

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

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Phone:	(504) 568-6820	Office:	LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
Return Address:	630 Camp Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70130	Rule Title:	MEDICAL PROFESSIONS; LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION; PHYSICIANS
		Date Rule Takes Effect:	ON FINAL PROMULGATION

SUMMARY
(Use complete sentences)

In accordance with Section 961 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS SUMMARIZE ATTACHED WORKSHEETS, I THROUGH IV AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LOUISIANA REGISTER WITH THE PROPOSED AGENCY RULE.

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

The proposed rule creates a bridge year graduate physician certificate will initially increase the LSBME’s workload and paperwork requirements, at least for FY 25. However, since the board already has established procedures for other licensure types and restricted licenses, the extent of additional expenses, workload, and paperwork – such as the need to hire more licensing analysts or investigators – will depend on the number of applicants, which remains unknown at this time. The proposed change will result in a publication expense of approximately \$1,000 in FY 25 for the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME).

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

The proposed rule change is not anticipated to impact the revenue collections of state or local governmental units.

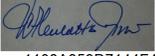
III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

The proposed rule creates a bridge year graduate physician program, will have both economic benefits and costs. The program allows bridge year physicians to function as physician extenders, enabling them to receive compensation through Medicaid and other insurance reimbursements. However, board-certified physicians serving as preceptors will experience an increased workload due to the direct supervision requirements, potentially impacting their time and resources.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

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

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Signature of Head or Designee

Legislative Fiscal Officer or Designee

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

Typed Name & Title of Agency Head or Designee

3/6/2025

Date of Signature

Date of Signature

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberation on the proposed rule.

- A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

The board proposes adding new provisions to create and regulate a bridge year graduate physician certificate for physicians accepted into or precepting those in the Bridge Year Graduate Physician Program. Additionally, the board proposes amending the definitions section to include the terms "bridge year graduate physician" and "training physician."

- B. Summarize the circumstances, which require this action. If the Action is required by federal regulation, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

Act 757 of the 2022 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature enacted new provisions codified as R.S. 37:1310.11 and 1310.12 authorizing the Board to develop, implement, and maintain a bridge year graduate physician program for graduates of an accredited medical school who applied to but were not accepted into an accredited residency training program for the first year following medical school graduation. The rule the board proposes to add as LAC 46:XLV.398 sets standards for a bridge year graduate physician certificate, including requiring direct supervision by a board-certified physician who has completed training as a training physician. The proposed amendment to LAC 46:XLV.303 is to add the definitions of "bridge year graduate physician" and "training physician".

- C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session

- (1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

The board is self-funded. In FY25, separate from the publishing cost, there will be a minimal cost to the board for creating the new bridge year graduate physician certificate rule. The board notes that implementation, regulation, and supervision of the bridge year graduate physician program, required for issuance and use of the bridge year graduate physician certificate, is expected to incur an increased expenditure of board funds. At this time, the board does not have sufficient information to estimate these costs for the fiscal years 2025, 2026, and 2027.

- (2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically appropriated the funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase?

(a) _____ YES. If yes, attach documentation.

(b) X_____ NO. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time

Louisiana State Board of Medical examiners operate on self-generated revenue, and they have determined the proposed rule changes are in the public's best interest.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET**

I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed action?

COSTS	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$0	\$0	\$0
OPERATING EXPENSES	Increase	\$0	\$0
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$1,000	\$0	\$0
OTHER CHARGES	\$0	\$0	\$0
EQUIPMENT	\$0	\$0	\$0
MAJOR REPAIR & CONSTR.	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$1,000	\$0	\$0
POSITIONS (#)	0	0	0

Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A. 1.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

The proposed changes will result in a one-time publication expense estimated at \$1000.00 in FY 25 for the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME). It is anticipated that the LSBME licensure department will have a small increase in its workload and paperwork equivalent to the number of applicants for a bridge year graduate physician certificate, and the Board will incur some increase in expenditures related to adjusting its licensing software to accommodate the program. The Bridge Year Program has not yet been implemented, and the number of applicants cannot be ascertained in advance. However, it is noted that the LSBME already does this same work as to applicants licensed under its standard licensing process so the impact is unlikely to be unwieldy since the analysts are already trained in regard to this paperwork.

2. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

SOURCE	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27
STATE GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$0	\$0
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	\$1,000	\$0	\$0
DEDICATED	\$0	\$0	\$0
FEDERAL FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$0
OTHER (Specify)	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$1,000	\$0	\$0

Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners has sufficient self-generated funds available to implement the proposed rule changes.

B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

The proposed rule changes will not result in costs or savings to local governmental units.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit, which will be affected by these costs or savings.

The proposed rule changes will not impact sources of funding of local governmental units.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET**

II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

- A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27
STATE GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$0	\$0
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	\$0	\$0	\$0
DEDICATED	\$0	\$0	\$0
FEDERAL FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$0
LOCAL FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$0

*Specify the particular fund being impacted.

- B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

The proposed rule change is not anticipated to impact the revenue collections of state or local governmental units.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
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III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

- A. What persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

The proposed rule creates a bridge year graduate physician program, will have both economic benefits and costs. The program allows bridge year physicians to function as physician extenders, enabling them to receive compensation through Medicaid and other insurance reimbursements. However, board-certified physicians serving as preceptors will experience an increased workload due to the direct supervision requirements, potentially impacting their time and resources.

- B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

The program allows bridge year physicians to function as physician extenders, enabling them to receive compensation through Medicaid and other insurance reimbursements.

IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

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