



CHAPTER 150B
ARTICLE 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

N.C.G.S. § 150B-2.

Definitions.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2025-34, s. 11 — twenty-eighth act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 03:27 UTC	edb7ac7b19f219d99c0c0c2f - c18ad58b5a1a8a131853fc01 - fa2b5633a278686e

As used in this Chapter, the following definitions apply:

Administrative law judge. - A person appointed under G.S. 7A-752, 7A-753, or 7A-757.

Adopt. - To take final action to create, amend, or repeal a rule.

Agency. - An agency or an officer in the executive branch of the government of this State. The term includes the Council of State, the Governor's Office, a board, a commission, a department, a division, a council, and any other unit of government in the executive branch. A local unit of government is not an agency.

Codifier of Rules. - The person appointed by the Chief Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings pursuant to G.S. 7A-760(b).

Commission. - The Rules Review Commission.

Contested case. - An administrative proceeding pursuant to this Chapter to resolve a dispute between an agency and another person that involves the person's rights, duties, or privileges, including licensing or the levy of a monetary penalty. The term does not include rulemaking, declaratory rulings, or the award or denial of a scholarship, a grant, or a loan.

Repealed by Session Laws 1991, c. 418, s. 3.

Hearing officer. - A person or group of persons designated by an agency that is subject to Article 3A of this Chapter to preside in a contested case hearing conducted under that Article.

License. - Any certificate, permit, or other evidence, by whatever name called, of a right or privilege to engage in any activity, except licenses issued under Chapter 20 and Subchapter I of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes, occupational licenses, and certifications of electronic poll books, ballot duplication systems, or voting systems under G.S. 163-165.7.

Licensing. - Any administrative action issuing, failing to issue, suspending, or revoking a license or occupational license. The term does not include controversies over whether an examination was fair or whether the applicant passed the examination.

Occupational license. - Any certificate, permit, or other evidence, by whatever name called, of a right or privilege to engage in a profession, occupation, or field of endeavor that is issued by an occupational licensing agency.

Occupational licensing agency. - Any board, commission, committee, or other agency of the State that is established for the primary purpose of regulating the entry of persons into, or the conduct of persons within a particular profession, occupation, or field of endeavor, and that is authorized to issue and revoke licenses. The term does not include State agencies or departments that may as only a part of their regular function issue permits or licenses.

Party. - Any person or agency named or admitted as a party or properly seeking as of right to be admitted as a party and includes the agency as appropriate.

Person. - Any natural person, partnership, corporation, body politic, and any unincorporated association, organization, or society that may sue or be sued under a common name.

Person aggrieved. - Any person or group of persons of common interest directly or indirectly affected substantially in his, her, or its person, property, or employment by an administrative decision.

Recodified as subdivision (5a) of this section by Session Laws 2021-88, s. 16(a), effective July 22, 2021.

Policy. - Any nonbinding interpretive statement within the delegated authority of an agency that merely defines, interprets, or explains the meaning of a statute or rule. The term includes any document issued by an agency that is intended and used purely to assist a person to comply with the law, such as a guidance document.

Residence. - Domicile or principal place of business.

Rule. - Any agency regulation, standard, or statement of general applicability that implements or interprets an enactment of the General Assembly or Congress or a regulation adopted by a federal agency or that describes the procedure or practice requirements of an agency. The term includes the establishment of a fee and the amendment or repeal of a prior rule. The term does not include the following:

a. Statements concerning only the internal management of an agency or group of agencies within the same principal office or department enumerated in G.S. 143A-11 or 143B-6, including policies and procedures manuals, if the statement does not directly or substantially affect the procedural or substantive rights or duties of a person not employed by the agency or group of agencies.

b. Budgets and budget policies and procedures issued by the Director of the Budget, by the head of a department, as defined by G.S. 143A-2 or G.S. 143B-3, or by an occupational licensing board, as defined by G.S. 93B-1.

c. Nonbinding interpretative statements within the delegated authority of an agency that merely define, interpret, or explain the meaning of a statute or rule.

d. A form, the contents or substantive requirements of which are prescribed by rule or statute.

e. Statements of agency policy made in the context of another proceeding, including:

1. Declaratory rulings under G.S. 150B-4.

2. Orders establishing or fixing rates or tariffs.

f. Requirements, communicated to the public by the use of signs or symbols, concerning the use of public roads, bridges, ferries, buildings, or facilities.

g. Statements that set forth criteria or guidelines to be used by the staff of an agency in performing audits, investigations, or inspections; in settling financial disputes or negotiating financial arrangements; or in the defense, prosecution, or settlement of cases.

h. Scientific, architectural, or engineering standards, forms, or procedures, including design criteria and construction standards used to construct or maintain highways, bridges, or ferries.

i. Job classification standards, job qualifications, salaries, and policies established for State and local government positions under the jurisdiction of the State Human Resources Commission, so long as those standards, qualifications, salaries, and policies directly affect only applicants for employment, current employees, or the resolution of matters related to past employment.

j. Establishment of the interest rate that applies to tax assessments under G.S. 105-241.21.

k. The State Medical Facilities Plan, if the Plan has been prepared with public notice and hearing as provided in G.S. 131E-176(25), reviewed by the Commission for compliance with G.S. 131E-176(25), and approved by the Governor.

l. Standards adopted by the State Chief Information Officer and applied to information technology as defined in G.S. 143B-1320.

m. Determinations by the Department of Environmental Quality of high hazards pursuant to G.S. 130A-330.

Repealed by Session Laws 2011-398, s. 61.2, effective July 25, 2011.

Substantial evidence. - Relevant evidence a reasonable mind might accept as adequate to support a conclusion.

Repealed by Session Laws 1991, c. 418, s. 3.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
28 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.



TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT

№	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1973	c. 1331, s. 1	ENACTED
02	1975	2nd Sess., c. 983, ss. 61, 62	AMENDED
03	1977	c. 915, s. 5	AMENDED
04	1983	c. 641, s. 1	AMENDED
05	1985	c. 746, s. 1	AMENDED
06	1985	1985 (Reg. Sess., 1986), c. 1022, s. 1(2)-1(5)	AMENDED
07	1987	c. 878, ss. 1, 2, 21	AMENDED
08	1987	1987 (Reg. Sess., 1988), c. 1111, s. 17	AMENDED
09	1991	c. 418, s. 3	AMENDED
10	1991	c. 477, ss. 3.1, 3.2, 9	AMENDED
11	1995	c. 390, s. 29	AMENDED
12	1996	2nd Ex. Sess., c. 18, s. 7.10(g)	AMENDED
13	1997	S.L. 1997-456, s. 27	AMENDED
14	2003	S.L. 2003-229, s. 12	AMENDED
15	2007	S.L. 2007-491, s. 44(1)b	AMENDED
16	2011	S.L. 2011-13, s. 2	AMENDED
17	2011	S.L. 2011-398, ss. 15, 61.2	AMENDED
18	2013	S.L. 2013-188, s. 7	AMENDED
19	2013	S.L. 2013-382, s. 9.1(c)	AMENDED
20	2013	S.L. 2013-413, s. 1	AMENDED
21	2015	S.L. 2015-2, s. 2.2(c)	AMENDED

22	2015	S.L. 2015-241, ss. 7A.3, 30.16(a)	AMENDED
23	2017	S.L. 2017-6, s. 3	AMENDED
24	2018	S.L. 2018-13, s. 3.8(b)	AMENDED
25	2018	S.L. 2018-146, ss. 3.1(a), (b), 4.5(b)	AMENDED
26	2021	S.L. 2021-88, s. 16(a), (b)	AMENDED
27	2024	S.L. 2024-49, s. 1.1(b)	AMENDED
28	2025	S.L. 2025-34, s. 11	AMENDED

APPARATUS II
12 AUTHORITIES

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 7A-752	(null)(1)	"judge. - A person appointed under"
G.S. 7A-760(b)	(null)(1c)	"Office of Administrative Hearings pursuant to"
G.S. 163-165.7	(null)(3)	"duplication systems, or voting systems under"
G.S. 143A-11		"principal office or department enumerated in"
G.S. 143A-2		"of a department, as defined by"
G.S. 143B-3		"as defined by G.S. 143A-2 or"
G.S. 93B-1		"occupational licensing board, as defined by"
G.S. 150B-4		"1. Declaratory rulings under"
G.S. 105-241.21		"that applies to tax assessments under"
G.S. 131E-176(25)		"notice and hearing as provided in"
G.S. 143B-1320		"to information technology as defined in"
G.S. 130A-330		"Quality of high hazards pursuant to"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-2 (2025).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

Provenance

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This is not the official text. The official text is published by the General Assembly of North Carolina.

HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1973, c. 1331, s. 1; 1975, 2nd Sess., c. 983, ss. 61, 62; 1977, c. 915, s. 5; 1983, c. 641, s. 1; 1985, c. 746, s. 1; 1985 (Reg. Sess., 1986), c. 1022, s. 1(2)-1(5); 1987, c. 878, ss. 1, 2, 21; 1987 (Reg. Sess., 1988), c. 1111, s. 17; 1991, c. 418, s. 3; c. 477, ss. 3.1, 3.2, 9; 1995, c. 390, s. 29; 1996, 2nd Ex. Sess., c. 18, s. 7.10(g); 1997-456, s. 27; 2003-229, s. 12; 2007-491, s. 44(1)b; 2011-13, s. 2; 2011-398, ss. 15, 61.2; 2013-188, s. 7; 2013-382, s. 9.1(c); 2013-413, s. 1; 2015-2, s. 2.2(c); 2015-241, ss. 7A.3, 30.16(a); 2017-6, s. 3; 2018-13, s. 3.8(b); 2018-146, ss. 3.1(a), (b), 4.5(b); 2021-88, s. 16(a), (b); 2024-49, s. 1.1(b); 2025-34, s. 11.)

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