

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to cardiac services providers;
3 amending s. 395.1055, F.S.; revising requirements for
4 licensure of Level I and Level II adult cardiovascular
5 programs; requiring the Agency for Health Care
6 Administration to update specified rules as new
7 applicable industry standards and guidelines are
8 published; providing an effective date.

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

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12 **Section 1. Subsections (18) and (19) of section 395.1055,**
13 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

14 395.1055 Rules and enforcement.—

15 (18) (a) ~~In establishing rules for adult cardiovascular~~
16 ~~services,~~ The agency shall grant licensure ~~include provisions~~
17 ~~that allow for:~~

18 ~~(a)~~ the establishment of two hospital program licensure
19 levels, a Level I program that authorizes the performance of
20 adult percutaneous cardiac intervention without onsite cardiac
21 surgery, including rotational or other atherectomy devices,
22 electrophysiology, and treatment of chronic total occlusions,
23 and a Level II program that authorizes the performance of
24 percutaneous cardiac intervention with onsite cardiac surgery.

25 (b) ~~1.~~ ~~For~~ A hospital seeking licensure as a Level I

26 program must; ~~demonstration that, for the most recent 12-month~~
27 ~~period as reported to the agency, the hospital has provided a~~
28 ~~minimum of 300 adult inpatient and outpatient diagnostic cardiac~~
29 ~~catheterizations or, for the most recent 12-month period, has~~
30 ~~discharged or transferred at least 300 patients with the~~
31 ~~principal diagnosis of ischemic heart disease and that it has~~

32 1. Have a formalized, written transfer agreement with a
33 hospital that has a Level II program, including written
34 transport protocols to ensure safe and efficient transfer of a
35 patient within 60 minutes.

36 ~~2.a. A hospital located more than 100 road miles from the~~
37 ~~closest Level II adult cardiovascular services program is not~~
38 ~~required to meet the diagnostic cardiac catheterization volume~~
39 ~~and ischemic heart disease diagnosis volume requirements in~~
40 ~~subparagraph 1. if the hospital demonstrates that it has, for~~
41 ~~the most recent 12-month period as reported to the agency,~~
42 ~~provided a minimum of 100 adult inpatient and outpatient~~
43 ~~diagnostic cardiac catheterizations or that, for the most recent~~
44 ~~12-month period, it has discharged or transferred at least 300~~
45 ~~patients with the principal diagnosis of ischemic heart disease.~~

46 ~~b.~~ For a hospital located more than 100 road miles from
47 the closest Level II adult cardiovascular services program, have
48 ~~does not need to meet the 60-minute transfer time protocol~~
49 ~~requirement in subparagraph 1. if the hospital demonstrates that~~
50 ~~it has~~ a formalized, written transfer agreement with a hospital

51 that has a Level II program. The agreement must include written
52 transport protocols to ensure the safe and efficient transfer of
53 a patient, taking into consideration the patient's clinical and
54 physical characteristics, road and weather conditions, and
55 viability of ground and air ambulance service to transfer the
56 patient.

57 ~~3. At a minimum, the rules for adult cardiovascular~~
58 ~~services must require nursing and technical staff to have~~
59 ~~demonstrated experience in handling acutely ill patients~~
60 ~~requiring intervention, based on the staff member's previous~~
61 ~~experience in dedicated cardiac interventional laboratories or~~
62 ~~surgical centers. If a staff member's previous experience is in~~
63 ~~a dedicated cardiac interventional laboratory at a hospital that~~
64 ~~does not have an approved adult open heart surgery program, the~~
65 ~~staff member's previous experience qualifies only if, at the~~
66 ~~time the staff member acquired his or her experience, the~~
67 ~~dedicated cardiac interventional laboratory:~~

68 ~~a. Had an annual volume of 500 or more percutaneous~~
69 ~~cardiac intervention procedures.~~

70 ~~b. Achieved a demonstrated success rate of 95 percent or~~
71 ~~greater for percutaneous cardiac intervention procedures.~~

72 ~~c. Experienced a complication rate of less than 5 percent~~
73 ~~for percutaneous cardiac intervention procedures.~~

74 ~~d. Performed diverse cardiac procedures, including, but~~
75 ~~not limited to, balloon angioplasty and stenting, rotational~~

76 ~~atherectomy, cutting balloon atheroma remodeling, and procedures~~
77 ~~relating to left ventricular support capability.~~

78 (c) ~~For~~ A hospital seeking licensure as a Level II program
79 must demonstrate, ~~demonstration~~ that, for the most recent 12-
80 month period as reported to the agency, the hospital has
81 performed a minimum of 1,100 adult inpatient and outpatient
82 cardiac catheterizations, of which at least 400 must be
83 therapeutic catheterizations, or, for the most recent 12-month
84 period, has discharged at least 800 patients with the principal
85 diagnosis of ischemic heart disease.

86 (d) As a condition of licensure as a Level I or Level II
87 program, a hospital must demonstrate all of the following:

88 1. Compliance with the most recent guidelines of the
89 American College of Cardiology, ~~and~~ the American Heart
90 Association, the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and
91 Interventions, and, for hospitals providing electrophysiology
92 services, the Heart Rhythm Society ~~guidelines~~ for staffing,
93 physician training and experience, operating procedures,
94 equipment, physical plant, and patient selection criteria, to
95 ensure patient quality and safety.

96 2. ~~(e)~~ The establishment of appropriate hours of operation
97 and protocols to ensure availability and timely referral in the
98 event of emergencies.

99 3. ~~(f)~~ ~~The demonstration of~~ A plan to provide services to
100 Medicaid and charity care patients.

101 ~~4.(g)~~ For a hospital licensed as a ~~for adult diagnostic~~
102 ~~cardiac catheterization that provides~~ Level I or Level II
103 program for adult cardiovascular services, ~~demonstration~~ that
104 the hospital is participating in the American College of
105 Cardiology's National Cardiovascular Data Registry or the
106 American Heart Association's Get with the Guidelines-Coronary
107 Artery Disease registry and documentation of an ongoing quality
108 improvement plan ensuring that the licensed cardiac program
109 meets or exceeds national quality and outcome benchmarks
110 reported by the registry in which the hospital participates. A
111 hospital licensed for Level II adult cardiovascular services
112 must also participate in the clinical outcome reporting systems
113 operated by the Society for Thoracic Surgeons.

114 (19) The agency may adopt rules to administer the
115 requirements of part II of chapter 408 and shall update such
116 rules as new applicable industry standards and guidelines are
117 published.

118 **Section 2.** This act shall take effect October 1, 2026.