

1 (5) Has declared special competencies and demonstrated professional
2 competence therein by passing a written and, at the discretion of the board, an oral
3 examination, as the board shall prescribe, **except as provided in Paragraph (F)(2)**
4 **of this Section.**

5 * * *

6 F.**(1)** The board may issue a provisional license as a provisional licensed
7 professional counselor to an applicant who meets qualifications established by the
8 board. The board shall adopt rules pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act
9 establishing such qualifications and requirements for the issuance of a provisional
10 license as necessary for the adequate protection of the health and welfare of the
11 residents of this state. Such qualifications shall include, at a minimum, that the
12 applicant shall be at least twenty-one years old, of good moral character, in
13 compliance with all applicable provisions of law or board regulations, and possess
14 a graduate degree the substance of which is mental health counseling.

15 **(2) At the end of the provisional license period prescribed by the board,**
16 **any provisionally licensed counselor who has provided CPST services pursuant**
17 **to R.S. 40:2162 and who meets all the qualifications for licensure except for the**
18 **provisions of Paragraph (A)(5) of this Section shall be issued a limited scope**
19 **license that authorizes the individual to only provide CPST services in**
20 **accordance with R.S. 40:2162.**

21 * * *

22 §1116. Licensure application for marriage and family therapists; provisional license;
23 temporary license or temporary provisional license

24 * * *

25 B. An applicant who meets the requirements of Subsection A of this Section
26 shall be recommended by the advisory committee to the board for issuance of a
27 license by the board upon providing satisfactory evidence to the advisory committee
28 that such person meets the following requirements:

29 * * *

1 (3) Passage of an examination approved by the board, **except as provided**
2 **in Paragraph (C)(2) of this Section.**

3 C.**(1)** The board may issue a provisional license as a provisional licensed
4 marriage and family therapist to an applicant who meets qualifications established
5 by the board. The board shall adopt rules pursuant to the Administrative Procedure
6 Act establishing such qualifications and requirements as necessary for the adequate
7 protection of the health and welfare of the residents of this state. Such qualifications
8 shall include, at a minimum, that the applicant shall be at least twenty-one years old,
9 of good moral character, in compliance with applicable provisions of law or board
10 regulations, and possess a graduate degree in marriage and family therapy, or a
11 related clinical mental health field from a regionally accredited institution of higher
12 education, or a certificate from a postgraduate training institute in marriage and
13 family therapy.

14 **(2) At the end of the provisional license period prescribed by the board,**
15 **any provisionally licensed marriage and family therapist who has provided**
16 **CPST services pursuant to R.S. 40:2162 and who meets all the qualifications for**
17 **licensure except for the provisions of Paragraph (B)(3) of this Section shall be**
18 **issued a limited scope license that authorizes the individual to only provide**
19 **CPST services in accordance with R.S. 40:2162.**

20 * * *

21 §2707. Qualifications; licensed master's social worker

22 A. No individual shall be eligible for licensure by the board as a licensed
23 master's social worker unless the individual:

24 * * *

25 (3) Has passed an examination approved by the board, **except as provided**
26 **in R.S. 37:2724(B)(2).**

27 * * *

28 §2724. Qualification; certified social worker

29 * * *

1 marriage and family therapist, a licensed master social worker, a certified social
 2 worker, ~~or~~ a psychology intern from an American Psychological Association
 3 approved internship program, **or an individual issued a limited scope license**
 4 **pursuant to R.S. 37:1107(F)(2), 1116(C)(2), or 2724(B)(2).**

5 * * *

6 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
 7 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
 8 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
 9 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
 10 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services.
 The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof
 or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST

SB 153 Original 2025 Regular Session Selders

Present law defines "Community psychiatric support and treatment services" (CPST services) as CMS-approved Medicaid mental health rehabilitation services designed to reduce disability from mental illness, restore functional skills of daily living, build natural supports, and achieve identified person-centered goals or objectives through counseling, clinical psycho-education, and ongoing monitoring needs as set forth in an individualized treatment plan.

Present law provides that, in order to be eligible to receive Medicaid reimbursement, all behavioral health services providers shall ensure that any individual rendering CPST services for the provider agency meets certain enumerated requirements.

Present law authorizes the La. Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners to issue a provisionally licensed professional counselor license to an individual who meets qualifications established by the board.

Proposed law provides that at the end of the provisional license period prescribed by the board, any provisionally licensed counselor who has provided CPST services in accordance with present law and who meets all the qualifications for licensure, except for passing a written or oral examination required by the board, shall be issued a limited scope license that authorizes the individual to only provide CPST services.

Present law authorizes the La. Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners to issue a provisional marriage and family therapist license to an individual who meets qualifications established by the board.

Proposed law provides that at the end of the provisional license period prescribed by the board, any provisionally licensed marriage and family therapist who has provided CPST services in accordance with present law and who meets all the qualifications for licensure, except for passing a board-approved examination, shall be issued a limited scope license that

authorizes the individual to only provide CPST services.

Present law authorizes the La. State Board of Social Work Examiners to issue a certified social worker certification for up to three years to an individual who is pursuing a master's social work license and meets qualifications established by the board.

Proposed law provides that at the end of the three-year period, any certified social worker who has provided CPST services in accordance with present law and who meets all the qualifications for licensure, except for passing a board-approved examination, shall be issued a limited scope license that authorizes the individual to only provide CPST services.

Present law requires any individual rendering any components of CPST services, except for assessment and treatment planning components, to be a fully licensed mental health professional, a provisionally licensed professional counselor, a provisionally licensed marriage and family therapist, a licensed master social worker, a certified social worker, or a psychology intern from an American Psychological Association approved internship program.

Proposed law adds that individuals who have been issued a limited scope professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, or social worker license may also provide the CPST services in the same manner as a provisionally licensed professional counselor, a provisionally licensed marriage and family therapist, or a certified social worker.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 37:1107(A)(5) and (F), 1116(B)(3) and (C), 2707(A)(3) and 2724(B) and R.S. 40:2162(D)(2)(c); adds R.S. 40:2162(D)(2)(d))