

2021 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 127

BY SENATOR MCMATH

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH. Provides relative to specialized behavioral health rehabilitation services in the Louisiana medical assistance program. (8/1/21)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 40:2162(D)(2), relative to behavioral health rehabilitation services in the Louisiana medical assistance program; to require a minimum level of education and training for certain providers; to make technical changes; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:2162(D)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:  
§2162. Specialized behavioral health rehabilitation services in the Louisiana medical assistance program

\* \* \*

D. In order to be eligible to receive Medicaid reimbursement, all behavioral health services providers shall ensure that any individual rendering PSR or CPST services for the licensed and accredited provider agency meets all of the following requirements:

\* \* \*

(2)(a) ~~On and after July 1, 2018, any~~ **Any** individual rendering PSR services for a licensed and accredited provider agency shall hold a minimum of a **one of the**



Present law provides that, in order to be eligible to receive Medicaid reimbursement, all behavioral health services providers shall ensure that any individual rendering PSR services for the provider agency meets certain enumerated requirements including a minimum of a bachelor's degree from an accredited university or college in the field of counseling, social work, psychology, or sociology.

Proposed law retains present law and expands the minimum eligible educational requirement to include both of the following:

- (1) Any bachelor's degree with a minimum of 15 hours of coursework or practicum experience from an accredited university or college in counseling, social work, sociology, or psychology as part of or in addition to the bachelor's degree.
- (2) Any master's degree with a minimum of 15 hours of graduate level coursework or practicum experience from an accredited university or college in counseling, social work, sociology, or psychology as part of or in addition to the master's degree.

Present law provides that any individual rendering PSR services who does not possess the minimum bachelor's degree required by present law, but who met all provider qualifications in effect prior to July 1, 2018, may continue to provide PSR services for the same provider agency. Further provides that, prior to the individual rendering PSR services at a different provider agency, the individual must comply with the provisions of present law.

Proposed law retains present law but makes technical changes.

Effective August 1, 2021.

(Amends R.S. 40:2162(D)(2))