

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating 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 apply to the department for
16 an exemption from disqualification; requiring the
17 department to accept or reject such application within
18 a specified time; amending s. 456.0135, F.S.;
19 expanding certain background screening requirements to
20 apply to all health care practitioners, rather than
21 specified practitioners; requiring health care
22 practitioners licensed before a specified date to
23 comply with certain background screening requirements
24 upon licensure renewal that takes place after a
25 specified date; prohibiting the Department of Health

26 from renewing health care practitioner licenses in
 27 certain circumstances beginning on a specified date;
 28 amending ss. 457.105, 463.006, 465.007, 465.0075,
 29 465.013, 465.014, 466.006, 466.0067, 466.007, 467.011,
 30 468.1185, 468.1215, 468.1695, 468.209, 468.213,
 31 468.355, 468.358, 468.509, 468.513, 468.803, 478.45,
 32 483.815, 483.901, 483.914, 484.007, 484.045, 486.031,
 33 486.102, 490.005, 490.0051, 490.006, 491.0045,
 34 491.0046, 491.005, and 491.006, F.S.; revising
 35 licensure, registration, or certification
 36 requirements, as applicable, for acupuncturists;
 37 optometrists; pharmacists; pharmacist licenses by
 38 endorsement; registered pharmacy interns; pharmacy
 39 technicians; dentists; health access dental licenses;
 40 dental hygienists; midwives; speech-language
 41 pathologists and audiologists; speech-language
 42 pathology assistants and audiology assistants; nursing
 43 home administrators; occupational therapists and
 44 occupational therapy assistants; occupational
 45 therapist and occupational therapy assistant licenses
 46 by endorsement; respiratory therapists; respiratory
 47 therapist licenses by endorsement;
 48 dietitian/nutritionists; dietitian/nutritionist
 49 licenses by endorsement; practitioners of orthotics,
 50 prosthetics, or pedorthics; electrologists; clinical

51 laboratory personnel; medical physicists; genetic
 52 counselors; opticians; hearing aid specialists;
 53 physical therapists; physical therapist assistants;
 54 psychologists and school psychologists; provisional
 55 licenses for psychologists; psychologist and school
 56 psychologist licenses by endorsement; intern
 57 registrations for clinical social work, marriage and
 58 family therapy, and mental health counseling;
 59 provisional licenses for clinical social workers,
 60 marriage and family therapists, and mental health
 61 counselors; clinical social workers, marriage and
 62 family therapists, and mental health counselors; and
 63 clinical social worker, marriage and family therapist,
 64 and mental health counselor licenses by endorsement,
 65 respectively, to include background screening
 66 requirements; making conforming and technical changes;
 67 amending ss. 468.505, 486.025, 486.0715, 486.1065, and
 68 491.003, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing
 69 an appropriation; providing an effective date.

70

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

72

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

76 420.621 Definitions.—As used in ss. 420.621-420.628, the
 77 term:

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

82 Section 2. Section 420.6241, Florida Statutes, is created
 83 to read:

84 420.6241 Persons with lived experience.—

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

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

99 (3) DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT.—The department shall ensure
 100 that an applicant's background screening required to achieve

101 certification is conducted as provided in subsection (4).

102 (4) BACKGROUND SCREENING.—

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

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

118 1. Section 393.135, relating to sexual misconduct with
119 certain developmentally disabled clients and reporting of such
120 sexual misconduct.

121 2. Section 394.4593, relating to sexual misconduct with
122 certain mental health patients and reporting of such sexual
123 misconduct.

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

- 126 4. Section 415.111, relating to criminal penalties for
 127 abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable adults.
- 128 5. Any offense that constitutes domestic violence, as
 129 defined in s. 741.28.
- 130 6. Section 777.04, relating to attempts, solicitation, and
 131 conspiracy to commit an offense listed in this paragraph.
- 132 7. Section 782.04, relating to murder.
- 133 8. Section 782.07, relating to manslaughter, aggravated
 134 manslaughter of an elderly person or a disabled adult,
 135 aggravated manslaughter of a child, or aggravated manslaughter
 136 of an officer, a firefighter, an emergency medical technician,
 137 or a paramedic.
- 138 9. Section 782.071, relating to vehicular homicide.
- 139 10. Section 782.09, relating to killing of an unborn child
 140 by injury to the mother.
- 141 11. Chapter 784, relating to assault, battery, and
 142 culpable negligence, if the offense is a felony.
- 143 12. Section 787.01, relating to kidnapping.
- 144 13. Section 787.02, relating to false imprisonment.
- 145 14. Section 787.025, relating to luring or enticing a
 146 child.
- 147 15. Section 787.04(2), relating to leading, taking,
 148 enticing, or removing a minor beyond the state limits, or
 149 concealing the location of a minor, with criminal intent pending
 150 custody proceedings.

151 16. Section 787.04(3), relating to leading, taking,
152 enticing, or removing a minor beyond the state limits, or
153 concealing the location of a minor, with criminal intent pending
154 dependency proceedings or proceedings concerning alleged abuse
155 or neglect of a minor.

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

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

161 19. Section 794.011, relating to sexual battery.

162 20. Former s. 794.041, relating to prohibited acts of
163 persons in familial or custodial authority.

164 21. Section 794.05, relating to unlawful sexual activity
165 with certain minors.

166 22. Section 794.08, relating to female genital mutilation.

167 23. Section 796.07, relating to procuring another to
168 commit prostitution, except for those offenses expunged pursuant
169 to s. 943.0583.

170 24. Section 798.02, relating to lewd and lascivious
171 behavior.

172 25. Chapter 800, relating to lewdness and indecent
173 exposure.

174 26. Section 806.01, relating to arson.

175 27. Section 810.02, relating to burglary, if the offense

176 | is a felony of the first degree.
 177 | 28. Section 810.14, relating to voyeurism, if the offense
 178 | is a felony.
 179 | 29. Section 810.145, relating to video voyeurism, if the
 180 | offense is a felony.
 181 | 30. Section 812.13, relating to robbery.
 182 | 31. Section 812.131, relating to robbery by sudden
 183 | snatching.
 184 | 32. Section 812.133, relating to carjacking.
 185 | 33. Section 812.135, relating to home-invasion robbery.
 186 | 34. Section 817.034, relating to communications fraud, if
 187 | the offense is a felony of the first degree.
 188 | 35. Section 817.234, relating to false and fraudulent
 189 | insurance claims, if the offense is a felony of the first or
 190 | second degree.
 191 | 36. Section 817.50, relating to fraudulently obtaining
 192 | goods or services from a health care provider and false reports
 193 | of a communicable disease.
 194 | 37. Section 817.505, relating to patient brokering.
 195 | 38. Section 817.568, relating to fraudulent use of
 196 | personal identification, if the offense is a felony of the first
 197 | or second degree.
 198 | 39. Section 825.102, relating to abuse, aggravated abuse,
 199 | or neglect of an elderly person or a disabled adult.
 200 | 40. Section 825.1025, relating to lewd or lascivious

201 offenses committed upon or in the presence of an elderly person
202 or a disabled person.

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

205 42. Section 826.04, relating to incest.

206 43. Section 827.03, relating to child abuse, aggravated
207 child abuse, or neglect of a child.

208 44. Section 827.04, relating to contributing to the
209 delinquency or dependency of a child.

210 45. Former s. 827.05, relating to negligent treatment of
211 children.

212 46. Section 827.071, relating to sexual performance by a
213 child.

214 47. Section 831.30, relating to fraud in obtaining
215 medicinal drugs.

216 48. Section 831.31, relating to the sale, manufacture,
217 delivery, or possession with intent to sell, manufacture, or
218 deliver any counterfeit controlled substance, if the offense is
219 a felony.

220 49. Section 843.01, relating to resisting arrest with
221 violence.

222 50. Section 843.025, relating to depriving a law
223 enforcement, correctional, or correctional probation officer of
224 the means of protection or communication.

225 51. Section 843.12, relating to aiding in an escape.

226 52. Section 843.13, relating to aiding in the escape of
 227 juvenile inmates of correctional institutions.

228 53. Chapter 847, relating to obscenity.

229 54. Section 874.05, relating to encouraging or recruiting
 230 another to join a criminal gang.

231 55. Chapter 893, relating to drug abuse prevention and
 232 control, if the offense is a felony of the second degree or
 233 greater severity.

234 56. Section 895.03, relating to racketeering and
 235 collection of unlawful debts.

236 57. Section 896.101, relating to the Florida Money
 237 Laundering Act.

238 58. Section 916.1075, relating to sexual misconduct with
 239 certain forensic clients and reporting of such sexual
 240 misconduct.

241 59. Section 944.35(3), relating to inflicting cruel or
 242 inhuman treatment on an inmate, resulting in great bodily harm.

243 60. Section 944.40, relating to escape.

244 61. Section 944.46, relating to harboring, concealing, or
 245 aiding an escaped prisoner.

246 62. Section 944.47, relating to introduction of contraband
 247 into a correctional institution.

248 63. Section 985.701, relating to sexual misconduct in
 249 juvenile justice programs.

250 64. Section 985.711, relating to introduction of

251 contraband into a detention facility.

252 (5) EXEMPTION REQUESTS.—An applicant who desires to become
253 a certified person with lived experience but is disqualified
254 under subsection (4) may apply to the department for an
255 exemption from disqualification under s. 435.07, as applicable.
256 The department shall accept or reject an application for
257 exemption within 90 days after receiving the application from
258 the applicant.

259 Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 456.0135, Florida
260 Statutes, is amended to read:

261 456.0135 General background screening provisions.—

262 (1) An application for initial licensure received on or
263 after January 1, 2013, under chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter
264 460, chapter 461, chapter 462, chapter 463, chapter 464, chapter
265 465 s. 465.022, chapter 466, chapter 467, part I, part II, part
266 III, part V, part X, part XIII, or part XIV of chapter 468,
267 chapter 478, ~~or~~ chapter 480, chapter 483, chapter 484, chapter
268 486, chapter 490, or chapter 491 must ~~shall~~ include fingerprints
269 pursuant to procedures established by the department through a
270 vendor approved by the Department of Law Enforcement and fees
271 imposed for the initial screening and retention of fingerprints.
272 Fingerprints must be submitted electronically to the Department
273 of Law Enforcement for state processing, and the Department of
274 Law Enforcement shall forward the fingerprints to the Federal
275 Bureau of Investigation for national processing. Each board, or

276 the department if there is no board, must ~~shall~~ screen the
277 results to determine whether ~~if~~ an applicant meets licensure
278 requirements. For any subsequent renewal of the applicant's
279 license which ~~that~~ requires a national criminal history check,
280 the department shall request the Department of Law Enforcement
281 to forward the retained fingerprints of the applicant to the
282 Federal Bureau of Investigation unless the fingerprints are
283 enrolled in the national retained print arrest notification
284 program.

285 Section 4. Health care practitioners as defined in s.
286 456.001, Florida Statutes, who were licensed before July 1,
287 2024, must comply with the background screening requirements of
288 s. 456.0135, Florida Statutes, upon their next licensure renewal
289 that takes place after July 1, 2025. Beginning July 1, 2025, the
290 Department of Health may not renew the license of a health care
291 practitioner until he or she complies with the background
292 screening requirements of s. 456.0135, Florida Statutes.

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

295 457.105 Licensure qualifications and fees.—

296 (2) A person may become licensed to practice acupuncture
297 if the person applies to the department and meets all of the
298 following criteria:

299 (a) Is 21 years of age or older, has good moral character,
300 and has the ability to communicate in English, which is

301 demonstrated by having passed the national written examination
302 in English or, if such examination was passed in a foreign
303 language, by also having passed a nationally recognized English
304 proficiency examination.†

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

322 (c) Has successfully completed a board-approved national
323 certification process, is actively licensed in a state that has
324 examination requirements that are substantially equivalent to or
325 more stringent than those of this state, or passes an

326 examination administered by the department, which examination
327 tests the applicant's competency and knowledge of the practice
328 of acupuncture and oriental medicine. At the request of any
329 applicant, oriental nomenclature for the points must ~~shall~~ be
330 used in the examination. The examination must ~~shall~~ include a
331 practical examination of the knowledge and skills required to
332 practice modern and traditional acupuncture and oriental
333 medicine, covering diagnostic and treatment techniques and
334 procedures. ~~and~~

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

337 1. Examination fee: \$500 plus the actual per applicant
338 cost to the department for purchase of the written and practical
339 portions of the examination from a national organization
340 approved by the board.

341 2. Application fee: \$300.

342 3. Reexamination fee: \$500 plus the actual per applicant
343 cost to the department for purchase of the written and practical
344 portions of the examination from a national organization
345 approved by the board.

346 4. Initial biennial licensure fee: \$400, if licensed in
347 the first half of the biennium, and \$200, if licensed in the
348 second half of the biennium.

349 (e) Submits to background screening in accordance with s.
350 456.0135.

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

353 463.006 Licensure and certification by examination.—

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

359 (a) Has completed the application forms as required by the
 360 board, remitted an application fee for certification not to
 361 exceed \$250, remitted an examination fee for certification not
 362 to exceed \$250, and remitted an examination fee for licensure
 363 not to exceed \$325, all as set by the board.

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

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

367 (d) Is of good moral character.

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

372 1. Has facilities for both didactic and clinical
 373 instructions in pharmacology; and

374 2. Is accredited by a regional or professional accrediting
 375 organization that is recognized and approved by the Commission

376 on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation or the United
 377 States Department of Education.

378 (f) Has completed at least 1 year of supervised experience
 379 in differential diagnosis of eye disease or disorders as part of
 380 the optometric training or in a clinical setting as part of the
 381 optometric experience.

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

384 465.007 Licensure by examination.—

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

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

396 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
 397 s. 456.0135.

398 (c) ~~(b)~~ Submitted satisfactory proof that she or he is not
 399 less than 18 years of age and:

400 1. Is a recipient of a degree from a school or college of

401 pharmacy accredited by an accrediting agency recognized and
 402 approved by the United States Office of Education; or

403 2. Is a graduate of a 4-year undergraduate pharmacy
 404 program of a school or college of pharmacy located outside the
 405 United States, has demonstrated proficiency in English by
 406 passing both the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)
 407 and the Test of Spoken English (TSE), has passed the Foreign
 408 Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Examination that is approved by
 409 rule of the board, and has completed a minimum of 500 hours in a
 410 supervised work activity program within this state under the
 411 supervision of a pharmacist licensed by the department, which
 412 program is approved by the board.

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

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

419 465.0075 Licensure by endorsement; requirements; fee.—

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

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

426 | 465.007(1) (b), ~~and~~ (c), and (d).~~†~~

427 | (b) ~~Has~~ Obtained a passing score, as established by rule
 428 | of the board, on the licensure examination of the National
 429 | Association of Boards of Pharmacy or a similar nationally
 430 | recognized examination, if the board certifies that the
 431 | applicant has taken the required examination.†

432 | (c)1. ~~Has~~ Submitted evidence of the active licensed
 433 | practice of pharmacy, including practice in community or public
 434 | health by persons employed by a governmental entity, in another
 435 | jurisdiction for at least 2 of the immediately preceding 5 years
 436 | or evidence of successful completion of board-approved
 437 | postgraduate training or a board-approved clinical competency
 438 | examination within the year immediately preceding application
 439 | for licensure; or

440 | 2. ~~Has~~ Completed an internship meeting the requirements of
 441 | s. 465.007(1) (d) ~~s. 465.007(1) (e)~~ within the 2 years immediately
 442 | preceding application.† ~~and~~

443 | (d) ~~Has~~ Obtained a passing score on the pharmacy
 444 | jurisprudence portions of the licensure examination, as required
 445 | by board rule.

446 | Section 9. Section 465.013, Florida Statutes, is amended
 447 | to read:

448 | 465.013 Registration of pharmacy interns.—The department
 449 | shall register as pharmacy interns persons certified by the
 450 | board as being enrolled in an intern program at an accredited

451 school or college of pharmacy or who are graduates of accredited
452 schools or colleges of pharmacy and are not yet licensed in the
453 state. Applicants for registration must submit to background
454 screening in accordance with s. 456.0135. The board may refuse
455 to certify to the department or may revoke the registration of
456 any intern for good cause, including grounds enumerated in this
457 chapter for revocation of pharmacists' licenses.

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

460 465.014 Pharmacy technician.—

461 (2) Any person who wishes to work as a pharmacy technician
462 in this state must register by filing an application with the
463 board on a form adopted by rule of the board and submit to
464 background screening in accordance with s. 456.0135. The board
465 shall register each applicant who has remitted a registration
466 fee set by the board, not to exceed \$50 biennially; has
467 completed the application form and remitted a nonrefundable
468 application fee set by the board, not to exceed \$50; has
469 submitted to background screening; is at least 17 years of age;
470 and has completed a pharmacy technician training program
471 approved by the Board of Pharmacy. Notwithstanding any
472 requirements in this subsection, any registered pharmacy
473 technician registered pursuant to this section before January 1,
474 2011, who has worked as a pharmacy technician for a minimum of
475 1,500 hours under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist or

476 received certification as a pharmacy technician by certification
 477 program accredited by the National Commission for Certifying
 478 Agencies is exempt from the requirement to complete an initial
 479 training program for purposes of registration as required by
 480 this subsection.

481 Section 11. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
 482 466.006, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

483 466.006 Examination of dentists.—

484 (1)

485 (b)1. Any person desiring to be licensed as a dentist
 486 shall apply to the department to take the licensure examinations
 487 and shall verify the information required on the application by
 488 oath. The application must ~~shall~~ include two recent photographs.
 489 There shall be an application fee set by the board not to exceed
 490 \$100 which shall be nonrefundable and. ~~There shall also be an~~
 491 examination fee set by the board, ~~which shall~~ to exceed \$425
 492 plus the actual per applicant cost to the department for
 493 purchase of some or all of the examination from the American
 494 Board of Dental Examiners or its successor entity, if any,
 495 provided the board finds the successor entity's clinical
 496 examination complies with ~~the provisions of~~ this section. The
 497 examination fee may be refunded ~~refundable~~ if the applicant is
 498 found ineligible to take the examinations.

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

501 Section 12. Section 466.0067, Florida Statutes, is amended
 502 to read:

503 466.0067 Application for health access dental license.—The
 504 Legislature finds that there is an important state interest in
 505 attracting dentists to practice in underserved health access
 506 settings in this state and further, that allowing out-of-state
 507 dentists who meet certain criteria to practice in health access
 508 settings without the supervision of a dentist licensed in this
 509 state is substantially related to achieving this important state
 510 interest. Therefore, notwithstanding the requirements of s.
 511 466.006, the board shall grant a health access dental license to
 512 practice dentistry in this state in health access settings as
 513 defined in s. 466.003 to an applicant who meets all of the
 514 following criteria:

515 (1) Files an appropriate application approved by the
 516 board.~~†~~

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

521 (3) Has submitted to background screening in accordance
 522 with s. 456.0135 and has not been convicted of or pled nolo
 523 contendere to, regardless of adjudication, any felony or
 524 misdemeanor related to the practice of a health care
 525 profession.~~†~~

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

529 (5) Submits documentation that she or he has completed, or
 530 will obtain before licensure, continuing education equivalent to
 531 this state's requirement for dentists licensed under s. 466.006
 532 for the last full reporting biennium before applying for a
 533 health access dental license.†

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

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

543 (8) Has never had a license revoked from another of the
 544 United States, the District of Columbia, or a United States
 545 territory.†

546 (9) Has never failed the examination specified in s.
 547 466.006, unless the applicant was reexamined pursuant to s.
 548 466.006 and received a license to practice dentistry in this
 549 state.†

550 (10) Has not been reported to the National Practitioner

551 Data Bank, unless the applicant successfully appealed to have
 552 his or her name removed from the data bank.~~;~~

553 (11) Submits proof that he or she has been engaged in the
 554 active, clinical practice of dentistry providing direct patient
 555 care for 5 years immediately preceding the date of application,
 556 or in instances when the applicant has graduated from an
 557 accredited dental school within the preceding 5 years, submits
 558 proof of continuous clinical practice providing direct patient
 559 care since graduation.~~;~~~~and~~

560 (12) Has passed an examination covering the laws and rules
 561 of the practice of dentistry in this state as described in s.
 562 466.006(4) (a).

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

565 466.007 Examination of dental hygienists.-

566 (1)1. Any person desiring to be licensed as a dental
 567 hygienist shall apply to the department to take the licensure
 568 examinations and shall verify the information required on the
 569 application by oath. The application must ~~shall~~ include two
 570 recent photographs of the applicant. There shall be a
 571 nonrefundable application fee set by the board not to exceed
 572 \$100 and an examination fee set by the board ~~which shall~~ not to
 573 exceed ~~be more than~~ \$225. The examination fee may be refunded if
 574 the applicant is found ineligible to take the examinations.

575 2. Applicants for licensure must also submit to background

576 screening in accordance with s. 456.0135.

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

579 467.011 Licensed midwives; qualifications; examination.—
580 The department shall issue a license to practice midwifery to an
581 applicant who meets all of the following criteria:

582 (5) Submits to background screening in accordance with s.
583 456.0135.

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

586 468.1185 Licensure.—

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

589 (a) Satisfied the education and supervised clinical
590 requirements of s. 468.1155.

591 (b) Satisfied the professional experience requirement of
592 s. 468.1165.

593 (c) Passed the licensure examination required by s.
594 468.1175.

595 (d) For an applicant for an audiologist license who has
596 obtained a doctoral degree in audiology, has satisfied the
597 education and supervised clinical requirements of paragraph (a)
598 and the professional experience requirements of paragraph (b).

599 (e) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
600 s. 456.0135.

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

604 (a) Holds a valid license or certificate in another state
 605 or territory of the United States to practice the profession for
 606 which the application for licensure is made, if the criteria for
 607 issuance of such license were substantially equivalent to or
 608 more stringent than the licensure criteria which existed in this
 609 state at the time the license was issued; or

610 (b) Holds a valid certificate of clinical competence of
 611 the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association or board
 612 certification in audiology from the American Board of Audiology;
 613 and

614 (c) Submits to background screening in accordance with s.
 615 456.0135.

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

618 468.1215 Speech-language pathology assistant and audiology
 619 assistant; certification.—

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

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

625 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with

626 s. 456.0135.

627 (c)~~(b)~~ Earned a bachelor's degree from a college or
628 university accredited by a regional association of colleges and
629 schools recognized by the Department of Education which includes
630 at least 24 semester hours of coursework as approved by the
631 board at an institution accredited by an accrediting agency
632 recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

633 (2) The department shall issue a certificate as an
634 audiology assistant to each applicant who the board certifies
635 has met all of the following criteria:

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

638 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
639 s. 456.0135.

640 (c)~~(b)~~ Earned a high school diploma or its equivalent.

641 Section 17. Subsections (2), (3), and (4) of section
642 468.1695, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (3),
643 (4), and (5), respectively, a new subsection (2) is added to
644 that section, and present subsection (2) of that section is
645 amended, to read:

646 468.1695 Licensure by examination.—

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

649 (3)~~(2)~~ The department shall examine each applicant who the
650 board certifies has completed the application form, submitted to

651 background screening, and remitted an examination fee set by the
 652 board not to exceed \$250 and who:

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

659 2. Has fulfilled the requirements of a college-affiliated
 660 or university-affiliated internship in nursing home
 661 administration or of a 1,000-hour nursing home administrator-in-
 662 training program prescribed by the board; or

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

665 2.a. Has fulfilled the requirements of a 2,000-hour
 666 nursing home administrator-in-training program prescribed by the
 667 board; or

668 b. Has 1 year of management experience allowing for the
 669 application of executive duties and skills, including the
 670 staffing, budgeting, and directing of resident care, dietary,
 671 and bookkeeping departments within a skilled nursing facility,
 672 hospital, hospice, assisted living facility with a minimum of 60
 673 licensed beds, or geriatric residential treatment program and,
 674 if such experience is not in a skilled nursing facility, has
 675 fulfilled the requirements of a 1,000-hour nursing home

676 administrator-in-training program prescribed by the board.

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

679 468.209 Requirements for licensure.—

680 (1) An applicant applying for a license as an occupational
681 therapist or as an occupational therapy assistant shall apply to
682 the department on forms furnished by the department. The
683 department shall license each applicant who the board certifies
684 meets all of the following criteria:

685 (a) Has completed the file a written application form and
686 remitted, accompanied by the application for licensure fee
687 prescribed in s. 468.221.

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

691 (c)-(a) Is of good moral character.

692 (d)-(b) Has successfully completed the academic
693 requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy
694 recognized by the board, with concentration in biologic or
695 physical science, psychology, and sociology, and with education
696 in selected manual skills. Such a program shall be accredited by
697 the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation
698 Council for Occupational Therapy Education, or its successor.

699 (e)-(c) Has successfully completed a period of supervised
700 fieldwork experience at a recognized educational institution or

701 a training program approved by the educational institution where
702 she or he met the academic requirements. For an occupational
703 therapist, a minimum of 6 months of supervised fieldwork
704 experience is required. For an occupational therapy assistant, a
705 minimum of 2 months of supervised fieldwork experience is
706 required.

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

709 (2) An applicant who has practiced as a state-licensed or
710 American Occupational Therapy Association-certified occupational
711 therapy assistant for 4 years and who, before January 24, 1988,
712 completed a minimum of 24 weeks of supervised occupational-
713 therapist-level fieldwork experience may take the examination to
714 be licensed as an occupational therapist without meeting the
715 educational requirements for occupational therapists made
716 otherwise applicable under paragraph (1) (d) ~~(1) (b)~~.

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

719 468.213 Licensure by endorsement.—

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

722 Section 20. Section 468.355, Florida Statutes, is amended
723 to read:

724 468.355 Licensure requirements.—To be eligible for
725 licensure by the board, an applicant must be an active

726 "certified respiratory therapist" or an active "registered
727 respiratory therapist" as designated by the National Board for
728 Respiratory Care, or its successor, and submit to background
729 screening in accordance with s. 456.0135.

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

732 468.358 Licensure by endorsement.—

733 (4) Applicants for licensure ~~shall not be granted by~~
734 ~~endorsement under as provided in this section~~ must submit
735 ~~without the submission of a proper application, remit and the~~
736 ~~payment of the requisite application fee, and submit to~~
737 background screening in accordance with s. 456.0135 ~~fees~~
738 ~~therefor.~~

739 Section 22. Subsections (2), (3), and (4) of section
740 468.509, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (3),
741 (4), and (5), respectively, a new subsection (2) is added to
742 that section, and present subsection (2) of that section is
743 amended, to read:

744 468.509 Dietitian/nutritionist; requirements for
745 licensure.—

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

748 ~~(3)-(2)~~ The department shall examine any applicant who the
749 board certifies has completed the application form, submitted to
750 background screening, and remitted the application and

751 examination fees specified in s. 468.508 and who:

752 (a)1. Possesses a baccalaureate or postbaccalaureate
753 degree with a major course of study in human nutrition, food and
754 nutrition, dietetics, or food management, or an equivalent major
755 course of study, from a school or program accredited, at the
756 time of the applicant's graduation, by the appropriate
757 accrediting agency recognized by the Commission on Recognition
758 of Postsecondary Accreditation and the United States Department
759 of Education; and

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

763 (b)1. Has an academic degree, from a foreign country, that
764 has been validated by an accrediting agency approved by the
765 United States Department of Education as equivalent to the
766 baccalaureate or postbaccalaureate degree conferred by a
767 regionally accredited college or university in the United
768 States;

769 2. Has completed a major course of study in human
770 nutrition, food and nutrition, dietetics, or food management;
771 and

772 3. Has completed a preprofessional experience component of
773 not less than 900 hours or has education or experience
774 determined to be equivalent by the board.

775 Section 23. Subsection (1) of section 468.513, Florida

776 Statutes, is amended to read:

777 468.513 Dietitian/nutritionist; licensure by endorsement.—

778 (1) The department shall issue a license to practice
779 dietetics and nutrition by endorsement to any applicant who
780 submits to background screening in accordance with s. 456.0135
781 and the board certifies as qualified, upon receipt of a
782 completed application and the fee specified in s. 468.508.

783 Section 24. Subsection (2) of section 468.803, Florida
784 Statutes, is amended to read:

785 468.803 License, registration, and examination
786 requirements.—

787 (2) An applicant for registration, examination, or
788 licensure must apply to the department on a form prescribed by
789 the board for consideration of board approval. Each initial
790 applicant shall submit fingerprints to the department in
791 accordance with s. 456.0135 and any other procedures specified
792 by the department for state and national criminal history checks
793 of the applicant. The board shall screen the results to
794 determine if an applicant meets licensure requirements. The
795 board shall consider for examination, registration, or licensure
796 each applicant whom the board verifies meets all of the
797 following criteria:

798 (a) Has submitted the completed application and completed
799 the fingerprinting requirements and has paid the applicable
800 application fee, not to exceed \$500. The application fee is

801 nonrefundable.~~†~~

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

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

804 (d) Has completed the appropriate educational preparation.

805 Section 25. Subsection (1) of section 478.45, Florida

806 Statutes, is amended to read:

807 478.45 Requirements for licensure.—

808 (1) An applicant applying for licensure as an

809 electrologist shall apply to the department on forms furnished

810 by the department. The department shall license each applicant

811 who the board certifies meets all of the following criteria:

812 (a) Has completed the file a written application form and

813 remitted, ~~accompanied by~~ the application for licensure fee

814 prescribed in s. 478.55.

815 (b) Has submitted to background screening in accordance

816 with s. 456.0135, ~~on a form provided by the board, showing to~~

817 ~~the satisfaction of the board that the applicant:~~

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

819 (d)~~(b)~~ Is of good moral character.

820 (e)~~(c)~~ Possesses a high school diploma or a high school

821 equivalency diploma.

822 (f)~~(d)~~ Has not committed an act in any jurisdiction which

823 would constitute grounds for disciplining an electrologist in

824 this state.

825 (g)~~(e)~~ Has successfully completed the academic

826 requirements of an electrolysis training program, not to exceed
 827 120 hours, and the practical application thereof as approved by
 828 the board.

829 Section 26. Section 483.815, Florida Statutes, is amended
 830 to read:

831 483.815 Application for clinical laboratory personnel
 832 license.—An application for a clinical laboratory personnel
 833 license shall be made under oath on forms provided by the
 834 department and shall be accompanied by payment of fees as
 835 provided by this part. Applicants for licensure must also submit
 836 to background screening in accordance with s. 456.0135. A
 837 license may be issued authorizing the performance of procedures
 838 of one or more categories.

839 Section 27. Paragraphs (b) through (k) of subsection (4)
 840 of section 483.901, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
 841 paragraphs (c) through (l), respectively, a new paragraph (b) is
 842 added to that subsection, and paragraph (a) of that subsection
 843 is amended, to read:

844 483.901 Medical physicists; definitions; licensure.—

845 (4) LICENSE REQUIRED.—An individual may not engage in the
 846 practice of medical physics, including the specialties of
 847 diagnostic radiological physics, therapeutic radiological
 848 physics, medical nuclear radiological physics, or medical health
 849 physics, without a license issued by the department for the
 850 appropriate specialty.

851 (a) The department shall adopt rules to administer this
 852 section which specify license application and renewal fees,
 853 continuing education requirements, background screening
 854 requirements, and standards for practicing medical physics. The
 855 department shall require a minimum of 24 hours per biennium of
 856 continuing education offered by an organization approved by the
 857 department. The department may adopt rules to specify continuing
 858 education requirements for persons who hold a license in more
 859 than one specialty.

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

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

864 483.914 Licensure requirements.—

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

868 (a) Has completed an application.

869 (b) Has submitted to background screening in accordance
 870 with s. 456.0135.

871 (c)~~(b)~~ Is of good moral character.

872 (d)~~(e)~~ Provides satisfactory documentation of having
 873 earned:

874 1. A master's degree from a genetic counseling training
 875 program or its equivalent as determined by the Accreditation

876 Council of Genetic Counseling or its successor or an equivalent
 877 entity; or

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

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

882 1. A genetic counselor by the American Board of Genetic
 883 Counseling, Inc., the American Board of Medical Genetics and
 884 Genomics, or the Canadian Association of Genetic Counsellors; or

885 2. A medical or clinical geneticist by the American Board
 886 of Medical Genetics and Genomics or the Canadian College of
 887 Medical Geneticists.

888 (3) The department may issue a temporary license for up to
 889 2 years to an applicant who meets all requirements for licensure
 890 except for the certification examination requirement imposed
 891 under paragraph (2)(e) ~~(2)(d)~~ and is eligible to sit for that
 892 certification examination.

893 Section 29. Subsection (1) of section 484.007, Florida
 894 Statutes, is amended to read:

895 484.007 Licensure of opticians; permitting of optical
 896 establishments.—

897 (1) Any person desiring to practice opticianry shall apply
 898 to the department, upon forms prescribed by it, to take a
 899 licensure examination. The department shall examine each
 900 applicant who the board certifies meets all of the following

901 criteria:

902 (a) Has completed the application form and remitted a
 903 nonrefundable application fee set by the board, in the amount of
 904 \$100 or less, and an examination fee set by the board, in the
 905 amount of \$325 plus the actual per applicant cost to the
 906 department for purchase of portions of the examination from the
 907 American Board of Opticianry or a similar national organization,
 908 or less, and refundable if the board finds the applicant
 909 ineligible to take the examination. †

910 (b) Submits to background screening in accordance with s.
 911 456.0135.

912 (c) ~~(b)~~ Is not less than 18 years of age. †

913 (d) ~~(e)~~ Is a graduate of an accredited high school or
 914 possesses a certificate of equivalency of a high school
 915 education. † ~~and~~

916 (e) 1. ~~(d) 1.~~ Has received an associate degree, or its
 917 equivalent, in opticianry from an educational institution the
 918 curriculum of which is accredited by an accrediting agency
 919 recognized and approved by the United States Department of
 920 Education or the Council on Postsecondary Education or approved
 921 by the board;

922 2. Is an individual licensed to practice the profession of
 923 opticianry pursuant to a regulatory licensing law of another
 924 state, territory, or jurisdiction of the United States, who has
 925 actively practiced in such other state, territory, or

926 jurisdiction for more than 3 years immediately preceding
 927 application, and who meets the examination qualifications as
 928 provided in this subsection;

929 3. Is an individual who has actively practiced in another
 930 state, territory, or jurisdiction of the United States for more
 931 than 5 years immediately preceding application and who provides
 932 tax or business records, affidavits, or other satisfactory
 933 documentation of such practice and who meets the examination
 934 qualifications as provided in this subsection; or

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

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

949 484.045 Licensure by examination.—

950 (2) The department shall license each applicant who the

951 board certifies meets all of the following criteria:

952 (a) Has completed the application form and remitted the
953 required fees.

954 (b) Has submitted to background screening in accordance
955 with s. 456.0135.

956 (c)~~(b)~~ Is of good moral character.

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

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

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

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

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

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

970 (h)~~(g)~~ Has demonstrated, in a manner designated by rule of
971 the board, knowledge of state laws and rules relating to the
972 fitting and dispensing of prescription hearing aids.

973 Section 31. Section 486.031, Florida Statutes, is amended
974 to read:

975 486.031 Physical therapist; licensing requirements.—To be

976 eligible for licensing as a physical therapist, an applicant
 977 must meet all of the following criteria:

- 978 (1) Be at least 18 years old.;
- 979 (2) Be of good moral character.
- 980 (3) Have submitted to background screening in accordance
 981 with s. 456.0135.;~~and~~

982 (4) (a) (3) (a) Have ~~been~~ graduated from a school of physical
 983 therapy which has been approved for the educational preparation
 984 of physical therapists by the appropriate accrediting agency
 985 recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, or
 986 its successor entity, Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary
 987 Accreditation or the United States Department of Education at
 988 the time of her or his graduation and have passed, to the
 989 satisfaction of the board, the American Registry Examination
 990 prior to 1971 or a national examination approved by the board to
 991 determine her or his fitness for practice as a physical
 992 therapist as hereinafter provided;

993 (b) Have received a diploma from a program in physical
 994 therapy in a foreign country and have educational credentials
 995 deemed equivalent to those required for the educational
 996 preparation of physical therapists in this country, as
 997 recognized by the appropriate agency as identified by the board,
 998 and have passed to the satisfaction of the board an examination
 999 to determine her or his fitness for practice as a physical
 1000 therapist as hereinafter provided; or

1001 (c) Be entitled to licensure without examination as
 1002 provided in s. 486.081.

1003 Section 32. Section 486.102, Florida Statutes, is amended
 1004 to read:

1005 486.102 Physical therapist assistant; licensing
 1006 requirements.—To be eligible for licensing by the board as a
 1007 physical therapist assistant, an applicant must meet all of the
 1008 following criteria:

1009 (1) Be at least 18 years old.‡

1010 (2) Be of good moral character.‡

1011 (3) Have submitted to background screening in accordance
 1012 with s. 456.0135.‡ and

1013 (4) (a) ~~(3) (a)~~ Have been graduated from a school giving a
 1014 course of not less than 2 years for physical therapist
 1015 assistants, which has been approved for the educational
 1016 preparation of physical therapist assistants by the appropriate
 1017 accrediting agency recognized by the Council for Higher
 1018 Education Accreditation, or its successor entity, ~~Commission on~~
 1019 ~~Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation~~ or the United States
 1020 Department of Education,‡ at the time of her or his graduation
 1021 and have passed to the satisfaction of the board an examination
 1022 to determine her or his fitness for practice as a physical
 1023 therapist assistant as hereinafter provided;

1024 (b) Have ~~been~~ graduated from a school giving a course for
 1025 physical therapist assistants in a foreign country and have

1026 educational credentials deemed equivalent to those required for
 1027 the educational preparation of physical therapist assistants in
 1028 this country, as recognized by the appropriate agency as
 1029 identified by the board, and passed to the satisfaction of the
 1030 board an examination to determine her or his fitness for
 1031 practice as a physical therapist assistant as hereinafter
 1032 provided;

1033 (c) Be entitled to licensure without examination as
 1034 provided in s. 486.107; or

1035 (d) Have been enrolled between July 1, 2014, and July 1,
 1036 2016, in a physical therapist assistant school in this state
 1037 which was accredited at the time of enrollment; and

1038 1. Have ~~been graduated or be eligible to graduate from~~
 1039 ~~such school no later than July 1, 2018;~~ and

1040 2. Have passed to the satisfaction of the board an
 1041 examination to determine his or her fitness for practice as a
 1042 physical therapist assistant as provided in s. 486.104.

1043 Section 33. Paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of subsection (1)
 1044 of section 490.005, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
 1045 paragraphs (c), (d), and (e), respectively, a new paragraph (b)
 1046 is added to that subsection, and subsection (2) is amended, to
 1047 read:

1048 490.005 Licensure by examination.—

1049 (1) Any person desiring to be licensed as a psychologist
 1050 shall apply to the department to take the licensure examination.

1051 The department shall license each applicant whom the board
1052 certifies has met all of the following requirements:

1053 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
1054 s. 456.0135.

1055 (2) Any person desiring to be licensed as a school
1056 psychologist shall apply to the department to take the licensure
1057 examination. The department shall license each applicant who the
1058 department certifies has met all of the following requirements:

1059 (a) Satisfactorily completed the application form and
1060 submitted a nonrefundable application fee not to exceed \$250 and
1061 an examination fee sufficient to cover the per applicant cost to
1062 the department for development, purchase, and administration of
1063 the examination, but not to exceed \$250 as set by department
1064 rule.

1065 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
1066 s. 456.0135.

1067 (c)~~(b)~~ Submitted satisfactory proof to the department that
1068 the applicant:

1069 1. Has received a doctorate, specialist, or equivalent
1070 degree from a program primarily psychological in nature and has
1071 completed 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of graduate
1072 study, in areas related to school psychology as defined by rule
1073 of the department, from a college or university which at the
1074 time the applicant was enrolled and graduated was accredited by
1075 an accrediting agency recognized and approved by the Council for

1076 Higher Education Accreditation or its successor organization or
1077 from an institution that is a member in good standing with the
1078 Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

1079 2. Has had a minimum of 3 years of experience in school
1080 psychology, 2 years of which must be supervised by an individual
1081 who is a licensed school psychologist or who has otherwise
1082 qualified as a school psychologist supervisor, by education and
1083 experience, as set forth by rule of the department. A doctoral
1084 internship may be applied toward the supervision requirement.

1085 3. Has passed an examination provided by the department.

1086 Section 34. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (1) of
1087 section 490.0051, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
1088 paragraphs (c) and (d), respectively, and a new paragraph (b) is
1089 added to that subsection, to read:

1090 490.0051 Provisional licensure; requirements.—

1091 (1) The department shall issue a provisional psychology
1092 license to each applicant whom the board certifies has met all
1093 of the following criteria:

1094 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
1095 s. 456.0135.

1096 Section 35. Subsection (1) of section 490.006, Florida
1097 Statutes, is amended to read:

1098 490.006 Licensure by endorsement.—

1099 (1) The department shall license a person as a
1100 psychologist or school psychologist who, upon applying to the

1101 department, submitting to background screening in accordance
1102 with s. 456.0135, and remitting the appropriate fee,
1103 demonstrates to the department or, in the case of psychologists,
1104 to the board that the applicant:

1105 (a) Is a diplomate in good standing with the American
1106 Board of Professional Psychology, Inc.; or

1107 (b) Possesses a doctoral degree in psychology and has at
1108 least 10 years of experience as a licensed psychologist in any
1109 jurisdiction or territory of the United States within the 25
1110 years preceding the date of application.

1111 Section 36. Subsections (1), (2), (4), and (6) of section
1112 491.0045, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1113 491.0045 Intern registration; requirements.—

1114 (1) An individual who has not satisfied the postgraduate
1115 or post-master's level experience requirements, as specified in
1116 s. 491.005(1)(d), (3)(d), or (4)(d) ~~s. 491.005(1)(e), (3)(e), or~~
1117 ~~(4)(e),~~ must register as an intern in the profession for which
1118 he or she is seeking licensure before commencing the post-
1119 master's experience requirement or an individual who intends to
1120 satisfy part of the required graduate-level practicum,
1121 internship, or field experience, outside the academic arena for
1122 any profession, and must register as an intern in the profession
1123 for which he or she is seeking licensure before commencing the
1124 practicum, internship, or field experience.

1125 (2) The department shall register as a clinical social

1126 worker intern, marriage and family therapist intern, or mental
1127 health counselor intern each applicant who the board certifies
1128 has met all of the following criteria:

1129 (a) Completed the application form and remitted a
1130 nonrefundable application fee not to exceed \$200, as set by
1131 board rule.†

1132 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
1133 s. 456.0135.

1134 (c)~~(b)~~1. Completed the education requirements as specified
1135 in s. 491.005(1)(d), (3)(d), or (4)(d) ~~s. 491.005(1)(c), (3)(c),~~
1136 ~~or (4)(c)~~ for the profession for which he or she is applying for
1137 licensure, if needed; and

1138 2. Submitted an acceptable supervision plan, as determined
1139 by the board, for meeting the practicum, internship, or field
1140 work required for licensure that was not satisfied in his or her
1141 graduate program.

1142 (d)~~(e)~~ Identified a qualified supervisor.

1143 (4) An individual who fails to comply with this section
1144 may not be granted a license under this chapter, and any time
1145 spent by the individual completing the experience requirement as
1146 specified in s. 491.005(1)(d), (3)(d), or (4)(d) ~~s.~~
1147 ~~491.005(1)(c), (3)(c), or (4)(c)~~ before registering as an intern
1148 does not count toward completion of the requirement.

1149 (6) Any registration issued after March 31, 2017, expires
1150 60 months after the date it is issued. The board may make a one-

1151 time exception to the requirements of this subsection in
 1152 emergency or hardship cases, as defined by board rule, if the
 1153 candidate has passed the theory and practice examination
 1154 described in s. 491.005(1)(e), (3)(e), and (4)(e) ~~or~~
 1155 ~~491.005(1)(d), (3)(d), and (4)(d).~~

1156 Section 37. Subsection (2) of section 491.0046, Florida
 1157 Statutes, is amended to read:

1158 491.0046 Provisional license; requirements.—

1159 (2) The department shall issue a provisional clinical
 1160 social worker license, provisional marriage and family therapist
 1161 license, or provisional mental health counselor license to each
 1162 applicant who the board certifies has met all of the following
 1163 criteria:

1164 (a) Completed the application form and remitted a
 1165 nonrefundable application fee not to exceed \$100, as set by
 1166 board rule. ~~;~~ ~~and~~

1167 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
 1168 s. 456.0135.

1169 (c) ~~(b)~~ Earned a graduate degree in social work, a graduate
 1170 degree with a major emphasis in marriage and family therapy or a
 1171 closely related field, or a graduate degree in a major related
 1172 to the practice of mental health counseling. ~~;~~ ~~and~~

1173 (d) ~~(e)~~ Met the following minimum coursework requirements:

1174 1. For clinical social work, a minimum of 15 semester
 1175 hours or 22 quarter hours of the coursework required by s.

1176 | 491.005(1)(c)2.b. ~~s. 491.005(1)(b)2.b.~~

1177 | 2. For marriage and family therapy, 10 of the courses
1178 | required by s. 491.005(3)(c) ~~s. 491.005(3)(b)~~, as determined by
1179 | the board, and at least 6 semester hours or 9 quarter hours of
1180 | the course credits must have been completed in the area of
1181 | marriage and family systems, theories, or techniques.

1182 | 3. For mental health counseling, a minimum of seven of the
1183 | courses required under s. 491.005(4)(c)1.a., b., or c. ~~s.~~
1184 | ~~491.005(4)(b)1.a.-c.~~

1185 | Section 38. Subsections (1) through (4) of section
1186 | 491.005, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1187 | 491.005 Licensure by examination.—

1188 | (1) CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK.—Upon verification of
1189 | documentation and payment of a fee not to exceed \$200, as set by
1190 | board rule, the department shall issue a license as a clinical
1191 | social worker to an applicant whom the board certifies has met
1192 | all of the following criteria:

1193 | (a) Submitted an application and paid the appropriate fee.

1194 | **(b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with**
1195 | **s. 456.0135.**

1196 | **(c) ~~(b)~~1.** Received a doctoral degree in social work from a
1197 | graduate school of social work which at the time the applicant
1198 | graduated was accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by
1199 | the United States Department of Education or received a master's
1200 | degree in social work from a graduate school of social work

1201 | which at the time the applicant graduated:

1202 | a. Was accredited by the Council on Social Work Education;

1203 | b. Was accredited by the Canadian Association for Social

1204 | Work Education; or

1205 | c. Has been determined to have been a program equivalent

1206 | to programs approved by the Council on Social Work Education by

1207 | the Foreign Equivalency Determination Service of the Council on

1208 | Social Work Education. An applicant who graduated from a program

1209 | at a university or college outside of the United States or

1210 | Canada must present documentation of the equivalency

1211 | determination from the council in order to qualify.

1212 | 2. The applicant's graduate program emphasized direct

1213 | clinical patient or client health care services, including, but

1214 | not limited to, coursework in clinical social work, psychiatric

1215 | social work, medical social work, social casework,

1216 | psychotherapy, or group therapy. The applicant's graduate

1217 | program must have included all of the following coursework:

1218 | a. A supervised field placement which was part of the

1219 | applicant's advanced concentration in direct practice, during

1220 | which the applicant provided clinical services directly to

1221 | clients.

1222 | b. Completion of 24 semester hours or 32 quarter hours in

1223 | theory of human behavior and practice methods as courses in

1224 | clinically oriented services, including a minimum of one course

1225 | in psychopathology, and no more than one course in research,

1226 taken in a school of social work accredited or approved pursuant
1227 to subparagraph 1.

1228 3. If the course title which appears on the applicant's
1229 transcript does not clearly identify the content of the
1230 coursework, the applicant provided additional documentation,
1231 including, but not limited to, a syllabus or catalog description
1232 published for the course.

1233 (d)~~(e)~~ Completed at least 2 years of clinical social work
1234 experience, which took place subsequent to completion of a
1235 graduate degree in social work at an institution meeting the
1236 accreditation requirements of this section, under the
1237 supervision of a licensed clinical social worker or the
1238 equivalent who is a qualified supervisor as determined by the
1239 board. An individual who intends to practice in Florida to
1240 satisfy clinical experience requirements must register pursuant
1241 to s. 491.0045 before commencing practice. If the applicant's
1242 graduate program was not a program which emphasized direct
1243 clinical patient or client health care services as described in
1244 subparagraph (c)2. ~~(b)2.~~, the supervised experience requirement
1245 must take place after the applicant has completed a minimum of
1246 15 semester hours or 22 quarter hours of the coursework
1247 required. A doctoral internship may be applied toward the
1248 clinical social work experience requirement. A licensed mental
1249 health professional must be on the premises when clinical
1250 services are provided by a registered intern in a private

1251 practice setting.

1252 (e)~~(d)~~ Passed a theory and practice examination designated
1253 by board rule.

1254 (f)~~(e)~~ Demonstrated, in a manner designated by board rule,
1255 knowledge of the laws and rules governing the practice of
1256 clinical social work, marriage and family therapy, and mental
1257 health counseling.

1258 (2) CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK.—

1259 (a) Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ paragraph (1)(c)
1260 ~~(1)(b)~~, coursework which was taken at a baccalaureate level
1261 shall not be considered toward completion of education
1262 requirements for licensure unless an official of the graduate
1263 program certifies in writing on the graduate school's stationery
1264 that a specific course, which students enrolled in the same
1265 graduate program were ordinarily required to complete at the
1266 graduate level, was waived or exempted based on completion of a
1267 similar course at the baccalaureate level. If this condition is
1268 met, the board shall apply the baccalaureate course named toward
1269 the education requirements.

1270 (b) An applicant from a master's or doctoral program in
1271 social work which did not emphasize direct patient or client
1272 services may complete the clinical curriculum content
1273 requirement by returning to a graduate program accredited by the
1274 Council on Social Work Education or the Canadian Association of
1275 Schools of Social Work, or to a clinical social work graduate

1276 program with comparable standards, in order to complete the
1277 education requirements for examination. However, a maximum of 6
1278 semester or 9 quarter hours of the clinical curriculum content
1279 requirement may be completed by credit awarded for independent
1280 study coursework as defined by board rule.

1281 (3) MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY.—Upon verification of
1282 documentation and payment of a fee not to exceed \$200, as set by
1283 board rule, the department shall issue a license as a marriage
1284 and family therapist to an applicant whom the board certifies
1285 has met all of the following criteria:

1286 (a) Submitted an application and paid the appropriate fee.

1287 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
1288 s. 456.0135.

1289 (c)1. Attained one of the following:

1290 a. A minimum of a master's degree in marriage and family
1291 therapy from a program accredited by the Commission on
1292 Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education.

1293 b. A minimum of a master's degree with a major emphasis in
1294 marriage and family therapy or a closely related field from a
1295 university program accredited by the Council on Accreditation of
1296 Counseling and Related Educational Programs and graduate courses
1297 approved by the board.

1298 c. A minimum of a master's degree with an emphasis in
1299 marriage and family therapy or a closely related field, with a
1300 degree conferred before September 1, 2027, from an

1301 institutionally accredited college or university and graduate
1302 courses approved by the board.

1303 2. If the course title that appears on the applicant's
1304 transcript does not clearly identify the content of the
1305 coursework, the applicant provided additional documentation,
1306 including, but not limited to, a syllabus or catalog description
1307 published for the course. The required master's degree must have
1308 been received in an institution of higher education that, at the
1309 time the applicant graduated, was fully accredited by an
1310 institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for
1311 Higher Education Accreditation or its successor organization or
1312 was a member in good standing with Universities Canada, or an
1313 institution of higher education located outside the United
1314 States and Canada which, at the time the applicant was enrolled
1315 and at the time the applicant graduated, maintained a standard
1316 of training substantially equivalent to the standards of
1317 training of those institutions in the United States which are
1318 accredited by an institutional accrediting body recognized by
1319 the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor
1320 organization. Such foreign education and training must have been
1321 received in an institution or program of higher education
1322 officially recognized by the government of the country in which
1323 it is located as an institution or program to train students to
1324 practice as professional marriage and family therapists or
1325 psychotherapists. The applicant has the burden of establishing

1326 that the requirements of this provision have been met, and the
1327 board shall require documentation, such as an evaluation by a
1328 foreign equivalency determination service, as evidence that the
1329 applicant's graduate degree program and education were
1330 equivalent to an accredited program in this country. An
1331 applicant with a master's degree from a program that did not
1332 emphasize marriage and family therapy may complete the
1333 coursework requirement in a training institution fully
1334 accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and
1335 Family Therapy Education recognized by the United States
1336 Department of Education.

1337 (d)~~(e)~~ Completed at least 2 years of clinical experience
1338 during which 50 percent of the applicant's clients were
1339 receiving marriage and family therapy services, which must be at
1340 the post-master's level under the supervision of a licensed
1341 marriage and family therapist with at least 5 years of
1342 experience, or the equivalent, who is a qualified supervisor as
1343 determined by the board. An individual who intends to practice
1344 in Florida to satisfy the clinical experience requirements must
1345 register pursuant to s. 491.0045 before commencing practice. If
1346 a graduate has a master's degree with a major emphasis in
1347 marriage and family therapy or a closely related field which did
1348 not include all of the coursework required by paragraph (c) ~~(b)~~,
1349 credit for the post-master's level clinical experience may not
1350 commence until the applicant has completed a minimum of 10 of

1351 the courses required by paragraph (c) ~~(b)~~, as determined by the
 1352 board, and at least 6 semester hours or 9 quarter hours of the
 1353 course credits must have been completed in the area of marriage
 1354 and family systems, theories, or techniques. Within the 2 years
 1355 of required experience, the applicant shall provide direct
 1356 individual, group, or family therapy and counseling to cases
 1357 including those involving unmarried dyads, married couples,
 1358 separating and divorcing couples, and family groups that include
 1359 children. A doctoral internship may be applied toward the
 1360 clinical experience requirement. A licensed mental health
 1361 professional must be on the premises when clinical services are
 1362 provided by a registered intern in a private practice setting.

1363 (e) ~~(d)~~ Passed a theory and practice examination designated
 1364 by board rule.

1365 (f) ~~(e)~~ Demonstrated, in a manner designated by board rule,
 1366 knowledge of the laws and rules governing the practice of
 1367 clinical social work, marriage and family therapy, and mental
 1368 health counseling.

1369
 1370 For the purposes of dual licensure, the department shall license
 1371 as a marriage and family therapist any person who meets the
 1372 requirements of s. 491.0057. Fees for dual licensure may not
 1373 exceed those stated in this subsection.

1374 (4) MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING.—Upon verification of
 1375 documentation and payment of a fee not to exceed \$200, as set by

1376 board rule, the department shall issue a license as a mental
 1377 health counselor to an applicant whom the board certifies has
 1378 met all of the following criteria:

1379 (a) Submitted an application and paid the appropriate fee.

1380 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
 1381 s. 456.0135.

1382 (c)~~(b)~~1. Attained a minimum of an earned master's degree
 1383 from a mental health counseling program accredited by the
 1384 Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related
 1385 Educational Programs which consists of at least 60 semester
 1386 hours or 80 quarter hours of clinical and didactic instruction,
 1387 including a course in human sexuality and a course in substance
 1388 abuse. If the master's degree is earned from a program related
 1389 to the practice of mental health counseling which is not
 1390 accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling
 1391 and Related Educational Programs, then the coursework and
 1392 practicum, internship, or fieldwork must consist of at least 60
 1393 semester hours or 80 quarter hours and meet all of the following
 1394 requirements:

1395 a. Thirty-three semester hours or 44 quarter hours of
 1396 graduate coursework, which must include a minimum of 3 semester
 1397 hours or 4 quarter hours of graduate-level coursework in each of
 1398 the following 11 content areas: counseling theories and
 1399 practice; human growth and development; diagnosis and treatment
 1400 of psychopathology; human sexuality; group theories and

1401 practice; individual evaluation and assessment; career and
1402 lifestyle assessment; research and program evaluation; social
1403 and cultural foundations; substance abuse; and legal, ethical,
1404 and professional standards issues in the practice of mental
1405 health counseling. Courses in research, thesis or dissertation
1406 work, practicums, internships, or fieldwork may not be applied
1407 toward this requirement.

1408 b. A minimum of 3 semester hours or 4 quarter hours of
1409 graduate-level coursework addressing diagnostic processes,
1410 including differential diagnosis and the use of the current
1411 diagnostic tools, such as the current edition of the American
1412 Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of
1413 Mental Disorders. The graduate program must have emphasized the
1414 common core curricular experience.

1415 c. The equivalent, as determined by the board, of at least
1416 700 hours of university-sponsored supervised clinical practicum,
1417 internship, or field experience that includes at least 280 hours
1418 of direct client services, as required in the accrediting
1419 standards of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and
1420 Related Educational Programs for mental health counseling
1421 programs. This experience may not be used to satisfy the post-
1422 master's clinical experience requirement.

1423 2. Provided additional documentation if a course title
1424 that appears on the applicant's transcript does not clearly
1425 identify the content of the coursework. The documentation must

1426 include, but is not limited to, a syllabus or catalog
1427 description published for the course.
1428
1429 Education and training in mental health counseling must have
1430 been received in an institution of higher education that, at the
1431 time the applicant graduated, was fully accredited by an
1432 institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for
1433 Higher Education Accreditation or its successor organization or
1434 was a member in good standing with Universities Canada, or an
1435 institution of higher education located outside the United
1436 States and Canada which, at the time the applicant was enrolled
1437 and at the time the applicant graduated, maintained a standard
1438 of training substantially equivalent to the standards of
1439 training of those institutions in the United States which are
1440 accredited by an institutional accrediting body recognized by
1441 the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor
1442 organization. Such foreign education and training must have been
1443 received in an institution or program of higher education
1444 officially recognized by the government of the country in which
1445 it is located as an institution or program to train students to
1446 practice as mental health counselors. The applicant has the
1447 burden of establishing that the requirements of this provision
1448 have been met, and the board shall require documentation, such
1449 as an evaluation by a foreign equivalency determination service,
1450 as evidence that the applicant's graduate degree program and

1451 education were equivalent to an accredited program in this
1452 country. Beginning July 1, 2025, an applicant must have a
1453 master's degree from a program that is accredited by the Council
1454 for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational
1455 Programs, the Masters in Psychology and Counseling Accreditation
1456 Council, or an equivalent accrediting body which consists of at
1457 least 60 semester hours or 80 quarter hours to apply for
1458 licensure under this paragraph.

1459 (d)~~(e)~~ Completed at least 2 years of clinical experience
1460 in mental health counseling, which must be at the post-master's
1461 level under the supervision of a licensed mental health
1462 counselor or the equivalent who is a qualified supervisor as
1463 determined by the board. An individual who intends to practice
1464 in Florida to satisfy the clinical experience requirements must
1465 register pursuant to s. 491.0045 before commencing practice. If
1466 a graduate has a master's degree with a major related to the
1467 practice of mental health counseling which did not include all
1468 the coursework required under sub-subparagraphs (c)1.a and b.
1469 ~~(b)1.a. and b.~~, credit for the post-master's level clinical
1470 experience may not commence until the applicant has completed a
1471 minimum of seven of the courses required under sub-subparagraphs
1472 (c)1.a and b. ~~(b)1.a. and b.~~, as determined by the board, one of
1473 which must be a course in psychopathology or abnormal
1474 psychology. A doctoral internship may be applied toward the
1475 clinical experience requirement. A licensed mental health

1476 professional must be on the premises when clinical services are
 1477 provided by a registered intern in a private practice setting.

1478 ~~(e)-(d)~~ Passed a theory and practice examination designated
 1479 by board rule.

1480 ~~(f)-(e)~~ Demonstrated, in a manner designated by board rule,
 1481 knowledge of the laws and rules governing the practice of
 1482 clinical social work, marriage and family therapy, and mental
 1483 health counseling.

1484 Section 39. Subsection (1) of section 491.006, Florida
 1485 Statutes, is amended to read:

1486 491.006 Licensure or certification by endorsement.—

1487 (1) The department shall license or grant a certificate to
 1488 a person in a profession regulated by this chapter who, upon
 1489 applying to the department and remitting the appropriate fee,
 1490 demonstrates to the board that he or she:

1491 (a) Has demonstrated, in a manner designated by rule of
 1492 the board, knowledge of the laws and rules governing the
 1493 practice of clinical social work, marriage and family therapy,
 1494 and mental health counseling.

1495 (b) Submitted to background screening in accordance with
 1496 s. 456.0135.

1497 ~~(c)-(b)~~1. Holds an active valid license to practice and has
 1498 actively practiced the licensed profession in another state for
 1499 3 of the last 5 years immediately preceding licensure;

1500 2. Has passed a substantially equivalent licensing

1501 examination in another state or has passed the licensure
 1502 examination in this state in the profession for which the
 1503 applicant seeks licensure; and

1504 3. Holds a license in good standing, is not under
 1505 investigation for an act that would constitute a violation of
 1506 this chapter, and has not been found to have committed any act
 1507 that would constitute a violation of this chapter.

1508

1509 The fees paid by any applicant for certification as a master
 1510 social worker under this section are nonrefundable.

1511 Section 40. Paragraphs (d), (f), and (i) of subsection (1)
 1512 of section 468.505, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1513 468.505 Exemptions; exceptions.—

1514 (1) Nothing in this part may be construed as prohibiting
 1515 or restricting the practice, services, or activities of:

1516 (d) A person pursuing a course of study leading to a
 1517 degree in dietetics and nutrition from a program or school
 1518 accredited pursuant to s. 468.509(3) ~~s. 468.509(2)~~, if the
 1519 activities and services constitute a part of a supervised course
 1520 of study and if the person is designated by a title that clearly
 1521 indicates the person's status as a student or trainee.

1522 (f) Any dietitian or nutritionist from another state
 1523 practicing dietetics or nutrition incidental to a course of
 1524 study when taking or giving a postgraduate course or other
 1525 course of study in this state, provided such dietitian or

1526 nutritionist is licensed in another jurisdiction or is a
1527 registered dietitian or holds an appointment on the faculty of a
1528 school accredited pursuant to s. 468.509(3) ~~s. 468.509(2)~~.

1529 (i) An educator who is in the employ of a nonprofit
1530 organization approved by the council; a federal, state, county,
1531 or municipal agency, or other political subdivision; an
1532 elementary or secondary school; or an accredited institution of
1533 higher education the definition of which, as provided in s.
1534 468.509(3) ~~s. 468.509(2)~~, applies to other sections of this
1535 part, insofar as the activities and services of the educator are
1536 part of such employment.

1537 Section 41. Section 486.025, Florida Statutes, is amended
1538 to read:

1539 486.025 Powers and duties of the Board of Physical Therapy
1540 Practice.—The board may administer oaths, summon witnesses, take
1541 testimony in all matters relating to its duties under this
1542 chapter, establish or modify minimum standards of practice of
1543 physical therapy as defined in s. 486.021, including, but not
1544 limited to, standards of practice for the performance of dry
1545 needling by physical therapists, and adopt rules pursuant to ss.
1546 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement this chapter. The board may
1547 also review the standing and reputability of any school or
1548 college offering courses in physical therapy and whether the
1549 courses of such school or college in physical therapy meet the
1550 standards established by the appropriate accrediting agency

1551 referred to in s. 486.031(4)(a) ~~s. 486.031(3)(a)~~. In determining
1552 the standing and reputability of any such school and whether the
1553 school and courses meet such standards, the board may
1554 investigate and personally inspect the school and courses.

1555 Section 42. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
1556 486.0715, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1557 486.0715 Physical therapist; issuance of temporary
1558 permit.—

1559 (1) The board shall issue a temporary physical therapist
1560 permit to an applicant who meets the following requirements:

1561 (b) Is a graduate of an approved United States physical
1562 therapy educational program and meets all the eligibility
1563 requirements for licensure under chapter ch. 456, s. 486.031(1) -
1564 (4)(a) ~~s. 486.031(1) - (3)(a)~~, and related rules, except passage
1565 of a national examination approved by the board is not required.

1566 Section 43. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
1567 486.1065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1568 486.1065 Physical therapist assistant; issuance of
1569 temporary permit.—

1570 (1) The board shall issue a temporary physical therapist
1571 assistant permit to an applicant who meets the following
1572 requirements:

1573 (b) Is a graduate of an approved United States physical
1574 therapy assistant educational program and meets all the
1575 eligibility requirements for licensure under chapter ch. 456, s.

1576 486.102(1)-(4)(a) ~~s. 486.102(1)-(3)(a)~~, and related rules,
1577 except passage of a national examination approved by the board
1578 is not required.

1579 Section 44. Subsections (15), (16), and (17) of section
1580 491.003, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1581 491.003 Definitions.—As used in this chapter:

1582 (15) "Registered clinical social worker intern" means a
1583 person registered under this chapter who is completing the
1584 postgraduate clinical social work experience requirement
1585 specified in s. 491.005(1)(d) ~~s. 491.005(1)(e)~~.

1586 (16) "Registered marriage and family therapist intern"
1587 means a person registered under this chapter who is completing
1588 the post-master's clinical experience requirement specified in
1589 s. 491.005(3)(d) ~~s. 491.005(3)(e)~~.

1590 (17) "Registered mental health counselor intern" means a
1591 person registered under this chapter who is completing the post-
1592 master's clinical experience requirement specified in s.
1593 491.005(4)(d) ~~s. 491.005(4)(e)~~.

1594 Section 45. For the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year, nine full-time
1595 equivalent positions, with associated salary rate of 714,651 are
1596 authorized and the sums of \$1,164,134 in recurring and \$59,931
1597 in nonrecurring funds from the Medical Quality Assurance Trust
1598 Fund are appropriated to the Department of Health for the
1599 purpose of implementing this act.

1600 Section 46. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.