§ 2896-c. Qualifications of applicants for licensure. 1. An applicant shall be eligible for a license as provided in this article upon payment to the department of an application fee of forty dollars and the submission of satisfactory evidence, verified by oath or affirmation, that the applicant:

(a) is at least twenty-one years of age;

(b) is of good moral character and suitability;

(c) has successfully completed a four-year course of study in a secondary school approved by the board of regents or been issued a certificate of equivalency; and

(d) has satisfactorily completed a course of study in the field of institutional administration approved by the board or in a school licensed by the state department of education as maintaining a satisfactory standard, or an equivalent combination of instruction, training or experience as determined by the board, or the equivalent of such a course of study in a college as determined by the state department of education; and

(e) has passed an examination as specified in section two thousand eight hundred ninety-six-d of this title.

2. An applicant who is denied licensure only because of his failure to meet the requirements of paragraphs (c) and (d) of subdivision one of this section may petition the board for reconsideration and may be licensed provided that he possesses educational qualifications or experience in nursing home administration which are at least the equivalent of the satisfactory completion of an approved course of study, and such extended practical experience in nursing home administration or in a related health administration activity as may be acceptable to the board.