

## TO BE RESCINDED

173-14-14                    **Staffing requirements and qualifications.**

- (A) Each regional program shall employ one paid full-time, or full-time equivalent, employee to serve as the program's ombudsman program director.

Each regional program shall maintain a staffing ratio of one paid full-time equivalent ombudsman to every two thousand long-term care facility beds.

Upon initial hiring, no candidate for certification as a representative of the office shall have an unremedied conflict of interest. The SLTCO and the regional programs shall develop procedures for their respective programs to screen potential candidates for representative of the office for conflicts of interest. If a sponsoring agency discovers a conflict of interest involving one of its candidates for certification, the sponsoring agency shall notify the SLTCO and shall apply for a waiver as specified in rule 173-14-15 of the Administrative Code. If the SLTCO discovers a conflict of interest involving one of the candidates for certification in the state program, he shall notify the director of the department of aging and shall apply for a waiver as specified in rule 173-14-15 of the Administrative Code.

- (B) To be a candidate for representative, the person shall be hired as a paid staff member or accepted as a volunteer staff member of a regional program or the state program. All persons hired or accepted as representatives shall be at least eighteen years of age and shall not have been convicted of a crime of violence or crime of trust. Applicants for paid staff positions must also undergo a criminal background check consistent with Chapter 173-41 of the Administrative Code. An applicant for a paid position may not be hired if the applicant has been convicted of or pled guilty to any of the offenses outlined in that chapter, subject to the exemptions also outlined in that chapter.

(1) Any person hired as an ombudsman program director or an ombudsman specialist after June 13, 1990, shall be at least a registered nurse or have earned a bachelor of science degree in nursing, or a bachelor of arts degree or a bachelor of science degree in social work, social services, a health-related field, or another related field. Any paid representative who does not meet this requirement may substitute commensurate experience and/or education to meet the education qualification.

(2) Any person hired as an ombudsman program director shall have one year's experience in supervision/management and the fields of aging, or long-term care, health care, social services, advocacy, or investigation.

(3) Any person hired or accepted as a representative shall have the ability to understand and empathize with the concerns of consumers of long-term care

services.

Effective:

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 10/06/2006

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Certification

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Date

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