

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to clinical laboratory personnel;  
 3           amending s. 483.809, F.S.; removing requirements that  
 4           the Department of Health conduct examinations for  
 5           clinical laboratory personnel licensure and register  
 6           clinical laboratory trainees; removing the requirement  
 7           that the Board of Clinical Laboratory Personnel  
 8           approve training curricula for licensure of clinical  
 9           laboratory personnel; repealing s. 483.811, F.S.,  
 10          relating to approval of laboratory personnel training  
 11          programs; amending s. 483.823, F.S.; requiring that  
 12          applicants for licensure as a technologist or  
 13          technician who meet specified criteria be deemed to  
 14          have satisfied minimum qualifications for licensure,  
 15          as applicable; amending ss. 483.800, 483.803, and  
 16          483.807, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made  
 17          by the act; making technical changes; providing an  
 18          effective date.

19  
 20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 22           **Section 1. Section 483.809, Florida Statutes, is amended**  
 23 **to read:**

24           483.809 Licensure; ~~examinations; registration of trainees;~~  
 25 ~~approval of curricula.-~~

26       ~~(1) LICENSING.~~ The department shall provide biennial  
 27 licensure of all clinical laboratory personnel who the board  
 28 certifies have met the requirements of this part. The license of  
 29 any person who fails to pay a required fee or otherwise fails to  
 30 qualify within 60 days after the date of expiration of such  
 31 license shall be automatically canceled without notice or  
 32 further proceedings unless the individual has made application  
 33 for inactive status pursuant to s. 483.819.

34       ~~(2) EXAMINATIONS.~~ The department shall conduct  
 35 examinations required by board rules to determine in part the  
 36 qualification of clinical laboratory personnel for licensure.  
 37 The board by rule may designate a national certification  
 38 examination that may be accepted in lieu of state examination  
 39 for clinical laboratory personnel or public health scientists.

40       ~~(3) REGISTRATION OF TRAINEES.~~ The department shall provide  
 41 for registration of clinical laboratory trainees who are  
 42 enrolled in a training program approved pursuant to s. 483.811,  
 43 which registration may not be renewed except upon special  
 44 authorization of the board.

45       ~~(4) APPROVAL OF CURRICULUM IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.~~ The  
 46 board may approve the curriculum in schools and colleges  
 47 offering education and training leading toward qualification for  
 48 licensure under this part.

49       **Section 2.** Section 483.811, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

50       **Section 3.** **Subsections (3) and (4) are added to section**

51 **483.823, Florida Statutes, to read:**

52 483.823 Qualifications of clinical laboratory personnel.—

53 (3) Except as otherwise provided in s. 483.812, a  
54 technologist or technician applicant for licensure who satisfies  
55 the requirements in 42 C.F.R. s. 493.1489 to perform high  
56 complexity testing is deemed to have satisfied the minimum  
57 qualifications for licensure under this part to perform high  
58 complexity testing as a technologist or technician in this  
59 state.

60 (4) Except as otherwise provided in s. 483.812, a  
61 technician applicant for licensure who satisfies the  
62 requirements in 42 C.F.R. s. 493.1423 to perform moderate  
63 complexity testing is deemed to have satisfied the minimum  
64 qualifications for licensure under this part to perform moderate  
65 complexity testing as a technician in this state.

66 **Section 4. Section 483.800, Florida Statutes, is amended**  
67 **to read:**

68 483.800 Declaration of policy and statement of purpose.—

69 The purpose of this part is to protect the public health,  
70 safety, and welfare of the people of this state from the hazards  
71 of improper performance by clinical laboratory personnel.

72 Clinical laboratories provide essential services to  
73 practitioners of the healing arts by furnishing vital  
74 information that is essential to a determination of the nature,  
75 cause, and extent of the condition involved. Unreliable and

76 | inaccurate reports may cause unnecessary anxiety, suffering, and  
 77 | financial burdens and may even contribute directly to death. The  
 78 | protection of public and individual health requires the  
 79 | licensure of clinical laboratory personnel who meet minimum  
 80 | requirements for safe practice. ~~The Legislature finds that~~  
 81 | ~~laboratory testing technology continues to advance rapidly. The~~  
 82 | ~~Legislature also finds that a hospital training program under~~  
 83 | ~~the direction of the hospital clinical laboratory director~~  
 84 | ~~offers an opportunity for individuals already trained in health~~  
 85 | ~~care professions to expand the scope of their careers. The~~  
 86 | ~~Legislature further finds that there is an immediate need for~~  
 87 | ~~properly trained personnel to ensure patient access to testing.~~  
 88 | ~~Therefore, the Legislature recognizes the patient-focused~~  
 89 | ~~benefits of hospital-based training for laboratory and~~  
 90 | ~~nonlaboratory personnel for testing within hospitals and~~  
 91 | ~~commercial laboratories and recognizes the benefits of a~~  
 92 | ~~training program approved by the Board of Clinical Laboratory~~  
 93 | ~~Personnel under the direction of the hospital clinical~~  
 94 | ~~laboratory director.~~

95 |       **Section 5. Subsection (5) of section 483.803, Florida**  
 96 | **Statutes, is amended to read:**

97 |       483.803 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

98 |       (5) "Clinical laboratory trainee" means any person having  
 99 |       qualifying education who is enrolled in a clinical laboratory  
 100 |       training program ~~approved pursuant to s. 483.811 and who is~~

101 seeking experience required to meet minimum qualifications for  
102 licensing in this state. Trainees may perform procedures under  
103 direct and responsible supervision of duly licensed clinical  
104 laboratory personnel, but they may not report test results.

105 **Section 6. Subsections (1), (3), (8), and (9) of section**  
106 **483.807, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

107 483.807 Fees; establishment; disposition.—

108 (1) The board shall establish, by rule, ~~shall establish~~  
109 fees to be paid for application, ~~examination, reexamination,~~  
110 licensing and renewal, ~~registration, laboratory training program~~  
111 ~~application,~~ reinstatement, and recordmaking and recordkeeping.  
112 The board may also establish, by rule, a delinquency fee. The  
113 board shall establish fees that are adequate to ensure the  
114 continued operation of the board and to fund the proportionate  
115 expenses incurred by the department in carrying out its  
116 licensure and other related responsibilities under this part.  
117 Fees must ~~shall~~ be based on departmental estimates of the  
118 revenue required to implement this part and the provisions of  
119 law with respect to the regulation of clinical laboratory  
120 personnel.

121 ~~(3) The examination fee shall be in an amount which covers~~  
122 ~~the costs of obtaining and administering the examination and~~  
123 ~~shall be refunded if the applicant is found ineligible to sit~~  
124 ~~for the examination. The combined fees for initial application~~  
125 ~~and examination may not exceed \$200 plus the actual per~~

126 | ~~applicant cost to the department for developing, administering,~~  
127 | ~~or procuring the licensure examination.~~

128 | ~~(8) The initial application fee for registration of a~~  
129 | ~~trainee shall not exceed \$20.~~

130 | ~~(9) The initial application and renewal fee for approval~~  
131 | ~~as a laboratory training program may not exceed \$300. The fee~~  
132 | ~~for late filing of a renewal application shall be \$50.~~

133 | **Section 7.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.