

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Health Board of Pharmacy

Practitioner CDS License (LAC 46:LIII.2705)

In accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (R.S. 49:950 et seq.) and the Pharmacy Practice Act (R.S. 37:1161 et seq.), the Board of Pharmacy hereby gives notice of its intent to amend §2705 of its rules relative to a controlled dangerous substance (CDS) license for practitioners. The proposed Rule change is pursuant to Act 444 of the 2022 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature which expanded the authority to issue recommendations for medical marijuana to “authorized clinicians,” defined to include physicians, advanced practice registered nurses with prescriptive authority, and medical psychologists. The proposed Rule change in §2705.C.4. allows an “authorized clinician” as identified in R.S. 40:1046.B. to apply for and be issued a CDS license to authorize the prescription or recommendation of medical marijuana.

Title 46

PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS

Part LIII: Pharmacists

Chapter 27. Controlled Dangerous Substances

Subchapter B. Licenses

§2705. Licenses and Exemptions

A. – C.3. ...

C.4. An “authorized clinician”, as identified in R.S. 40:1046.B., may apply for and be issued a CDS license to authorize the prescription or recommendation of the following controlled substances classified in Schedule I: marijuana, tetrahydrocannabinols, and synthetic derivatives of tetrahydrocannabinols; provided however that such prescriptions or recommendations shall only be authorized for therapeutic use in compliance with R.S. 40:1046.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:972.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 34:2129 (October 2008), amended LR 39:312 (February 2013), amended by the Department of Health, Board of Pharmacy, LR 46:570 (April 2020), LR 47:1640 (November 2021), LR 48:494 (March 2022), amended LR

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 adoption, repeal, or 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 amendment 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 amendment 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 amendment will have no effect on the functioning of the family.
4. The Effect on Family Earnings and Family Budget. The proposed Rule amendment will have no effect on family earnings and family budget.
5. The Effect on the Behavior and Personal Responsibility of Children. The proposed Rule amendment 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 Rule amendment 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 adoption, repeal, or amendment.

1. The Effect on Household Income, Assets, and Financial Security. The proposed Rule amendment 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 amendment 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 amendment will have no effect on employment and workforce development.

4. The Effect on Taxes and Tax Credits. The proposed Rule amendment 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 amendment 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 adoption, repeal, or 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 amendment 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 amendment 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 amendment 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 amendment 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 amendment.

Provider Impact Statement

In accordance with House Concurrent Resolution No. 170 of the Regular Session of the 2014 Legislature, there is hereby submitted a provider impact statement on the Rule proposed for adoption, repeal, or 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 amendment 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 amendment will have no effect on the cost to the provider to provide the same level of service.

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

Public Comments

Interested persons may submit written comments, via United States Postal Service or other carrier, or in the alternative by personal delivery to M. Joseph Fontenot Jr., Executive Director, at the office of the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy, 3388 Brentwood Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1700. He is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding the proposed Rule amendment. The deadline for the receipt of all written comments is 12 p.m. on Tuesday, May 27, 2025.

Public Hearing

A public hearing to solicit comments and testimony on the proposed Rule change is scheduled for 9 a.m. on Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at the board office. During the hearing, all interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to submit comments and testimony, either verbally or in writing. The deadline for the receipt of all comments and testimony is 12 p.m. that same day. To request reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, please call the board office at 225.925.6496.

M. Joseph Fontenot Jr.

Executive Director

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

RULE TITLE: Practitioner CDS License

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL 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 change. The cost for the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy is approximately \$500 in FY 25 and \$500 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 change will not affect revenue collections for state or local governmental units. Advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) with prescriptive authority and medical psychologists currently in possession of a Louisiana controlled dangerous substance (CDS) license from the Board of Pharmacy who wish to add the schedule I privilege to their existing CDS license schedules, would simply send an email request to the board, there is no fee for the addition.

For individuals who do not currently hold a CDS license, the process remains the same—they must apply for the license and pay the associated fee. However, the proposed Rule change includes Schedule I privileges to and do not incur any additional cost.

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

Advanced practice registered nurses with prescriptive authority and medical psychologists could potentially see an economic benefit if they expand their current scope of practice to include medical marijuana recommendations. However, the potential economic benefit of this Rule change for these providers is indeterminable. There are no other anticipated economic costs or benefits resulting from this proposed Rule change.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

There is no anticipated effect on competition or employment.