article 1. Certification by Endorsement.

- 2.1 A certificate shall be issued to an applicant who holds a current, valid certificate granted by another jurisdiction, providing that the standards for granting this certificate are comparable to those required for certification in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Article 2. Certification by Education.

- 2.2 A certificate shall be issued to an applicant who has earned a master's degree from a school of library or information science that had a program accredited by the American Library Association at the time the degree was awarded. A certificate shall be issued to an applicant who has earned a doctoral degree in library or information science from an accredited institution.

Article 3. Provisional Certificate.

- 2.3 A provisional letter of certification shall be issued to an applicant who has satisfactorily completed the required credits for a master's degree from a school of library or information science accredited by the American Library Association.

The provisional letter of certification grants the applicant a one-year period to submit proof of the receipt of an MLS degree.