

539-1-.18 Preliminary Decisions Regarding Prior Criminal Convictions or Disciplinary Actions.

(1) The Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 43-39A-14 provides in part that the Board may deny a classification to an applicant who has a prior criminal conviction(s) or a disciplinary action(s) imposed by any occupational licensing body. An applicant for classification is a person who has met all experience, education, and examination requirements for the classification sought.

(2) Because of the time and expense involved in becoming an applicant for classification, the Board affords an individual who has not yet become an applicant the opportunity to request that the Board make a preliminary decision on the conviction(s) or the prior disciplinary actions before the individual takes the required education and examination for classification. The purpose of a preliminary decision is merely to provide advisory guidance. Preliminary decisions are not binding. However, the Board may elect to allow a favorable preliminary decision to become its final decision without further investigation or hearing when the individual becomes an applicant for classification.

(3) An individual seeking a preliminary decision must submit to the Board a certified copy of any indictment and conviction or a disciplinary action imposed by another licensing regulatory authority. An individual seeking a preliminary decision may also provide the Board with any additional information that the individual believes may assist the Board in rendering a preliminary decision.