

Bridge Year Graduate Physician—a person possessing a doctor of medicine (allopathic/M.D.), doctor of osteopathy or doctor of osteopathic medicine degree (osteopathic/D.O.) or an equivalent degree duly awarded by a medical or osteopathic educational institution approved by the board pursuant to §§333 to 341 of this Chapter who meets the requirements and qualifications provided in §§311 et seq., and who holds a certificate to practice under the direct supervision of a board-certified physician as provided in these rules.

* * *

Training Physician—a board-certified physician who meets and maintains the requirements to serve as a preceptor for physicians practicing under a bridge year graduate physician certificate.

* * *

B. Masculine terms wheresoever used in this Chapter shall also be deemed to include the feminine.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1270, 37:1271 and 37:1274.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 10:908 (November 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 16:513 (June 1990), LR 27:835 (June 2001), LR 31:1582 (July 2005), LR 38:3173 (December 2012), amended by the Department of Health, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 51:797 (June 2025), amended by the Department of Health, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 51:1162 (August 2025).

Subchapter H. Restricted Licensure, Permits

§398. Bridge Year Graduate Physician Program

A. A graduate of an accredited school of medicine or osteopathy who applied to, but was not accepted into, an accredited medical residency training program for the first year following medical school graduation, may apply for a bridge year graduate physician certificate.

1. A physician practicing under a bridge year graduate physician certificate shall practice in training for one post-graduate year under the direct supervision of a board-certified physician who has completed training required by the board to be a training physician and who maintains such training at intervals required by the board.

2. The training physician shall practice in the same or an adjacent facility and shall formally review and co-sign the work of the bridge year physician.

3. A physician practicing under a bridge year graduate physician certificate shall have prescriptive authority in accordance with state and federal law and board rules, as authorized and supervised by the training physician.

4. The training physician shall issue a report at the end of the bridge year indicating the scope and breadth of the practice of the participating bridge year graduate physician and the instruction and training given to the bridge year graduate physician. The training physician's report shall contain a statement as to whether or not the bridge year graduate physician would be recommended for a residency position upon reapplication.

5. A bridge year graduate physician certificate shall be valid for one year and may be renewed for no more than two additional one-year periods upon application to, and discretion of, the board.

B. The board shall select the participants for the bridge year graduate physician program and has the authority to

accept or reject any applicant. If the number of applicants exceeds the available number of training physicians or training locations, preference may be given to applicants desiring to practice in underserved areas, in primary care or internal medicine, to Louisiana residents, or to graduates of Louisiana medical schools.

C. The board may suspend, terminate, or revoke a bridge year graduate physician certificate prior to the expiration of one year for any reason provided by law or board rule for the termination of licenses, permits, registrations, or certificates issued by the board.

D. A bridge year graduate physician certificate shall not confer any future right to full, unrestricted licensure.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1270, 37:1275, 37:1310.11 and 1310.12.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 51:1163 (August 2025).

Vincent A. Culotta, Jr., M.D.
Executive Director

2508#011

RULE

Department of Health Board of Medical Examiners

Physicians; Retired Physician License
(LAC 46:XLV.417, 418, 435, and 447)

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., and pursuant to the authority vested in the Board of Medical Examiners (the board) by the Louisiana Medical Practice Act., R.S. 37:1270 et seq., the board amends its rules on licensure and certification to add a new §417(D) to provide for a retired physician license and to establish criteria therefor; amends §418C relative to reduced fee licenses and to add a new D creating a reduced fee license for retired physicians; amends §435 to require 10 hours of continuing medical education (CME) for physicians holding a retired physician license under §417(D); and amends §447 relative to exceptions to CME requirements, amends relative to active military service outside the state of Louisiana; amends to specify full CME after initial exemption year for those initially licensed on basis of examination; and amends to change wording from “retired physician” to one holding a “reduced fee license” under §418. This Rule is hereby adopted on the day of promulgation.

Title 46

PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS

Part XLV. Medical Professions

Subpart 2. Licensure and Certification

Chapter 3. Physicians

Subchapter I. License Issuance, Termination, Renewal, Reinstatement and Exemptions

§417. Renewal of License; Prerequisite Condition

A. Every license issued by the board under this Chapter shall be renewed annually on or before the first day of the month in which the licensee was born, by submitting to the board a properly completed application for renewal, upon forms supplied by the board, together with the renewal fees

prescribed in these rules and the Medical Practice Act, and documentation of satisfaction of the continuing medical education requirements prescribed by Subchapter K of these rules.

B. A courtesy renewal notice shall be mailed or electronically transmitted by the board to each person holding a license issued under this Chapter at least 30 days prior to the expiration of the license each year. Such form shall be transmitted to the most recent address of the licensee reflected in the official records of the board.

C. Initial application for renewal of a license, issued on the basis of a commitment for year two of postgraduate clinical training under §311.A.6.b shall, as a prerequisite to renewal consideration, be accompanied by documentation satisfactory to the board of the completion of year two of such training.

D. Retired Physician License

1. A physician may opt for a “Retired Physician License” at the time of renewal if the physician holds an unrestricted license to practice medicine issued by the board and who has, prior to the first day of the year for which such renewal will be effective:

- a. attained the age of 70 years;
- b. attests that he or she will limit his or her practice to volunteer services without payment, pecuniary gain, compensation, or remuneration of any kind;
- c. attests that he or she will limit his or her practice to:

- i. providing services to family or personal acquaintances;
- ii. for no more than 20 hours per week, providing services at volunteer or charity clinics; or
- iii. providing services through a foreign volunteer or charity medical mission program;
- d. made application to the board for a retired physician license renewal pursuant to this Section, including the required attestations, and consenting to the revocation of any license renewed pursuant to this Section upon a finding by the board that the licensee, following issuance of licensure renewal pursuant to this Section, failed to confine his or her practice to the parameters stated herein.

2. A physician whose medical license is renewed pursuant to this Section shall not engage or seek to engage in the full time, unrestricted practice of medicine, whether compensated or not, without having made application for an unrestricted standard medical license and having met all of the requirements for such license.

3. A physician whose medical license is renewed pursuant to this Section is subject to all state and federal laws and rules governing the practice of medicine in this state, and all of the licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary rules and requirements of the board as applicable to a full, unrestricted license, unless specifically noted in these rules.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1270, 37:1270(A)(8), 37:1271, 37:1272, 37:1274, 37:1275.1, 37:1280 and 37:1281.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 10:914 (November 1984), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 16:523 (June 1990), LR 24:1500 (August 1998), LR 26:695 (April 2000), LR

27:848 (June 2001), amended by the Department of Health, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 44:587 (March 2018), LR 47:728 (June 2021), LR 51:1163 (August 2025).

§418. Reduced Renewal Fees for Certain Physicians

A. The fee otherwise required for annual renewal of licensure will be reduced by one-half in favor of a physician who holds an unrestricted license to practice medicine issued by the board and who has, prior to the first day of the year for which such renewal will be effective:

1. attained the age of 70 years;
2. voluntarily surrendered to the issuing authorities his or her state license and federal registration to prescribe, dispense, or administer controlled substances; and
3. made application to the board for such reduced licensure renewal fee, upon a form supplied by the board, verifying the conditions requisite to such reduced fee and consenting to revocation of any license renewed pursuant to this Section upon a finding by the board that the licensee, following issuance of licensure renewal pursuant to this Section, continued to hold, obtained, or sought to obtain state licensure or federal registration to prescribe, dispense, or administer controlled substances.

B. The fee otherwise required for annual renewal of licensure will be reduced by one-half in favor of a physician who holds an unrestricted license to practice medicine issued by the board and who has, prior to the first day of the year for which such renewal will be effective:

1. ceased to engage in the practice of medicine in any form in this state as a consequence of physical or mental disability;
2. voluntarily surrendered to the issuing authorities his or her state license and federal registration to prescribe, dispense, or administer controlled substances; and
3. made application to the board for such reduced licensure renewal fee, upon a form supplied by the board, verifying the conditions requisite to such reduced fee, including independent physician verification of the applicant's physical or mental disability, and consenting to revocation of any license renewed pursuant to this Section upon a finding by the board that the licensee, following issuance of licensure renewal pursuant to this Section, engaged or sought to engage in any manner in the practice of medicine in this state or continued to hold, obtained, or sought to obtain state licensure or federal registration to prescribe, dispense, or administer controlled substances.

C. A physician whose medical license is renewed pursuant to Sub-Sections A. and B. above shall not thereafter engage or seek to engage in the active practice of medicine in this state or to prescribe, dispense, or administer controlled substances or other prescription medications except upon prior application to and approval by the board, which, in its discretion, as a condition to reinstatement of full licensure, may require that:

1. the physician take and successfully pass all or a designated portion of the USMLE, COMLEX-USA, SPEX, or COMVEX-USA examination; and/or
2. the physician provide medical documentation satisfactory to the board that the physician is then physically and mentally capable of practicing medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients.

D. The fee otherwise required for annual renewal of licensure will be reduced by one-half in favor of a physician who holds a retired physician license to practice medicine issued by the board pursuant to §418D.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1270, 37:1280 and 37:1281.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 16:523 (June 1990), amended LR 27:848 (June 2001), LR 31:1584 (July 2005), LR 51:1164 (August 2025).

Subchapter K. Continuing Medical Education

§435. Continuing Medical Educational Requirement

A. Subject to the waiver of and exceptions to CME prescribed by §§445 and 447 and the special requirements attendant to initial renewal of licensure specified in §449, every physician seeking the renewal or reinstatement of licensure, except for a physician seeking a retired physician license renewal pursuant to §417.D, shall annually evidence and document, in a manner specified by the board, the successful completion of not less than 20 hours of board approved CME. A physician seeking a retired physician license renewal pursuant to §417.D shall annually evidence and document, in a manner specified by the board, the successful completion of not less than 10 hours of board approved CME.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1270 and 37:1270(A)(8).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 26:695 (April 2000), amended by the Department of Health, Board of Medical Examiners LR 47:731 (June 2021), LR 51:1165 (August 2025).

§447. Exceptions to the Continuing Medical Education Requirements

A. Except as provided in §449, the CME requirements prescribed by this Subchapter prerequisite to renewal or reinstatement of licensure shall not be applicable to a physician:

1. engaged in active military service longer than one year's duration outside of Louisiana;
2. who has held an initial Louisiana license on the basis of examination for less than one year; full compliance is required beginning with the first renewal after the initial exemption renewal year;
3. who has within the past year been certified or recertified by a member board of the American Board of Medical Specialties or a specialty board recognized by the AOA;
4. who is in a residency training program approved by the board; or
5. who holds a reduced fee license in accordance with §418 of these rules.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1270 and 37:1270(A)(8).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 26:697 (April 2000), amended LR 31:1585 (July 2005), amended by the Department of Health, Board of Medical Examiners LR 47:732 (June 2021), LR 51:1165 (August 2025).

Vincent A. Culotta, Jr., M.D.
Executive Director

2508#002

RULE

Department of Health Health Standards Section

Nursing Facilities—Licensing Standards (LAC 48:I.9701 and 9759)

The Department of Health, Health Standards Section (the department) has amended LAC 48:I.9701 and §9759 as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.2. This Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

The department has amended the provisions governing the licensing of a nursing facilities (NF) in order to require NFs to access the certified nurse aide (CNA) registry and the Louisiana adverse actions list, prior to hire and then monthly thereafter to ensure that a prospective hire or currently employed or contracted CNA does not have a finding. This Rule is hereby adopted on the day of promulgation.

Title 48

PUBLIC HEALTH—GENERAL

Part I. General Administration

Subpart 3. Licensing and Certification

Chapter 97. Nursing Facilities

Subchapter A. General Provisions

§9701. Definitions

Direct Service Worker Registry—the Louisiana adverse actions list maintained by the department, or its designee, of unlicensed persons who have a finding placed against them of abuse, neglect, misappropriation, exploitation, or extortion while employed, or contracted as a direct service worker (DSW) at a licensed healthcare facility or entity, who is ineligible to be employed, contracted, or continue to be employed or contracted as a DSW.

Louisiana Adverse Actions List—the adverse actions database, or its successor, maintained by the department or its designee, containing all individuals or providers who are sanctioned, which may include exclusions or for-cause terminations through LDH.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and 40:2009.1-2009.44.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 42:1891 (November 2016), amended LR 46:1393 (October 2020), LR 49:1075 (June 2023), amended by the Department of Health, Health Standards Section, LR 51:402 (March 2025), amended by the Department of Health, Health Standards Section, LR 51:1165 (August 2025).

Subchapter B. Organization and General Services

§9759 Criminal History Provisions and Screening

A. ...

B. Prior to hire and then monthly thereafter, the nursing facility (NF) shall access the Louisiana certified nurse aide registry (LCNAR), the Louisiana adverse actions list, and the Office of Inspector General's (OIG) list of excluded individuals and entities (LEIE) to determine if there is a finding that a prospective hire or currently employed or