

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 757 (SB 439)

2022 Regular Session

Peacock

New law authorizes the La. State Board of Medical Examiners (board) to develop, implement, and maintain a program that allows an individual to be certified to practice medicine as a bridge year graduate physician. Provides that the certification shall be valid for one year and may be renewed for no more than two additional one-year periods upon application to the board.

New law requires the board to provide for criteria for participation in the bridge year graduate physician program which, at a minimum, shall require the individual seeking certification to meet the following qualifications:

- (1) Be a graduate of an accredited medical school.
- (2) Have applied to, but not be accepted into, an accredited medical residency training program for the first year following medical school graduation.

New law requires the board to determine criteria for the selection of applicants if the number of applicants exceed the available capacity of the program.

New law requires the board to provide for the prescriptive authority of a bridge year graduate physician including prescribing legend and certain controlled drugs.

New law authorizes the board to suspend, terminate, or revoke a bridge year graduate physician certificate prior to the expiration of its one-year term for any reason provided by law or the board's rules for the termination of licenses, permits, registrations, or certificates issued by the board.

New law authorizes a bridge year graduate physician to practice only under the direct supervision of a board-certified physician holding a license in good standing with the board. Further provides that issuance of a certificate to practice as a bridge year graduate physician does not confer any future right to full, unrestricted licensure.

New law provides that the services provided by a bridge year graduate physician shall be compensable in accordance with customary medical billing practices.

New law requires the board to develop the bridge year graduate physician program with input from the La. State Medical Society, the La. Academy of Family Physicians, a community physician, a medical student who applied to, but was not accepted into, an accredited medical residency training program for the first year following medical school graduation, and a medical student.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 37:1271(A) and 1285(A)(intro para); adds R.S. 37:1310.11-1310.12)