

1. the stability of the family.
2. the authority and rights of parents regarding the education and supervision of their children.
3. the functioning of the family.
4. family earnings and family budget.
5. the behavior and personal responsibility of children.
6. the ability of the family or local government to perform this function.

Poverty Impact Statement

The proposed amendments to LAC 58: 2101 and 2103 should have no impact on poverty as described in R.S. 49:973.

Small Business Analysis

The proposed amended Rules should have no adverse impact on small businesses as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Provider Impact Statement

The proposed Rules are not anticipated to have any impact on providers of services funded by the state as described in HCR 170 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session.

Public Comments

Any interested person may submit written comments regarding the content of this proposed Rule to Thomas Meagher, Secretary-Treasurer of the Fund, 5710 General Haig, New Orleans, Louisiana, before 5 p.m., on December 10, 2025.

Thomas Meagher
Secretary-Treasurer

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RULE TITLE: Retirement

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (Summary)

The proposed rule is not anticipated to result in any costs or savings for the New Orleans Firefighter Pension and Relief Fund (Board).

In order to comply with newly enacted federal law, Public Law 119-21, the Board proposes to amend Title 58 (Retirement) of the Louisiana Administrative Code, Part V, Chapter 1 (Qualified Domestic Relations Orders), Chapter 3 (Procedural Rules and Regulations of the Board of Trustees), Chapter 5 (Direct Rollovers), Chapter 7 (Partial Buy Back and Partial Restoration of Forfeited Credits of Service), Chapter 9 (Death Benefits), Chapter 11 (Calculation of Benefits), Chapter 13 (Service Credit), Chapter 15 (Deferred Retirement Option Plan), Chapter 17 (Election Rules), Chapter 19 (Partial Lump-Sum Option Payment), Chapter 20 (Tax Qualification Provisions), and Chapter 21 (Procedural Rules and Regulations of the Board of Trustees). The proposed rule reorganizes all chapters within Part V of Chapter 58 to eliminate redundant and outdated language, and to simplify and align the language with current practice.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

There is no anticipated effect on revenue collections of state or local governmental units.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

There are no anticipated costs or economic benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

Implementation of this proposed rule is not anticipated to have an effect on competition and employment.

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NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Health Board of Optometry Examiners

Continuing Education (LAC 46:LI.301)

The Board of Optometry Examiners proposes to amend LAC 46:LI Section 301, Continuing Education, in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 950 et seq., and the Optometry Practice Act, R.S. 37:1041-1068. The proposed amendment is in response to Act 194 of the 2023 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, which changed the continuing education criteria for licensed optometrists. The purpose of the amendment is to align the board's continuing education rule with RS 37:1056 and to provide definitions for in-person and online continuing education.

Title 46

PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS

Part LI. Optometrists

Chapter 3. License

§301. Continuing Education

A. Definitions

In-Person Classroom Setting—The course instructor and learners are physically present at the same location with live, real-time interaction.

Online Education Source(s)—The course instructor and learner are not together at the same time and at the same location, have no real-time communication, and the content is learner-paced.

B. Each licensed optometrist shall comply with the following continuing education requirements.

1. Standard optometry license holders and diagnostic pharmaceutical certificate holders shall complete between January 1 and December 31 of each calendar year at least 12 hours of continuing education courses, of which a maximum of six hours may be obtained from approved online sources.

2. License holders authorized to diagnose and treat pathology and use and prescribe therapeutic pharmaceutical agents shall complete between January 1 and December 31 of each calendar year at least 16 hours of continuing education courses. A minimum of eight of these 16 hours shall pertain to ocular and systemic pharmacology and/or current diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease and shall be obtained only through an in-person classroom setting. The remaining eight hours may pertain to general optometry topics such as contact lenses, and up to six of these eight hours may be obtained from approved online education sources. Practice management courses will not qualify for any of the 16 hours toward re-licensure, regardless of whether they are taken in an in-person classroom setting or through online education

sources. Additionally, for those holding a controlled dangerous substance license for the State of Louisiana and who are satisfying the one-time, 3-hour continuing education requirement for a Louisiana controlled dangerous substances license set forth in LAC 46:LI.303, those one-time continuing education requirement hours shall all count toward their required annual continuing education in the calendar year in which they are obtained, whether from an online education source or through an in-person classroom setting. The preceding shall not apply to any federally mandated education, such as that set forth by the DEA. Such certificate holders will be entitled to apply the CPR/BLS continuing education to their required annual continuing education, provided that such CPR/BLS continuing education shall not count toward the required eight in-person classroom setting hours related to ocular and system pharmacology and current diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease, and provided further that no more than two hours of CPR/BLS continuing education may be applied to the continuing education requirement in any two calendar years.

3. No licensee shall obtain more than six hours per year from approved online education sources.

4. The continuing education required by this Section 301 shall be obtained, whether through an in-person classroom setting or through an approved online education source, through any continuing education program that satisfies at least one of the following criteria:

a. offered by a nationally recognized optometric association;

b. offered by a state affiliate of a nationally recognized optometric association or a regional council composed of state affiliates of a nationally recognized optometric association;

c. offered by a school or college of optometry accredited by the American Optometric Association Accreditation Council on Optometric Education; or

d. accredited by a nationally recognized organization, such as but not limited to the Council on Optometric Practitioner Education, the American Optometric Association, or the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education.

5. The board reserves the right in its discretion to disallow any continuing education source or course that is commercially biased or that has as a principal purpose or content the marketing of optometric supplies, drugs or equipment.

6. The board further reserves the right in its discretion to disallow any continuing education source or course.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1048.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health, Board of Optometry Examiners, LR 32:631 (April 2006), amended LR 35:1111 (June 2009), LR 38:1590 (July 2012), LR 44:1248 (July 2018), LR 46:23 (January 2020), LR 52:

Family Impact Statement

In accordance with Section 953 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a family impact statement on the Rule proposed for amendment. The following statements will be published in the Louisiana Register with the proposed agency Rule.

1. The Effect on the Stability of the Family. The proposed Rule change will have no effect on the stability of the family.

2. The Effect on the Authority and Rights of Parents Regarding the Education and Supervision of their Children. The proposed Rule change will have no effect on the authority and rights of parents regarding the education and supervision of their children.

3. The Effect on the Functioning of the Family. The proposed Rule change will have no effect on the functioning of the family.

4. The Effect on Family Earnings and Family Budget. The proposed Rule change will have no effect on family earnings and family budget.

5. The Effect on the Behavior and Personal Responsibility of Children. The proposed Rule change will have no effect on the behavior and personal responsibility of children.

6. The Ability of the Family or a Local Government to Perform the Function as Contained in the Proposed Rule. The proposed change will have no effect on the ability of the family or a local government to perform the activity as contained in the proposed Rule.

Poverty Impact Statement

In accordance with Section 973 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a poverty impact statement on the Rule proposed for amendment.

1. The Effect on Household Income, Assets, and Financial Security. The proposed Rule changes will have no effect on household income, assets, or financial security.

2. The Effect on Early Childhood Development and Preschool through Postsecondary Education Development. The proposed Rule changes will have no effect on early childhood development or preschool through postsecondary education development.

3. The Effect on Employment and Workforce Development. The proposed Rule changes will have no effect on employment and workforce development.

4. The Effect on Taxes and Tax Credits. The proposed Rule changes will have no effect on taxes or tax credits.

5. The Effect on Child and Dependent Care, Housing, Health Care, Nutrition, Transportation, and Utilities Assistance. The proposed Rule changes will have no effect on child and dependent care, housing, health care, nutrition, transportation, or utilities assistance.

Small Business Analysis

In accordance with Section 965 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a regulatory flexibility analysis on the Rule proposed for amendment. This will certify the agency has considered, without limitation, each of the following methods of reducing the impact of the proposed Rule on small businesses:

1. The Establishment of Less Stringent Compliance or Reporting Requirements for Small Businesses. The proposed Rule changes will have no effect on reporting requirements for small business.

2. The Establishment of Less Stringent Schedules or Deadlines for Compliance or Reporting Requirements for Small Businesses. The proposed Rule changes will have no effect on schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small business.

3. The Consolidation or Simplification of Compliance or Reporting Requirements for Small Businesses. The proposed Rule changes will have no effect on consolidation

or simplification of compliance or reporting requirements for small business.

4. The Establishment of Performance Standards for Small Businesses to Replace Design or Operational Standards Required in the proposed Rule. The proposed Rule changes will have no effect on establishment of performance standards for small businesses to replace design or operational standards for small business.

5. The Exemption of Small Businesses from All or Any Part of the Requirements Contained in the proposed Rule. There are no exemptions for small businesses in the proposed Rule changes.

Provider Impact Statement

In accordance with House Concurrent Resolution No. 170 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session, there is hereby submitted a provider impact statement on the Rule proposed for amendment. This will certify the agency has considered, without limitation, the following effects on the providers of services to individuals with developmental disabilities:

1. The effect on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service. The proposed Rule changes will have no effect on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service.

2. The Total Direct and Indirect Effect on the Cost to the Provider to Provide the Same Level of Service. The proposed Rule changes may increase the cost to the provider to provide the same level of service if the provider is currently engaged in centralized prescription dispensing and is delivering prescription medication to the on-site pharmacy without proper safeguards in place to ensure the integrity of the medication. The amount of this increase is variable and indeterminate.

3. The Overall Effect on the Ability of the Provider to Provide the Same Level of service. The proposed Rule changes will have no impact on the ability of the provider to provide the same level of service.

Public Comments

All interested persons may submit written comments, Anna Cahill, Executive Director, Louisiana State Board of Optometry Examiners, 1111 Medical Center Blvd, S-670, Marrero, LA 70071 or lsboe@yahoo.com. The deadline for receipt of all written comments is 12 p.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2025. To request reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, please call the board office at (318) 335-2989.

Anna Marie Cahill
Executive Director

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RULE TITLE: Continuing Education

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (Summary)

Other than the cost of rulemaking, there are no estimated implementation costs or savings for state or local government units resulting from the promulgation of the proposed rule changes. The cost for the Louisiana State Board of Optometry Examiners is approximately \$640 in FY 26 for the notice and rule publication in the *Louisiana Register*.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

The proposed rule changes are not anticipated to impact revenue collections of state or local governmental units.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

The proposed rule changes benefit licensed optometrists by providing greater flexibility in how continuing education requirements may be satisfied. Allowing up to six hours of coursework from approved online sources may reduce travel and registration costs for licensees. In addition, the updated list of acceptable educational providers broadens the range of qualifying programs, making compliance more accessible and convenient.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

The proposed rule changes will have no effect on competition or employment.

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2511#061

Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer
Legislative Fiscal Office

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Health Board of Practical Nurse Examiners

Employment of Practical Nursing Students and Unsuccessful Candidates on the NCLEX-PN (LAC 46:XLVII.1706)

The Board of Practical Nurse Examiners proposes to add LAC 46:XLVII Section 1706, in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 950 et seq., and the Practical Nursing Practice Act, R.S. 37:961-979.

The purpose of the proposed Rule is to allow practical nursing students and practical nursing graduates who are within 12 months of their practical nursing program completion date and have been unsuccessful on the NCLEX-PN examination to be employed in nursing settings and to perform procedures and/or tasks for which they have been educated and certified as competent by their practical nursing program and/or by graduation from an LSBPNE approved practical nursing program.

Title 46 PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS

Part XLVII. Nurses: Practical Nurses and Registered Nurses

Subpart 1. Practical Nurses

Chapter 17. Licensure

§1706. Employment of Practical Nursing Students and Unsuccessful Candidates on the NCLEX-PN

A. Practical nursing students and unsuccessful candidates on the NCLEX-PN licensing examination employed in nursing settings may be employed as unlicensed persons and perform procedures and/or tasks for which they have been educated and cleared by their practical nursing program and/or by graduation from a board approved practical nursing program.

B. To assist these individuals to be employed in an acceptable position whereby they contribute to patient care and yet do not jeopardize the welfare of the patient nor legally