

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to background screenings and
3 certifications; amending s. 420.621, F.S.; defining
4 the term "person with lived experience"; creating s.
5 420.6241, F.S.; providing legislative intent;
6 providing qualifications for a person seeking
7 certification as a person with lived experience;
8 requiring continuum of care lead agencies to submit
9 certain information to the Department of Children and
10 Families for purposes of background screening;
11 providing duties of the department; prescribing
12 screening requirements; specifying disqualifying
13 offenses for a person applying for certification;
14 authorizing a person who does not meet background
15 screening requirements to request from the department
16 an exemption from disqualification; amending s.
17 456.0135, F.S.; expanding certain background screening
18 requirements to apply to all health care
19 practitioners, rather than specified practitioners;
20 requiring health care practitioners licensed before a
21 specified date to comply with the background screening
22 requirements by a specified date; amending ss.
23 457.105, 463.006, 465.007, 465.0075, 465.013, 465.014,
24 466.006, 466.0067, 466.007, 467.011, 468.1185,
25 468.1215, 468.1695, 468.209, 468.213, 468.355,
26 468.358, 468.509, 468.513, 468.803, 478.45, 483.815,

27 483.901, 483.914, 484.007, 484.045, 486.031, 486.102,
 28 490.005, 490.0051, 490.006, 491.0045, 491.0046,
 29 491.005, and 491.006, F.S.; revising licensure,
 30 registration, or certification requirements, as
 31 applicable, for acupuncturists; optometrists;
 32 pharmacists; pharmacist licenses by endorsement;
 33 registered pharmacy interns; pharmacy technicians;
 34 dentists; health access dental licenses; dental
 35 hygienists; midwives; speech-language pathologists and
 36 audiologists; speech-language pathology assistants and
 37 audiology assistants; nursing home administrators;
 38 occupational therapists and occupational therapy
 39 assistants; occupational therapist and occupational
 40 therapy assistant licenses by endorsement; respiratory
 41 therapists; respiratory therapist licenses by
 42 endorsement; dietitian/nutritionists;
 43 dietitian/nutritionist licenses by endorsement;
 44 practitioners of orthotics, prosthetics, or
 45 pedorthics; electrologists; clinical laboratory
 46 personnel; medical physicists; genetic counselors;
 47 opticians; hearing aid specialists; physical
 48 therapists; physical therapist assistants;
 49 psychologists and school psychologists; provisional
 50 licenses for psychologists; psychologist and school
 51 psychologist licenses by endorsement; intern
 52 registrations for clinical social work, marriage and

53 family therapy, and mental health counseling;
 54 provisional licenses for clinical social workers,
 55 marriage and family therapists, and mental health
 56 counselors; clinical social workers, marriage and
 57 family therapists, and mental health counselors; and
 58 clinical social worker, marriage and family therapist,
 59 and mental health counselor licenses by endorsement,
 60 respectively, to include background screening
 61 requirements; making conforming and technical changes;
 62 amending ss. 486.025, 486.0715, 486.1065, and 491.003,
 63 F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an
 64 appropriation; providing an effective date.

65

66 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

67

68 Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 420.621, Florida
 69 Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (7), and a new subsection
 70 (6) is added to that section, to read:

71 420.621 Definitions.—As used in ss. 420.621-420.628, the
 72 term:

73 (6) "Person with lived experience" means any person with
 74 current or past experience of homelessness, as defined in 24
 75 C.F.R. s. 578.3, including persons who have accessed or sought
 76 homeless services while fleeing domestic violence.

77 Section 2. Section 420.6241, Florida Statutes, is created
 78 to read:

79 420.6241 Persons with lived experience.—

80 (1) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.—The Legislature finds that the
81 ability to provide adequate homeless services is limited due to
82 a shortage of professionals and paraprofessionals in the field.
83 Persons with lived experience of homelessness are uniquely
84 qualified to provide effective support services because they
85 share common life experiences with the persons they assist. A
86 person with lived experience may have a criminal history that
87 prevents him or her from meeting background screening
88 requirements.

89 (2) QUALIFICATIONS.—A person may seek certification as a
90 person with lived experience if he or she has received homeless
91 services. A continuum of care lead agency serving the homeless
92 must include documentation of the homeless services such person
93 received when requesting a background check of the applicant.

94 (3) DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT.—The department shall ensure
95 that an applicant's background screening required to achieve
96 certification is conducted as provided in subsection (4).

97 (4) BACKGROUND SCREENING.—

98 (a) The background screening conducted under this
99 subsection must ensure that the qualified applicant has not,
100 during the preceding 3 years, been arrested for and is not
101 awaiting final disposition of, has not been found guilty of,
102 regardless of adjudication, or entered a plea of nolo contendere
103 or guilty to, or has not been adjudicated delinquent and the
104 record has been sealed or expunged for, any felony.

105 (b) The background screening conducted under this
106 subsection must ensure that the qualified applicant has not been
107 arrested for and is not awaiting final disposition of, has not
108 been found guilty of, regardless of adjudication, or entered a
109 plea of nolo contendere or guilty to, or has not been
110 adjudicated delinquent and the record has been sealed or
111 expunged for, any offense prohibited under any of the following
112 state laws or similar laws of another jurisdiction:

113 1. Section 393.135, relating to sexual misconduct with
114 certain developmentally disabled clients and reporting of such
115 sexual misconduct.

116 2. Section 394.4593, relating to sexual misconduct with
117 certain mental health patients and reporting of such sexual
118 misconduct.

119 3. Section 409.920, relating to Medicaid provider fraud,
120 if the offense is a felony of the first or second degree.

121 4. Section 415.111, relating to criminal penalties for
122 abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable adults.

123 5. Any offense that constitutes domestic violence, as
124 defined in s. 741.28.

125 6. Section 777.04, relating to attempts, solicitation, and
126 conspiracy to commit an offense listed in this paragraph.

127 7. Section 782.04, relating to murder.

128 8. Section 782.07, relating to manslaughter, aggravated
129 manslaughter of an elderly person or a disabled adult,
130 aggravated manslaughter of a child, or aggravated manslaughter

131 of an officer, a firefighter, an emergency medical technician,
 132 or a paramedic.

133 9. Section 782.071, relating to vehicular homicide.

134 10. Section 782.09, relating to killing of an unborn child
 135 by injury to the mother.

136 11. Chapter 784, relating to assault, battery, and
 137 culpable negligence, if the offense is a felony.

138 12. Section 787.01, relating to kidnapping.

139 13. Section 787.02, relating to false imprisonment.

140 14. Section 787.025, relating to luring or enticing a
 141 child.

142 15. Section 787.04(2), relating to leading, taking,
 143 enticing, or removing a minor beyond the state limits, or
 144 concealing the location of a minor, with criminal intent pending
 145 custody proceedings.

146 16. Section 787.04(3), relating to leading, taking,
 147 enticing, or removing a minor beyond the state limits, or
 148 concealing the location of a minor, with criminal intent pending
 149 dependency proceedings or proceedings concerning alleged abuse
 150 or neglect of a minor.

151 17. Section 790.115(1), relating to exhibiting firearms or
 152 weapons within 1,000 feet of a school.

153 18. Section 790.115(2) (b), relating to possessing an
 154 electric weapon or device, a destructive device, or any other
 155 weapon on school property.

156 19. Section 794.011, relating to sexual battery.

- 157 20. Former s. 794.041, relating to prohibited acts of
- 158 persons in familial or custodial authority.
- 159 21. Section 794.05, relating to unlawful sexual activity
- 160 with certain minors.
- 161 22. Section 794.08, relating to female genital mutilation.
- 162 23. Section 796.07, relating to procuring another to
- 163 commit prostitution, except for those offenses expunged pursuant
- 164 to s. 943.0583.
- 165 24. Section 798.02, relating to lewd and lascivious
- 166 behavior.
- 167 25. Chapter 800, relating to lewdness and indecent
- 168 exposure.
- 169 26. Section 806.01, relating to arson.
- 170 27. Section 810.02, relating to burglary, if the offense
- 171 is a felony of the first degree.
- 172 28. Section 810.14, relating to voyeurism, if the offense
- 173 is a felony.
- 174 29. Section 810.145, relating to video voyeurism, if the
- 175 offense is a felony.
- 176 30. Section 812.13, relating to robbery.
- 177 31. Section 812.131, relating to robbery by sudden
- 178 snatching.
- 179 32. Section 812.133, relating to carjacking.
- 180 33. Section 812.135, relating to home-invasion robbery.
- 181 34. Section 817.034, relating to communications fraud, if
- 182 the offense is a felony of the first degree.

183 35. Section 817.234, relating to false and fraudulent
 184 insurance claims, if the offense is a felony of the first or
 185 second degree.

186 36. Section 817.50, relating to fraudulently obtaining
 187 goods or services from a health care provider and false reports
 188 of a communicable disease.

189 37. Section 817.505, relating to patient brokering.

190 38. Section 817.568, relating to fraudulent use of
 191 personal identification, if the offense is a felony of the first
 192 or second degree.

193 39. Section 825.102, relating to abuse, aggravated abuse,
 194 or neglect of an elderly person or a disabled adult.

195 40. Section 825.1025, relating to lewd or lascivious
 196 offenses committed upon or in the presence of an elderly person
 197 or a disabled person.

198 41. Section 825.103, relating to exploitation of an
 199 elderly person or a disabled adult, if the offense is a felony.

200 42. Section 826.04, relating to incest.

201 43. Section 827.03, relating to child abuse, aggravated
 202 child abuse, or neglect of a child.

203 44. Section 827.04, relating to contributing to the
 204 delinquency or dependency of a child.

205 45. Former s. 827.05, relating to negligent treatment of
 206 children.

207 46. Section 827.071, relating to sexual performance by a
 208 child.

235 misconduct.

236 59. Section 944.35(3), relating to inflicting cruel or

237 inhuman treatment on an inmate, resulting in great bodily harm.

238 60. Section 944.40, relating to escape.

239 61. Section 944.46, relating to harboring, concealing, or

240 aiding an escaped prisoner.

241 62. Section 944.47, relating to introduction of contraband

242 into a correctional institution.

243 63. Section 985.701, relating to sexual misconduct in

244 juvenile justice programs.

245 64. Section 985.711, relating to introduction of

246 contraband into a detention facility.

247 (5) EXEMPTION REQUESTS.—An applicant who desires to become

248 a certified person with lived experience but is disqualified

249 under subsection (4) may apply to the department for an

250 exemption from disqualification under s. 435.07, as applicable.

251 The department shall accept or reject an application for

252 exemption within 90 days after receiving the application from

253 the applicant.

254 Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 456.0135, Florida

255 Statutes, is amended to read:

256 456.0135 General background screening provisions.—

257 (1) An application for initial licensure received on or

258 after January 1, 2013, under chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter

259 460, chapter 461, chapter 462, chapter 463, chapter 464, chapter

260 465 s. ~~465.022~~, chapter 466, chapter 467, part I, part II, part

261 III, part V, part X, part XIII, or part XIV of chapter 468,
262 chapter 478, ~~or~~ chapter 480, chapter 483, chapter 484, chapter
263 486, chapter 490, or chapter 491 must ~~shall~~ include fingerprints
264 pursuant to procedures established by the department through a
265 vendor approved by the Department of Law Enforcement and fees
266 imposed for the initial screening and retention of fingerprints.
267 Fingerprints must be submitted electronically to the Department
268 of Law Enforcement for state processing, and the Department of
269 Law Enforcement shall forward the fingerprints to the Federal
270 Bureau of Investigation for national processing. Each board, or
271 the department if there is no board, must ~~shall~~ screen the
272 results to determine whether ~~if~~ an applicant meets licensure
273 requirements. For any subsequent renewal of the applicant's
274 license which ~~that~~ requires a national criminal history check,
275 the department shall request the Department of Law Enforcement
276 to forward the retained fingerprints of the applicant to the
277 Federal Bureau of Investigation unless the fingerprints are
278 enrolled in the national retained print arrest notification
279 program.

280 Section 4. Health care practitioners as defined in s.
281 456.001, Florida Statutes, who were licensed before July 1,
282 2024, must comply with the background screening requirements of
283 s. 456.0135, Florida Statutes, by July 1, 2025.

284 Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 457.105, Florida
285 Statutes, is amended to read:

286 457.105 Licensure qualifications and fees.—

287 (2) A person may become licensed to practice acupuncture
 288 if the person applies to the department and meets all of the
 289 following criteria:

290 (a) Is 21 years of age or older, has good moral character,
 291 and has the ability to communicate in English, which is
 292 demonstrated by having passed the national written examination
 293 in English or, if such examination was passed in a foreign
 294 language, by also having passed a nationally recognized English
 295 proficiency examination.†

296 (b) Has completed 60 college credits from an accredited
 297 postsecondary institution as a prerequisite to enrollment in an
 298 authorized 3-year course of study in acupuncture and oriental
 299 medicine, and has completed a 3-year course of study in
 300 acupuncture and oriental medicine, and effective July 31, 2001,
 301 a 4-year course of study in acupuncture and oriental medicine,
 302 which meets standards established by the board by rule, which
 303 standards include, but are not limited to, successful completion
 304 of academic courses in western anatomy, western physiology,
 305 western pathology, western biomedical terminology, first aid,
 306 and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). However, any person who
 307 enrolled in an authorized course of study in acupuncture before
 308 August 1, 1997, must have completed only a 2-year course of
 309 study which meets standards established by the board by rule,
 310 which standards must include, but are not limited to, successful
 311 completion of academic courses in western anatomy, western
 312 physiology, and western pathology.†

313 (c) Has successfully completed a board-approved national
 314 certification process, is actively licensed in a state that has
 315 examination requirements that are substantially equivalent to or
 316 more stringent than those of this state, or passes an
 317 examination administered by the department, which examination
 318 tests the applicant's competency and knowledge of the practice
 319 of acupuncture and oriental medicine. At the request of any
 320 applicant, oriental nomenclature for the points must ~~shall~~ be
 321 used in the examination. The examination must ~~shall~~ include a
 322 practical examination of the knowledge and skills required to
 323 practice modern and traditional acupuncture and oriental
 324 medicine, covering diagnostic and treatment techniques and
 325 procedures. ~~;~~ ~~and~~

326 (d) Pays the required fees set by the board by rule not to
 327 exceed the following amounts:

328 1. Examination fee: \$500 plus the actual per applicant
 329 cost to the department for purchase of the written and practical
 330 portions of the examination from a national organization
 331 approved by the board.

332 2. Application fee: \$300.

333 3. Reexamination fee: \$500 plus the actual per applicant
 334 cost to the department for purchase of the written and practical
 335 portions of the examination from a national organization
 336 approved by the board.

337 4. Initial biennial licensure fee: \$400, if licensed in
 338 the first half of the biennium, and \$200, if licensed in the

339 second half of the biennium.

340 (e) Submits to background screening in accordance with s.
 341 456.0135.

342 Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 463.006, Florida
 343 Statutes, is amended to read:

344 463.006 Licensure and certification by examination.—

345 (1) Any person desiring to be a licensed practitioner
 346 under pursuant to this chapter must apply to the department,
 347 submit to background screening in accordance with s. 456.0135,
 348 and ~~must~~ submit proof to the department that she or he meets all
 349 of the following criteria:

350 (a) Has completed the application forms as required by the
 351 board, remitted an application fee for certification not to
 352 exceed \$250, remitted an examination fee for certification not
 353 to exceed \$250, and remitted an examination fee for licensure
 354 not to exceed \$325, all as set by the board.

355 (b) Is at least 18 years of age.

356 (c) Has graduated from an accredited school or college of
 357 optometry approved by rule of the board.

358 (d) Is of good moral character.

359 (e) Has successfully completed at least 110 hours of
 360 transcript-quality coursework and clinical training in general
 361 and ocular pharmacology as determined by the board, at an
 362 institution that:

363 1. Has facilities for both didactic and clinical
 364 instructions in pharmacology; and

365 2. Is accredited by a regional or professional accrediting
 366 organization that is recognized and approved by the Commission
 367 on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation or the United
 368 States Department of Education.

369 (f) Has completed at least 1 year of supervised experience
 370 in differential diagnosis of eye disease or disorders as part of
 371 the optometric training or in a clinical setting as part of the
 372 optometric experience.

373 Section 7. Subsection (1) of section 465.007, Florida
 374 Statutes, is amended to read:

375 465.007 Licensure by examination.—

376 (1) Any person desiring to be licensed as a pharmacist
 377 shall apply to the department to take the licensure examination.
 378 The department shall examine each applicant who the board
 379 certifies has met all of the following criteria:

380 (a) Completed the application form and remitted an
 381 examination fee set by the board not to exceed \$100 plus the
 382 actual per applicant cost to the department for purchase of
 383 portions of the examination from the National Association of
 384 Boards of Pharmacy or a similar national organization. The fees
 385 authorized under this section shall be established in sufficient
 386 amounts to cover administrative costs.

387 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
 388 s. 456.0135.

389 (c) Submitted satisfactory proof that she or he is not
 390 less than 18 years of age and:

391 1. Is a recipient of a degree from a school or college of
 392 pharmacy accredited by an accrediting agency recognized and
 393 approved by the United States Office of Education; or

394 2. Is a graduate of a 4-year undergraduate pharmacy
 395 program of a school or college of pharmacy located outside the
 396 United States, has demonstrated proficiency in English by
 397 passing both the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)
 398 and the Test of Spoken English (TSE), has passed the Foreign
 399 Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Examination that is approved by
 400 rule of the board, and has completed a minimum of 500 hours in a
 401 supervised work activity program within this state under the
 402 supervision of a pharmacist licensed by the department, which
 403 program is approved by the board.

404 ~~(d)-(e)~~ Submitted satisfactory proof that she or he has
 405 completed an internship program approved by the board. No such
 406 board-approved program shall exceed 2,080 hours, all of which
 407 may be obtained prior to graduation.

408 Section 8. Subsection (1) of section 465.0075, Florida
 409 Statutes, is amended to read:

410 465.0075 Licensure by endorsement; requirements; fee.—

411 (1) The department shall issue a license by endorsement to
 412 any applicant who applies to the department and remits a
 413 nonrefundable fee of not more than \$100, as set by the board,
 414 and who whom the board certifies has met all of the following
 415 criteria:

416 (a) ~~Has~~ Met the qualifications for licensure in s.

417 465.007(1) (b), ~~and~~ (c), and (d).~~†~~

418 (b) ~~Has~~ Obtained a passing score, as established by rule
 419 of the board, on the licensure examination of the National
 420 Association of Boards of Pharmacy or a similar nationally
 421 recognized examination, if the board certifies that the
 422 applicant has taken the required examination.†

423 (c)1. ~~Has~~ Submitted evidence of the active licensed
 424 practice of pharmacy, including practice in community or public
 425 health by persons employed by a governmental entity, in another
 426 jurisdiction for at least 2 of the immediately preceding 5 years
 427 or evidence of successful completion of board-approved
 428 postgraduate training or a board-approved clinical competency
 429 examination within the year immediately preceding application
 430 for licensure; or

431 2. ~~Has~~ Completed an internship meeting the requirements of
 432 s. 465.007(1) (d) ~~s. 465.007(1) (e)~~ within the 2 years immediately
 433 preceding application.† ~~and~~

434 (d) ~~Has~~ Obtained a passing score on the pharmacy
 435 jurisprudence portions of the licensure examination, as required
 436 by board rule.

437 Section 9. Section 465.013, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 438 read:

439 465.013 Registration of pharmacy interns.—The department
 440 shall register as pharmacy interns persons certified by the
 441 board as being enrolled in an intern program at an accredited
 442 school or college of pharmacy or who are graduates of accredited

443 schools or colleges of pharmacy and are not yet licensed in the
 444 state. Applicants for registration must submit to background
 445 screening in accordance with s. 456.0135. The board may refuse
 446 to certify to the department or may revoke the registration of
 447 any intern for good cause, including grounds enumerated in this
 448 chapter for revocation of pharmacists' licenses.

449 Section 10. Subsection (2) of section 465.014, Florida
 450 Statutes, is amended to read:

451 465.014 Pharmacy technician.—

452 (2) Any person who wishes to work as a pharmacy technician
 453 in this state must register by filing an application with the
 454 board on a form adopted by rule of the board and submit to
 455 background screening in accordance with s. 456.0135. The board
 456 shall register each applicant who has remitted a registration
 457 fee set by the board, not to exceed \$50 biennially; has
 458 completed the application form and remitted a nonrefundable
 459 application fee set by the board, not to exceed \$50; has
 460 submitted to background screening; is at least 17 years of age;
 461 and has completed a pharmacy technician training program
 462 approved by the Board of Pharmacy. Notwithstanding any
 463 requirements in this subsection, any registered pharmacy
 464 technician registered pursuant to this section before January 1,
 465 2011, who has worked as a pharmacy technician for a minimum of
 466 1,500 hours under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist or
 467 received certification as a pharmacy technician by certification
 468 program accredited by the National Commission for Certifying

469 Agencies is exempt from the requirement to complete an initial
 470 training program for purposes of registration as required by
 471 this subsection.

472 Section 11. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
 473 466.006, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

474 466.006 Examination of dentists.—

475 (1)

476 (b)1. Any person desiring to be licensed as a dentist
 477 shall apply to the department to take the licensure examinations
 478 and shall verify the information required on the application by
 479 oath. The application must ~~shall~~ include two recent photographs.
 480 There shall be an application fee set by the board not to exceed
 481 \$100 which shall be nonrefundable and. ~~There shall also be an~~
 482 examination fee set by the board, ~~which shall not to~~ to exceed \$425
 483 plus the actual per applicant cost to the department for
 484 purchase of some or all of the examination from the American
 485 Board of Dental Examiners or its successor entity, if any,
 486 provided the board finds the successor entity's clinical
 487 examination complies with ~~the provisions of~~ this section. The
 488 examination fee may be refunded ~~refundable~~ if the applicant is
 489 found ineligible to take the examinations.

490 2. Applicants for licensure must also submit to background
 491 screening in accordance with s. 456.0135.

492 Section 12. Section 466.0067, Florida Statutes, is amended
 493 to read:

494 466.0067 Application for health access dental license.—The

495 Legislature finds that there is an important state interest in
 496 attracting dentists to practice in underserved health access
 497 settings in this state and further, that allowing out-of-state
 498 dentists who meet certain criteria to practice in health access
 499 settings without the supervision of a dentist licensed in this
 500 state is substantially related to achieving this important state
 501 interest. Therefore, notwithstanding the requirements of s.
 502 466.006, the board shall grant a health access dental license to
 503 practice dentistry in this state in health access settings as
 504 defined in s. 466.003 to an applicant who meets all of the
 505 following criteria:

506 (1) Files an appropriate application approved by the
 507 board.†

508 (2) Pays an application license fee for a health access
 509 dental license, laws-and-rule exam fee, and an initial licensure
 510 fee. The fees specified in this subsection may not differ from
 511 an applicant seeking licensure pursuant to s. 466.006.†

512 (3) Has submitted to background screening in accordance
 513 with s. 456.0135 and has not been convicted of or pled nolo
 514 contendere to, regardless of adjudication, any felony or
 515 misdemeanor related to the practice of a health care
 516 profession.†

517 (4) Submits proof of graduation from a dental school
 518 accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the
 519 American Dental Association or its successor agency.†

520 (5) Submits documentation that she or he has completed, or

521 will obtain before licensure, continuing education equivalent to
 522 this state's requirement for dentists licensed under s. 466.006
 523 for the last full reporting biennium before applying for a
 524 health access dental license.†

525 (6) Submits proof of her or his successful completion of
 526 parts I and II of the dental examination by the National Board
 527 of Dental Examiners and a state or regional clinical dental
 528 licensing examination that the board has determined effectively
 529 measures the applicant's ability to practice safely.†

530 (7) Currently holds a valid, active dental license in good
 531 standing which has not been revoked, suspended, restricted, or
 532 otherwise disciplined from another of the United States, the
 533 District of Columbia, or a United States territory.†

534 (8) Has never had a license revoked from another of the
 535 United States, the District of Columbia, or a United States
 536 territory.†

537 (9) Has never failed the examination specified in s.
 538 466.006, unless the applicant was reexamined pursuant to s.
 539 466.006 and received a license to practice dentistry in this
 540 state.†

541 (10) Has not been reported to the National Practitioner
 542 Data Bank, unless the applicant successfully appealed to have
 543 his or her name removed from the data bank.†

544 (11) Submits proof that he or she has been engaged in the
 545 active, clinical practice of dentistry providing direct patient
 546 care for 5 years immediately preceding the date of application,

547 or in instances when the applicant has graduated from an
 548 accredited dental school within the preceding 5 years, submits
 549 proof of continuous clinical practice providing direct patient
 550 care since graduation.~~;~~ and

551 (12) Has passed an examination covering the laws and rules
 552 of the practice of dentistry in this state as described in s.
 553 466.006(4) (a).

554 Section 13. Subsection (1) of section 466.007, Florida
 555 Statutes, is amended to read:

556 466.007 Examination of dental hygienists.—

557 (1)1. Any person desiring to be licensed as a dental
 558 hygienist shall apply to the department to take the licensure
 559 examinations and shall verify the information required on the
 560 application by oath. The application must ~~shall~~ include two
 561 recent photographs of the applicant. There shall be a
 562 nonrefundable application fee set by the board not to exceed
 563 \$100 and an examination fee set by the board ~~which shall~~ not to
 564 exceed ~~be more than~~ \$225. The examination fee may be refunded if
 565 the applicant is found ineligible to take the examinations.

566 2. Applicants for licensure must also submit to background
 567 screening in accordance with s. 456.0135.

568 Section 14. Subsection (5) is added to section 467.011,
 569 Florida Statutes, to read:

570 467.011 Licensed midwives; qualifications; examination.—

571 The department shall issue a license to practice midwifery to an
 572 applicant who meets all of the following criteria:

573 (5) Submits to background screening in accordance with s.
 574 456.0135.

575 Section 15. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 468.1185,
 576 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

577 468.1185 Licensure.—

578 (2) The board shall certify for licensure any applicant
 579 who has met all of the following criteria:

580 (a) Satisfied the education and supervised clinical
 581 requirements of s. 468.1155.

582 (b) Satisfied the professional experience requirement of
 583 s. 468.1165.

584 (c) Passed the licensure examination required by s.
 585 468.1175.

586 (d) For an applicant for an audiologist license who has
 587 obtained a doctoral degree in audiology, has satisfied the
 588 education and supervised clinical requirements of paragraph (a)
 589 and the professional experience requirements of paragraph (b).

590 (e) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
 591 s. 456.0135.

592 (3) The board shall certify as qualified for a license by
 593 endorsement as a speech-language pathologist or audiologist an
 594 applicant who:

595 (a) Holds a valid license or certificate in another state
 596 or territory of the United States to practice the profession for
 597 which the application for licensure is made, if the criteria for
 598 issuance of such license were substantially equivalent to or

599 | more stringent than the licensure criteria which existed in this
 600 | state at the time the license was issued; or

601 | (b) Holds a valid certificate of clinical competence of
 602 | the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association or board
 603 | certification in audiology from the American Board of Audiology;
 604 | and

605 | (c) Submits to background screening in accordance with s.
 606 | 456.0135.

607 | Section 16. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 468.1215,
 608 | Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

609 | 468.1215 Speech-language pathology assistant and audiology
 610 | assistant; certification.—

611 | (1) The department shall issue a certificate as a speech-
 612 | language pathology assistant to each applicant who the board
 613 | certifies has met all of the following criteria:

614 | (a) Completed the application form and remitted the
 615 | required fees, including a nonrefundable application fee.

616 | (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
 617 | s. 456.0135.

618 | (c) Earned a bachelor's degree from a college or
 619 | university accredited by a regional association of colleges and
 620 | schools recognized by the Department of Education which includes
 621 | at least 24 semester hours of coursework as approved by the
 622 | board at an institution accredited by an accrediting agency
 623 | recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

624 | (2) The department shall issue a certificate as an

625 audiology assistant to each applicant who the board certifies
 626 has met all of the following criteria:

627 (a) Completed the application form and remitted the
 628 required fees, including a nonrefundable application fee.

629 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
 630 s. 456.0135.

631 (c) Earned a high school diploma or its equivalent.

632 Section 17. Present subsections (2), (3), and (4) of
 633 section 468.1695, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
 634 subsections (3), (4), and (5), respectively, a new subsection
 635 (2) is added to that section, and present subsection (2) of that
 636 section is amended, to read:

637 468.1695 Licensure by examination.—

638 (2) Applicants for licensure must also submit to
 639 background screening in accordance with s. 456.0135.

640 (3)~~(2)~~ The department shall examine each applicant who the
 641 board certifies has completed the application form, submitted to
 642 background screening, and remitted an examination fee set by the
 643 board not to exceed \$250 and who:

644 (a)1. Holds a baccalaureate degree from an accredited
 645 college or university and majored in health care administration,
 646 health services administration, or an equivalent major, or has
 647 credit for at least 60 semester hours in subjects, as prescribed
 648 by rule of the board, which prepare the applicant for total
 649 management of a nursing home; and

650 2. Has fulfilled the requirements of a college-affiliated

651 or university-affiliated internship in nursing home
 652 administration or of a 1,000-hour nursing home administrator-in-
 653 training program prescribed by the board; or

654 (b)1. Holds a baccalaureate degree from an accredited
 655 college or university; and

656 2.a. Has fulfilled the requirements of a 2,000-hour
 657 nursing home administrator-in-training program prescribed by the
 658 board; or

659 b. Has 1 year of management experience allowing for the
 660 application of executive duties and skills, including the
 661 staffing, budgeting, and directing of resident care, dietary,
 662 and bookkeeping departments within a skilled nursing facility,
 663 hospital, hospice, assisted living facility with a minimum of 60
 664 licensed beds, or geriatric residential treatment program and,
 665 if such experience is not in a skilled nursing facility, has
 666 fulfilled the requirements of a 1,000-hour nursing home
 667 administrator-in-training program prescribed by the board.

668 Section 18. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 468.209,
 669 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

670 468.209 Requirements for licensure.—

671 (1) An applicant applying for a license as an occupational
 672 therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall apply to
 673 the department on forms furnished by the department. The
 674 department shall license each applicant who the board certifies
 675 meets all of the following criteria:

676 (a) Has completed the ~~file a written~~ application form and

677 remitted, ~~accompanied by~~ the application for licensure fee
678 prescribed in s. 468.221.

679 (b) Has submitted to background screening in accordance
680 with s. 456.0135., ~~on forms provided by the department, showing~~
681 ~~to the satisfaction of the board that she or he:~~

682 (c) ~~(a)~~ Is of good moral character.

683 (d) ~~(b)~~ Has successfully completed the academic
684 requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy
685 recognized by the board, with concentration in biologic or
686 physical science, psychology, and sociology, and with education
687 in selected manual skills. Such a program shall be accredited by
688 the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation
689 Council for Occupational Therapy Education, or its successor.

690 (e) ~~(e)~~ Has successfully completed a period of supervised
691 fieldwork experience at a recognized educational institution or
692 a training program approved by the educational institution where
693 she or he met the academic requirements. For an occupational
694 therapist, a minimum of 6 months of supervised fieldwork
695 experience is required. For an occupational therapy assistant, a
696 minimum of 2 months of supervised fieldwork experience is
697 required.

698 (f) ~~(d)~~ Has passed an examination conducted or adopted by
699 the board as provided in s. 468.211.

700 (2) An applicant who has practiced as a state-licensed or
701 American Occupational Therapy Association-certified occupational
702 therapy assistant for 4 years and who, before January 24, 1988,

703 completed a minimum of 24 weeks of supervised occupational-
 704 therapist-level fieldwork experience may take the examination to
 705 be licensed as an occupational therapist without meeting the
 706 educational requirements for occupational therapists made
 707 otherwise applicable under paragraph (1) (d) ~~(1) (b)~~.

708 Section 19. Subsection (3) is added to section 468.213,
 709 Florida Statutes, to read:

710 468.213 Licensure by endorsement.—

711 (3) Applicants for licensure by endorsement must submit to
 712 background screening in accordance with s. 456.0135.

713 Section 20. Section 468.355, Florida Statutes, is amended
 714 to read:

715 468.355 Licensure requirements.—To be eligible for
 716 licensure by the board, an applicant must be an active
 717 "certified respiratory therapist" or an active "registered
 718 respiratory therapist" as designated by the National Board for
 719 Respiratory Care, or its successor, and submit to background
 720 screening in accordance with s. 456.0135.

721 Section 21. Subsection (4) of section 468.358, Florida
 722 Statutes, is amended to read:

723 468.358 Licensure by endorsement.—

724 (4) Applicants for licensure ~~shall not be granted by~~
 725 endorsement under as provided in this section must submit
 726 ~~without the submission of a proper application, remit and the~~
 727 ~~payment of the requisite application fee, and submit to~~
 728 background screening in accordance with s. 456.0135 ~~fees~~

729 ~~therefor.~~

730 Section 22. Present subsections (2), (3), and (4) of
 731 section 468.509, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
 732 subsections (3), (4), and (5), respectively, a new subsection
 733 (2) is added to that section, and present subsection (2) of that
 734 section is amended, to read:

735 468.509 Dietitian/nutritionist; requirements for
 736 licensure.—

737 (2) Applicants for licensure must also submit to
 738 background screening in accordance with s. 456.0135.

739 (3)-(2) The department shall examine any applicant who the
 740 board certifies has completed the application form, submitted to
 741 background screening, and remitted the application and
 742 examination fees specified in s. 468.508 and who:

743 (a)1. Possesses a baccalaureate or postbaccalaureate
 744 degree with a major course of study in human nutrition, food and
 745 nutrition, dietetics, or food management, or an equivalent major
 746 course of study, from a school or program accredited, at the
 747 time of the applicant's graduation, by the appropriate
 748 accrediting agency recognized by the Commission on Recognition
 749 of Postsecondary Accreditation and the United States Department
 750 of Education; and

751 2. Has completed a preprofessional experience component of
 752 not less than 900 hours or has education or experience
 753 determined to be equivalent by the board; or

754 (b)1. Has an academic degree, from a foreign country, that

755 | has been validated by an accrediting agency approved by the
756 | United States Department of Education as equivalent to the
757 | baccalaureate or postbaccalaureate degree conferred by a
758 | regionally accredited college or university in the United
759 | States;

760 | 2. Has completed a major course of study in human
761 | nutrition, food and nutrition, dietetics, or food management;
762 | and

763 | 3. Has completed a preprofessional experience component of
764 | not less than 900 hours or has education or experience
765 | determined to be equivalent by the board.

766 | Section 23. Subsection (1) of section 468.513, Florida
767 | Statutes, is amended to read:

768 | 468.513 Dietitian/nutritionist; licensure by endorsement.—

769 | (1) The department shall issue a license to practice
770 | dietetics and nutrition by endorsement to any applicant who
771 | submits to background screening in accordance with s. 456.0135
772 | and the board certifies as qualified, upon receipt of a
773 | completed application and the fee specified in s. 468.508.

774 | Section 24. Subsection (2) of section 468.803, Florida
775 | Statutes, is amended to read:

776 | 468.803 License, registration, and examination
777 | requirements.—

778 | (2) An applicant for registration, examination, or
779 | licensure must apply to the department on a form prescribed by
780 | the board for consideration of board approval. Each initial

781 applicant shall submit fingerprints to the department in
 782 accordance with s. 456.0135 and any other procedures specified
 783 by the department for state and national criminal history checks
 784 of the applicant. The board shall screen the results to
 785 determine if an applicant meets licensure requirements. The
 786 board shall consider for examination, registration, or licensure
 787 each applicant whom the board verifies meets all of the
 788 following criteria:

789 (a) Has submitted the completed application and completed
 790 the fingerprinting requirements and has paid the applicable
 791 application fee, not to exceed \$500. The application fee is
 792 nonrefundable.~~†~~

793 (b) Is of good moral character.~~†~~

794 (c) Is 18 years of age or older.~~†~~ ~~and~~

795 (d) Has completed the appropriate educational preparation.

796 Section 25. Subsection (1) of section 478.45, Florida
 797 Statutes, is amended to read:

798 478.45 Requirements for licensure.—

799 (1) An applicant applying for licensure as an
 800 electrologist shall apply to the department on forms furnished
 801 by the department. The department shall license each applicant
 802 who the board certifies meets all of the following criteria:

803 (a) Has completed the ~~file a written~~ application ~~form and~~
 804 remitted, ~~accompanied by~~ the application for licensure fee
 805 prescribed in s. 478.55.

806 (b) Has submitted to background screening in accordance

807 ~~with s. 456.0135., on a form provided by the board, showing to~~
 808 ~~the satisfaction of the board that the applicant:~~

809 ~~(c)-(a)~~ Is at least 18 years old.

810 ~~(d)-(b)~~ Is of good moral character.

811 ~~(e)-(e)~~ Possesses a high school diploma or a high school
 812 equivalency diploma.

813 ~~(f)-(d)~~ Has not committed an act in any jurisdiction which
 814 would constitute grounds for disciplining an electrologist in
 815 this state.

816 ~~(g)-(e)~~ Has successfully completed the academic
 817 requirements of an electrolysis training program, not to exceed
 818 120 hours, and the practical application thereof as approved by
 819 the board.

820 Section 26. Section 483.815, Florida Statutes, is amended
 821 to read:

822 483.815 Application for clinical laboratory personnel
 823 license.—An application for a clinical laboratory personnel
 824 license shall be made under oath on forms provided by the
 825 department and shall be accompanied by payment of fees as
 826 provided by this part. Applicants for licensure must also submit
 827 to background screening in accordance with s. 456.0135. A
 828 license may be issued authorizing the performance of procedures
 829 of one or more categories.

830 Section 27. Present paragraphs (b) through (k) of
 831 subsection (4) of section 483.901, Florida Statutes, are
 832 redesignated as paragraphs (c) through (l), respectively, a new

833 paragraph (b) is added to that subsection, and paragraph (a) of
 834 that subsection is amended, to read:

835 483.901 Medical physicists; definitions; licensure.—

836 (4) LICENSE REQUIRED.—An individual may not engage in the
 837 practice of medical physics, including the specialties of
 838 diagnostic radiological physics, therapeutic radiological
 839 physics, medical nuclear radiological physics, or medical health
 840 physics, without a license issued by the department for the
 841 appropriate specialty.

842 (a) The department shall adopt rules to administer this
 843 section which specify license application and renewal fees,
 844 continuing education requirements, background screening
 845 requirements, and standards for practicing medical physics. The
 846 department shall require a minimum of 24 hours per biennium of
 847 continuing education offered by an organization approved by the
 848 department. The department may adopt rules to specify continuing
 849 education requirements for persons who hold a license in more
 850 than one specialty.

851 (b) Applicants for a medical physicist license must submit
 852 to background screening in accordance with s. 456.0135.

853 Section 28. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 483.914,
 854 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

855 483.914 Licensure requirements.—

856 (2) The department shall issue a license, valid for 2
 857 years, to each applicant who meets all of the following
 858 criteria:

859 (a) Has completed an application.

860 (b) Has submitted to background screening in accordance
 861 with s. 456.0135.

862 (c) Is of good moral character.

863 ~~(d)-(e)~~ Provides satisfactory documentation of having
 864 earned:

865 1. A master's degree from a genetic counseling training
 866 program or its equivalent as determined by the Accreditation
 867 Council of Genetic Counseling or its successor or an equivalent
 868 entity; or

869 2. A doctoral degree from a medical genetics training
 870 program accredited by the American Board of Medical Genetics and
 871 Genomics or the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists.

872 ~~(e)-(d)~~ Has passed the examination for certification as:

873 1. A genetic counselor by the American Board of Genetic
 874 Counseling, Inc., the American Board of Medical Genetics and
 875 Genomics, or the Canadian Association of Genetic Counsellors; or

876 2. A medical or clinical geneticist by the American Board
 877 of Medical Genetics and Genomics or the Canadian College of
 878 Medical Geneticists.

879 (3) The department may issue a temporary license for up to
 880 2 years to an applicant who meets all requirements for licensure
 881 except for the certification examination requirement imposed
 882 under paragraph (2)(e) ~~(2)(d)~~ and is eligible to sit for that
 883 certification examination.

884 Section 29. Subsection (1) of section 484.007, Florida

885 Statutes, is amended to read:

886 484.007 Licensure of opticians; permitting of optical
887 establishments.—

888 (1) Any person desiring to practice opticianry shall apply
889 to the department, upon forms prescribed by it, to take a
890 licensure examination. The department shall examine each
891 applicant who the board certifies meets all of the following
892 criteria:

893 (a) Has completed the application form and remitted a
894 nonrefundable application fee set by the board, in the amount of
895 \$100 or less, and an examination fee set by the board, in the
896 amount of \$325 plus the actual per applicant cost to the
897 department for purchase of portions of the examination from the
898 American Board of Opticianry or a similar national organization,
899 or less, and refundable if the board finds the applicant
900 ineligible to take the examination.†

901 (b) Submits to background screening in accordance with s.
902 456.0135.

903 (c) Is not less than 18 years of age.†

904 (d)† Is a graduate of an accredited high school or
905 possesses a certificate of equivalency of a high school
906 education.† and

907 (e)1.† Has received an associate degree, or its
908 equivalent, in opticianry from an educational institution the
909 curriculum of which is accredited by an accrediting agency
910 recognized and approved by the United States Department of

911 Education or the Council on Postsecondary Education or approved
 912 by the board;

913 2. Is an individual licensed to practice the profession of
 914 opticianry pursuant to a regulatory licensing law of another
 915 state, territory, or jurisdiction of the United States, who has
 916 actively practiced in such other state, territory, or
 917 jurisdiction for more than 3 years immediately preceding
 918 application, and who meets the examination qualifications as
 919 provided in this subsection;

920 3. Is an individual who has actively practiced in another
 921 state, territory, or jurisdiction of the United States for more
 922 than 5 years immediately preceding application and who provides
 923 tax or business records, affidavits, or other satisfactory
 924 documentation of such practice and who meets the examination
 925 qualifications as provided in this subsection; or

926 4. Has registered as an apprentice with the department and
 927 paid a registration fee not to exceed \$60, as set by rule of the
 928 board. The apprentice shall complete 6,240 hours of training
 929 under the supervision of an optician licensed in this state for
 930 at least 1 year or of a physician or optometrist licensed under
 931 the laws of this state. These requirements must be met within 5
 932 years after the date of registration. However, any time spent in
 933 a recognized school may be considered as part of the
 934 apprenticeship program provided herein. The board may establish
 935 administrative processing fees sufficient to cover the cost of
 936 administering apprentice rules adopted ~~as promulgated~~ by the

937 board.

938 Section 30. Subsection (2) of section 484.045, Florida
 939 Statutes, is amended to read:

940 484.045 Licensure by examination.—

941 (2) The department shall license each applicant who the
 942 board certifies meets all of the following criteria:

943 (a) Has completed the application form and remitted the
 944 required fees.

945 (b) Has submitted to background screening in accordance
 946 with s. 456.0135.

947 (c) Is of good moral character.

948 ~~(d)(e)~~ Is 18 years of age or older.

949 ~~(e)(d)~~ Is a graduate of an accredited high school or its
 950 equivalent.

951 ~~(f)1.(e)1.~~ Has met the requirements of the training
 952 program; or

953 2.a. Has a valid, current license as a hearing aid
 954 specialist or its equivalent from another state and has been
 955 actively practicing in such capacity for at least 12 months; or

956 b. Is currently certified by the National Board for
 957 Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences and has been
 958 actively practicing for at least 12 months.

959 ~~(g)(f)~~ Has passed an examination, as prescribed by board
 960 rule.

961 ~~(h)(g)~~ Has demonstrated, in a manner designated by rule of
 962 the board, knowledge of state laws and rules relating to the

963 fitting and dispensing of prescription hearing aids.

964 Section 31. Section 486.031, Florida Statutes, is amended
965 to read:

966 486.031 Physical therapist; licensing requirements.—To be
967 eligible for licensing as a physical therapist, an applicant
968 must meet all of the following criteria:

969 (1) Be at least 18 years old..†

970 (2) Be of good moral character..

971 (3) Have submitted to background screening in accordance
972 with s. 456.0135.†~~and~~

973 (4) (a) (3) (a) Have ~~been~~ graduated from a school of physical
974 therapy which has been approved for the educational preparation
975 of physical therapists by the appropriate accrediting agency
976 recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, or
977 its successor entity, Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary
978 ~~Accreditation~~ or the United States Department of Education at
979 the time of her or his graduation and have passed, to the
980 satisfaction of the board, the American Registry Examination
981 prior to 1971 or a national examination approved by the board to
982 determine her or his fitness for practice as a physical
983 therapist as hereinafter provided;

984 (b) Have received a diploma from a program in physical
985 therapy in a foreign country and have educational credentials
986 deemed equivalent to those required for the educational
987 preparation of physical therapists in this country, as
988 recognized by the appropriate agency as identified by the board,

989 and have passed to the satisfaction of the board an examination
 990 to determine her or his fitness for practice as a physical
 991 therapist as hereinafter provided; or

992 (c) Be entitled to licensure without examination as
 993 provided in s. 486.081.

994 Section 32. Section 486.102, Florida Statutes, is amended
 995 to read:

996 486.102 Physical therapist assistant; licensing
 997 requirements.—To be eligible for licensing by the board as a
 998 physical therapist assistant, an applicant must meet all of the
 999 following criteria:

1000 (1) Be at least 18 years old.~~†~~

1001 (2) Be of good moral character.

1002 (3) Have submitted to background screening in accordance
 1003 with s. 456.0135.†~~and~~

1004 (4) (a) (3) (a) ~~Have been~~ graduated from a school giving a
 1005 course of not less than 2 years for physical therapist
 1006 assistants, which has been approved for the educational
 1007 preparation of physical therapist assistants by the appropriate
 1008 accrediting agency recognized by the Council for Higher
 1009 Education Accreditation, or its successor entity, ~~Commission on~~
 1010 ~~Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation~~ or the United States
 1011 Department of Education,† at the time of her or his graduation
 1012 and have passed to the satisfaction of the board an examination
 1013 to determine her or his fitness for practice as a physical
 1014 therapist assistant as hereinafter provided;

1015 (b) Have ~~been~~ graduated from a school giving a course for
 1016 physical therapist assistants in a foreign country and have
 1017 educational credentials deemed equivalent to those required for
 1018 the educational preparation of physical therapist assistants in
 1019 this country, as recognized by the appropriate agency as
 1020 identified by the board, and passed to the satisfaction of the
 1021 board an examination to determine her or his fitness for
 1022 practice as a physical therapist assistant as hereinafter
 1023 provided;

1024 (c) Be entitled to licensure without examination as
 1025 provided in s. 486.107; or

1026 (d) Have been enrolled between July 1, 2014, and July 1,
 1027 2016, in a physical therapist assistant school in this state
 1028 which was accredited at the time of enrollment; and

1029 1. Have ~~been~~ graduated ~~or be eligible to graduate from~~
 1030 ~~such school no later than July 1, 2018;~~ and

1031 2. Have passed to the satisfaction of the board an
 1032 examination to determine his or her fitness for practice as a
 1033 physical therapist assistant as provided in s. 486.104.

1034 Section 33. Present paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of
 1035 subsection (1) of section 490.005, Florida Statutes, are
 1036 redesignated as paragraphs (c), (d), and (e), respectively, a
 1037 new paragraph (b) is added to that subsection, and subsection
 1038 (2) is amended, to read:

1039 490.005 Licensure by examination.—

1040 (1) Any person desiring to be licensed as a psychologist

1041 shall apply to the department to take the licensure examination.
 1042 The department shall license each applicant whom the board
 1043 certifies has met all of the following requirements:

1044 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
 1045 s. 456.0135.

1046 (2) Any person desiring to be licensed as a school
 1047 psychologist shall apply to the department to take the licensure
 1048 examination. The department shall license each applicant who the
 1049 department certifies has met all of the following requirements:

1050 (a) Satisfactorily completed the application form and
 1051 submitted a nonrefundable application fee not to exceed \$250 and
 1052 an examination fee sufficient to cover the per applicant cost to
 1053 the department for development, purchase, and administration of
 1054 the examination, but not to exceed \$250 as set by department
 1055 rule.

1056 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
 1057 s. 456.0135.

1058 (c) Submitted satisfactory proof to the department that
 1059 the applicant:

1060 1. Has received a doctorate, specialist, or equivalent
 1061 degree from a program primarily psychological in nature and has
 1062 completed 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of graduate
 1063 study, in areas related to school psychology as defined by rule
 1064 of the department, from a college or university which at the
 1065 time the applicant was enrolled and graduated was accredited by
 1066 an accrediting agency recognized and approved by the Council for

1067 Higher Education Accreditation or its successor organization or
1068 from an institution that is a member in good standing with the
1069 Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

1070 2. Has had a minimum of 3 years of experience in school
1071 psychology, 2 years of which must be supervised by an individual
1072 who is a licensed school psychologist or who has otherwise
1073 qualified as a school psychologist supervisor, by education and
1074 experience, as set forth by rule of the department. A doctoral
1075 internship may be applied toward the supervision requirement.

1076 3. Has passed an examination provided by the department.

1077 Section 34. Present paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection
1078 (1) of section 490.0051, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
1079 paragraphs (c) and (d), respectively, and a new paragraph (b) is
1080 added to that subsection, to read:

1081 490.0051 Provisional licensure; requirements.—

1082 (1) The department shall issue a provisional psychology
1083 license to each applicant whom the board certifies has met all
1084 of the following criteria:

1085 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
1086 s. 456.0135.

1087 Section 35. Subsection (1) of section 490.006, Florida
1088 Statutes, is amended to read:

1089 490.006 Licensure by endorsement.—

1090 (1) The department shall license a person as a
1091 psychologist or school psychologist who, upon applying to the
1092 department, submitting to background screening in accordance

1093 with s. 456.0135, and remitting the appropriate fee,
 1094 demonstrates to the department or, in the case of psychologists,
 1095 to the board that the applicant:

1096 (a) Is a diplomate in good standing with the American
 1097 Board of Professional Psychology, Inc.; or

1098 (b) Possesses a doctoral degree in psychology and has at
 1099 least 10 years of experience as a licensed psychologist in any
 1100 jurisdiction or territory of the United States within the 25
 1101 years preceding the date of application.

1102 Section 36. Subsections (1), (2), (4), and (6) of section
 1103 491.0045, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1104 491.0045 Intern registration; requirements.—

1105 (1) An individual who has not satisfied the postgraduate
 1106 or post-master's level experience requirements, as specified in
 1107 s. 491.005(1)(d), (3)(d), or (4)(d) ~~s. 491.005(1)(c), (3)(c), or~~
 1108 ~~(4)(c)~~, must register as an intern in the profession for which
 1109 he or she is seeking licensure before commencing the post-
 1110 master's experience requirement or an individual who intends to
 1111 satisfy part of the required graduate-level practicum,
 1112 internship, or field experience, outside the academic arena for
 1113 any profession, and must register as an intern in the profession
 1114 for which he or she is seeking licensure before commencing the
 1115 practicum, internship, or field experience.

1116 (2) The department shall register as a clinical social
 1117 worker intern, marriage and family therapist intern, or mental
 1118 health counselor intern each applicant who the board certifies

1119 has met all of the following criteria:

1120 (a) Completed the application form and remitted a
1121 nonrefundable application fee not to exceed \$200, as set by
1122 board rule.~~7~~

1123 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
1124 s. 456.0135.

1125 (c)1. Completed the education requirements as specified in
1126 s. 491.005(1)(d), (3)(d), or (4)(d) ~~s. 491.005(1)(c), (3)(c), or~~
1127 ~~(4)(c)~~ for the profession for which he or she is applying for
1128 licensure, if needed; and

1129 2. Submitted an acceptable supervision plan, as determined
1130 by the board, for meeting the practicum, internship, or field
1131 work required for licensure that was not satisfied in his or her
1132 graduate program.

1133 ~~(d)(e)~~ Identified a qualified supervisor.

1134 (4) An individual who fails to comply with this section
1135 may not be granted a license under this chapter, and any time
1136 spent by the individual completing the experience requirement as
1137 specified in s. 491.005(1)(d), (3)(d), or (4)(d) ~~s.~~
1138 ~~491.005(1)(c), (3)(c), or (4)(c)~~ before registering as an intern
1139 does not count toward completion of the requirement.

1140 (6) Any registration issued after March 31, 2017, expires
1141 60 months after the date it is issued. The board may make a one-
1142 time exception to the requirements of this subsection in
1143 emergency or hardship cases, as defined by board rule, if the
1144 candidate has passed the theory and practice examination

1145 described in s. 491.005(1)(e), (3)(e), and (4)(e) ~~s.~~
 1146 ~~491.005(1)(d), (3)(d), and (4)(d).~~

1147 Section 37. Subsection (2) of section 491.0046, Florida
 1148 Statutes, is amended to read:

1149 491.0046 Provisional license; requirements.—

1150 (2) The department shall issue a provisional clinical
 1151 social worker license, provisional marriage and family therapist
 1152 license, or provisional mental health counselor license to each
 1153 applicant who the board certifies has met all of the following
 1154 criteria:

1155 (a) Completed the application form and remitted a
 1156 nonrefundable application fee not to exceed \$100, as set by
 1157 board rule. ~~;~~ ~~and~~

1158 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
 1159 s. 456.0135.

1160 (c) Earned a graduate degree in social work, a graduate
 1161 degree with a major emphasis in marriage and family therapy or a
 1162 closely related field, or a graduate degree in a major related
 1163 to the practice of mental health counseling. ~~;~~ ~~and~~

1164 (d) ~~(e)~~ Met the following minimum coursework requirements:

1165 1. For clinical social work, a minimum of 15 semester
 1166 hours or 22 quarter hours of the coursework required by s.
 1167 491.005(1)(c)2.b. ~~s. 491.005(1)(b)2.b.~~

1168 2. For marriage and family therapy, 10 of the courses
 1169 required by s. 491.005(3)(c) ~~s. 491.005(3)(b)~~, as determined by
 1170 the board, and at least 6 semester hours or 9 quarter hours of

1171 the course credits must have been completed in the area of
 1172 marriage and family systems, theories, or techniques.

1173 3. For mental health counseling, a minimum of seven of the
 1174 courses required under s. 491.005(4)(c)1.a., b., or c. ~~s.~~
 1175 ~~491.005(4)(b)1.a.-c.~~

1176 Section 38. Subsections (1) through (4) of section 491.005,
 1177 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1178 491.005 Licensure by examination.—

1179 (1) CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK.—Upon verification of
 1180 documentation and payment of a fee not to exceed \$200, as set by
 1181 board rule, the department shall issue a license as a clinical
 1182 social worker to an applicant whom the board certifies has met
 1183 all of the following criteria:

1184 (a) Submitted an application and paid the appropriate fee.

1185 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
 1186 s. 456.0135.

1187 (c)1. Received a doctoral degree in social work from a
 1188 graduate school of social work which at the time the applicant
 1189 graduated was accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by
 1190 the United States Department of Education or received a master's
 1191 degree in social work from a graduate school of social work
 1192 which at the time the applicant graduated:

1193 a. Was accredited by the Council on Social Work Education;

1194 b. Was accredited by the Canadian Association for Social
 1195 Work Education; or

1196 c. Has been determined to have been a program equivalent

1197 to programs approved by the Council on Social Work Education by
 1198 the Foreign Equivalency Determination Service of the Council on
 1199 Social Work Education. An applicant who graduated from a program
 1200 at a university or college outside of the United States or
 1201 Canada must present documentation of the equivalency
 1202 determination from the council in order to qualify.

1203 2. The applicant's graduate program emphasized direct
 1204 clinical patient or client health care services, including, but
 1205 not limited to, coursework in clinical social work, psychiatric
 1206 social work, medical social work, social casework,
 1207 psychotherapy, or group therapy. The applicant's graduate
 1208 program must have included all of the following coursework:

1209 a. A supervised field placement which was part of the
 1210 applicant's advanced concentration in direct practice, during
 1211 which the applicant provided clinical services directly to
 1212 clients.

1213 b. Completion of 24 semester hours or 32 quarter hours in
 1214 theory of human behavior and practice methods as courses in
 1215 clinically oriented services, including a minimum of one course
 1216 in psychopathology, and no more than one course in research,
 1217 taken in a school of social work accredited or approved pursuant
 1218 to subparagraph 1.

1219 3. If the course title which appears on the applicant's
 1220 transcript does not clearly identify the content of the
 1221 coursework, the applicant provided additional documentation,
 1222 including, but not limited to, a syllabus or catalog description

1223 published for the course.

1224 (d)~~(e)~~ Completed at least 2 years of clinical social work
 1225 experience, which took place subsequent to completion of a
 1226 graduate degree in social work at an institution meeting the
 1227 accreditation requirements of this section, under the
 1228 supervision of a licensed clinical social worker or the
 1229 equivalent who is a qualified supervisor as determined by the
 1230 board. An individual who intends to practice in Florida to
 1231 satisfy clinical experience requirements must register pursuant
 1232 to s. 491.0045 before commencing practice. If the applicant's
 1233 graduate program was not a program which emphasized direct
 1234 clinical patient or client health care services as described in
 1235 subparagraph (c)2. ~~(b)2.~~, the supervised experience requirement
 1236 must take place after the applicant has completed a minimum of
 1237 15 semester hours or 22 quarter hours of the coursework
 1238 required. A doctoral internship may be applied toward the
 1239 clinical social work experience requirement. A licensed mental
 1240 health professional must be on the premises when clinical
 1241 services are provided by a registered intern in a private
 1242 practice setting.

1243 (e)~~(d)~~ Passed a theory and practice examination designated
 1244 by board rule.

1245 (f)~~(e)~~ Demonstrated, in a manner designated by board rule,
 1246 knowledge of the laws and rules governing the practice of
 1247 clinical social work, marriage and family therapy, and mental
 1248 health counseling.

1249 (2) CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK.—
 1250 (a) Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ paragraph (1)(c)
 1251 ~~(1)(b)~~, coursework which was taken at a baccalaureate level
 1252 shall not be considered toward completion of education
 1253 requirements for licensure unless an official of the graduate
 1254 program certifies in writing on the graduate school's stationery
 1255 that a specific course, which students enrolled in the same
 1256 graduate program were ordinarily required to complete at the
 1257 graduate level, was waived or exempted based on completion of a
 1258 similar course at the baccalaureate level. If this condition is
 1259 met, the board shall apply the baccalaureate course named toward
 1260 the education requirements.

1261 (b) An applicant from a master's or doctoral program in
 1262 social work which did not emphasize direct patient or client
 1263 services may complete the clinical curriculum content
 1264 requirement by returning to a graduate program accredited by the
 1265 Council on Social Work Education or the Canadian Association of
 1266 Schools of Social Work, or to a clinical social work graduate
 1267 program with comparable standards, in order to complete the
 1268 education requirements for examination. However, a maximum of 6
 1269 semester or 9 quarter hours of the clinical curriculum content
 1270 requirement may be completed by credit awarded for independent
 1271 study coursework as defined by board rule.

1272 (3) MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY.—Upon verification of
 1273 documentation and payment of a fee not to exceed \$200, as set by
 1274 board rule, the department shall issue a license as a marriage

1275 and family therapist to an applicant whom the board certifies
 1276 has met all of the following criteria:

1277 (a) Submitted an application and paid the appropriate fee.

1278 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
 1279 s. 456.0135.

1280 (c)1. Attained one of the following:

1281 a. A minimum of a master's degree in marriage and family
 1282 therapy from a program accredited by the Commission on
 1283 Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education.

1284 b. A minimum of a master's degree with a major emphasis in
 1285 marriage and family therapy or a closely related field from a
 1286 university program accredited by the Council on Accreditation of
 1287 Counseling and Related Educational Programs and graduate courses
 1288 approved by the board.

1289 c. A minimum of a master's degree with an emphasis in
 1290 marriage and family therapy or a closely related field, with a
 1291 degree conferred before September 1, 2027, from an
 1292 institutionally accredited college or university and graduate
 1293 courses approved by the board.

1294 2. If the course title that appears on the applicant's
 1295 transcript does not clearly identify the content of the
 1296 coursework, the applicant provided additional documentation,
 1297 including, but not limited to, a syllabus or catalog description
 1298 published for the course. The required master's degree must have
 1299 been received in an institution of higher education that, at the
 1300 time the applicant graduated, was fully accredited by an

1301 institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for
 1302 Higher Education Accreditation or its successor organization or
 1303 was a member in good standing with Universities Canada, or an
 1304 institution of higher education located outside the United
 1305 States and Canada which, at the time the applicant was enrolled
 1306 and at the time the applicant graduated, maintained a standard
 1307 of training substantially equivalent to the standards of
 1308 training of those institutions in the United States which are
 1309 accredited by an institutional accrediting body recognized by
 1310 the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor
 1311 organization. Such foreign education and training must have been
 1312 received in an institution or program of higher education
 1313 officially recognized by the government of the country in which
 1314 it is located as an institution or program to train students to
 1315 practice as professional marriage and family therapists or
 1316 psychotherapists. The applicant has the burden of establishing
 1317 that the requirements of this provision have been met, and the
 1318 board shall require documentation, such as an evaluation by a
 1319 foreign equivalency determination service, as evidence that the
 1320 applicant's graduate degree program and education were
 1321 equivalent to an accredited program in this country. An
 1322 applicant with a master's degree from a program that did not
 1323 emphasize marriage and family therapy may complete the
 1324 coursework requirement in a training institution fully
 1325 accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and
 1326 Family Therapy Education recognized by the United States

1327 Department of Education.

1328 (d)~~(e)~~ Completed at least 2 years of clinical experience

1329 during which 50 percent of the applicant's clients were

1330 receiving marriage and family therapy services, which must be at

1331 the post-master's level under the supervision of a licensed

1332 marriage and family therapist with at least 5 years of

1333 experience, or the equivalent, who is a qualified supervisor as

1334 determined by the board. An individual who intends to practice

1335 in Florida to satisfy the clinical experience requirements must

1336 register pursuant to s. 491.0045 before commencing practice. If

1337 a graduate has a master's degree with a major emphasis in

1338 marriage and family therapy or a closely related field which did

1339 not include all of the coursework required by paragraph (c) ~~(b)~~,

1340 credit for the post-master's level clinical experience may not

1341 commence until the applicant has completed a minimum of 10 of

1342 the courses required by paragraph (c) ~~(b)~~, as determined by the

1343 board, and at least 6 semester hours or 9 quarter hours of the

1344 course credits must have been completed in the area of marriage

1345 and family systems, theories, or techniques. Within the 2 years

1346 of required experience, the applicant shall provide direct

1347 individual, group, or family therapy and counseling to cases

1348 including those involving unmarried dyads, married couples,

1349 separating and divorcing couples, and family groups that include

1350 children. A doctoral internship may be applied toward the

1351 clinical experience requirement. A licensed mental health

1352 professional must be on the premises when clinical services are

1353 provided by a registered intern in a private practice setting.

1354 ~~(e)~~(d) Passed a theory and practice examination designated
1355 by board rule.

1356 ~~(f)~~(e) Demonstrated, in a manner designated by board rule,
1357 knowledge of the laws and rules governing the practice of
1358 clinical social work, marriage and family therapy, and mental
1359 health counseling.

1360

1361 For the purposes of dual licensure, the department shall license
1362 as a marriage and family therapist any person who meets the
1363 requirements of s. 491.0057. Fees for dual licensure may not
1364 exceed those stated in this subsection.

1365 (4) MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING.—Upon verification of
1366 documentation and payment of a fee not to exceed \$200, as set by
1367 board rule, the department shall issue a license as a mental
1368 health counselor to an applicant whom the board certifies has
1369 met all of the following criteria:

1370 (a) Submitted an application and paid the appropriate fee.

1371 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
1372 s. 456.0135.

1373 (c)1. Attained a minimum of an earned master's degree from
1374 a mental health counseling program accredited by the Council for
1375 the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs
1376 which consists of at least 60 semester hours or 80 quarter hours
1377 of clinical and didactic instruction, including a course in
1378 human sexuality and a course in substance abuse. If the master's

1379 degree is earned from a program related to the practice of
1380 mental health counseling which is not accredited by the Council
1381 for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational
1382 Programs, then the coursework and practicum, internship, or
1383 fieldwork must consist of at least 60 semester hours or 80
1384 quarter hours and meet all of the following requirements:

1385 a. Thirty-three semester hours or 44 quarter hours of
1386 graduate coursework, which must include a minimum of 3 semester
1387 hours or 4 quarter hours of graduate-level coursework in each of
1388 the following 11 content areas: counseling theories and
1389 practice; human growth and development; diagnosis and treatment
1390 of psychopathology; human sexuality; group theories and
1391 practice; individual evaluation and assessment; career and
1392 lifestyle assessment; research and program evaluation; social
1393 and cultural foundations; substance abuse; and legal, ethical,
1394 and professional standards issues in the practice of mental
1395 health counseling. Courses in research, thesis or dissertation
1396 work, practicums, internships, or fieldwork may not be applied
1397 toward this requirement.

1398 b. A minimum of 3 semester hours or 4 quarter hours of
1399 graduate-level coursework addressing diagnostic processes,
1400 including differential diagnosis and the use of the current
1401 diagnostic tools, such as the current edition of the American
1402 Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of
1403 Mental Disorders. The graduate program must have emphasized the
1404 common core curricular experience.

1405 c. The equivalent, as determined by the board, of at least
 1406 700 hours of university-sponsored supervised clinical practicum,
 1407 internship, or field experience that includes at least 280 hours
 1408 of direct client services, as required in the accrediting
 1409 standards of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and
 1410 Related Educational Programs for mental health counseling
 1411 programs. This experience may not be used to satisfy the post-
 1412 master's clinical experience requirement.

1413 2. Provided additional documentation if a course title
 1414 that appears on the applicant's transcript does not clearly
 1415 identify the content of the coursework. The documentation must
 1416 include, but is not limited to, a syllabus or catalog
 1417 description published for the course.

1418
 1419 Education and training in mental health counseling must have
 1420 been received in an institution of higher education that, at the
 1421 time the applicant graduated, was fully accredited by an
 1422 institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for
 1423 Higher Education Accreditation or its successor organization or
 1424 was a member in good standing with Universities Canada, or an
 1425 institution of higher education located outside the United
 1426 States and Canada which, at the time the applicant was enrolled
 1427 and at the time the applicant graduated, maintained a standard
 1428 of training substantially equivalent to the standards of
 1429 training of those institutions in the United States which are
 1430 accredited by an institutional accrediting body recognized by

1431 the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor
 1432 organization. Such foreign education and training must have been
 1433 received in an institution or program of higher education
 1434 officially recognized by the government of the country in which
 1435 it is located as an institution or program to train students to
 1436 practice as mental health counselors. The applicant has the
 1437 burden of establishing that the requirements of this provision
 1438 have been met, and the board shall require documentation, such
 1439 as an evaluation by a foreign equivalency determination service,
 1440 as evidence that the applicant's graduate degree program and
 1441 education were equivalent to an accredited program in this
 1442 country. Beginning July 1, 2025, an applicant must have a
 1443 master's degree from a program that is accredited by the Council
 1444 for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational
 1445 Programs, the Masters in Psychology and Counseling Accreditation
 1446 Council, or an equivalent accrediting body which consists of at
 1447 least 60 semester hours or 80 quarter hours to apply for
 1448 licensure under this paragraph.

1449 (d) ~~(e)~~ Completed at least 2 years of clinical experience
 1450 in mental health counseling, which must be at the post-master's
 1451 level under the supervision of a licensed mental health
 1452 counselor or the equivalent who is a qualified supervisor as
 1453 determined by the board. An individual who intends to practice
 1454 in Florida to satisfy the clinical experience requirements must
 1455 register pursuant to s. 491.0045 before commencing practice. If
 1456 a graduate has a master's degree with a major related to the

1457 practice of mental health counseling which did not include all
1458 the coursework required under sub-subparagraphs (c)1.a and b.
1459 ~~(b)1.a. and b.~~, credit for the post-master's level clinical
1460 experience may not commence until the applicant has completed a
1461 minimum of seven of the courses required under sub-subparagraphs
1462 (c)1.a and b. ~~(b)1.a. and b.~~, as determined by the board, one of
1463 which must be a course in psychopathology or abnormal
1464 psychology. A doctoral internship may be applied toward the
1465 clinical experience requirement. A licensed mental health
1466 professional must be on the premises when clinical services are
1467 provided by a registered intern in a private practice setting.

1468 (e)~~(d)~~ Passed a theory and practice examination designated
1469 by board rule.

1470 (f)~~(e)~~ Demonstrated, in a manner designated by board rule,
1471 knowledge of the laws and rules governing the practice of
1472 clinical social work, marriage and family therapy, and mental
1473 health counseling.

1474 Section 39. Subsection (1) of section 491.006, Florida
1475 Statutes, is amended to read:

1476 491.006 Licensure or certification by endorsement.—

1477 (1) The department shall license or grant a certificate to
1478 a person in a profession regulated by this chapter who, upon
1479 applying to the department and remitting the appropriate fee,
1480 demonstrates to the board that he or she:

1481 (a) Has demonstrated, in a manner designated by rule of
1482 the board, knowledge of the laws and rules governing the

1483 practice of clinical social work, marriage and family therapy,
 1484 and mental health counseling.

1485 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
 1486 s. 456.0135.

1487 (c)1. Holds an active valid license to practice and has
 1488 actively practiced the licensed profession in another state for
 1489 3 of the last 5 years immediately preceding licensure;

1490 2. Has passed a substantially equivalent licensing
 1491 examination in another state or has passed the licensure
 1492 examination in this state in the profession for which the
 1493 applicant seeks licensure; and

1494 3. Holds a license in good standing, is not under
 1495 investigation for an act that would constitute a violation of
 1496 this chapter, and has not been found to have committed any act
 1497 that would constitute a violation of this chapter.

1498
 1499 The fees paid by any applicant for certification as a master
 1500 social worker under this section are nonrefundable.

1501 Section 40. Section 486.025, Florida Statutes, is amended
 1502 to read:

1503 486.025 Powers and duties of the Board of Physical Therapy
 1504 Practice.—The board may administer oaths, summon witnesses, take
 1505 testimony in all matters relating to its duties under this
 1506 chapter, establish or modify minimum standards of practice of
 1507 physical therapy as defined in s. 486.021, including, but not
 1508 limited to, standards of practice for the performance of dry

1509 needling by physical therapists, and adopt rules pursuant to ss.
 1510 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement this chapter. The board may
 1511 also review the standing and reputability of any school or
 1512 college offering courses in physical therapy and whether the
 1513 courses of such school or college in physical therapy meet the
 1514 standards established by the appropriate accrediting agency
 1515 referred to in s. 486.031(4)(a) ~~s. 486.031(3)(a)~~. In determining
 1516 the standing and reputability of any such school and whether the
 1517 school and courses meet such standards, the board may
 1518 investigate and personally inspect the school and courses.

1519 Section 41. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
 1520 486.0715, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1521 486.0715 Physical therapist; issuance of temporary
 1522 permit.—

1523 (1) The board shall issue a temporary physical therapist
 1524 permit to an applicant who meets the following requirements:

1525 (b) Is a graduate of an approved United States physical
 1526 therapy educational program and meets all the eligibility
 1527 requirements for licensure under chapter ~~ch.~~ 456, s. 486.031(1)-
 1528 (4)(a) ~~s. 486.031(1)-(3)(a)~~, and related rules, except passage
 1529 of a national examination approved by the board is not required.

1530 Section 42. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
 1531 486.1065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1532 486.1065 Physical therapist assistant; issuance of
 1533 temporary permit.—

1534 (1) The board shall issue a temporary physical therapist

1535 assistant permit to an applicant who meets the following
1536 requirements:

1537 (b) Is a graduate of an approved United States physical
1538 therapy assistant educational program and meets all the
1539 eligibility requirements for licensure under chapter ch. 456, s.
1540 486.102(1)-(4)(a) ~~s. 486.102(1)-(3)(a)~~, and related rules,
1541 except passage of a national examination approved by the board
1542 is not required.

1543 Section 43. Subsections (15), (16), and (17) of section
1544 491.003, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1545 491.003 Definitions.—As used in this chapter:

1546 (15) "Registered clinical social worker intern" means a
1547 person registered under this chapter who is completing the
1548 postgraduate clinical social work experience requirement
1549 specified in s. 491.005(1)(d) ~~s. 491.005(1)(e)~~.

1550 (16) "Registered marriage and family therapist intern"
1551 means a person registered under this chapter who is completing
1552 the post-master's clinical experience requirement specified in
1553 s. 491.005(3)(d) ~~s. 491.005(3)(e)~~.

1554 (17) "Registered mental health counselor intern" means a
1555 person registered under this chapter who is completing the post-
1556 master's clinical experience requirement specified in s.
1557 491.005(4)(d) ~~s. 491.005(4)(e)~~.

1558 Section 44. For the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year, nine full-time
1559 equivalent positions, with associated salary rate of 714,651 are
1560 authorized and the sums of \$1,164,134 in recurring and \$59,931

PCS for CS/HB 975

ORIGINAL

2024

1561 | in nonrecurring funds from the Medical Quality Assurance Trust
1562 | Fund are appropriated to the Department of Health for the
1563 | purpose of implementing this act.

1564 | Section 45. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.