

**NOTICE OF INTENT**

**Department of Health  
Bureau of Health Services Financing**

**Direct Service Worker Registry**  
**(LAC 48:I.9231)**

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend LAC 48:I.9231 as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and R.S. 40:2179-2179.1. This proposed Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, 49:950 et seq.

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend the provisions governing the Direct Service Worker (DSW) Registry to ensure that prior to hiring a DSW or trainee, the licensed and/or certified health care provider ensures that the individuals are at least 18 years of age or that the individuals are at least 16 years of age and have received an age restriction exception from the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities or the Office of Aging and Adult Services.

**Title 48**

**PUBLIC HEALTH-GENERAL**  
**Part I. General Administration**  
**Subpart 3. Licensing and Certification**

**Chapter 92. Direct Service Worker Registry**

**Subchapter C. Provider Participation**

**§9231. Health Care Provider Responsibilities**

A. Prior to hiring any DSW or trainee, the licensed and/or certified health care provider shall:

1. ensure that the individual is at least 18 years of age or that the individual is at least 16 years of age and has received an age restriction exception from the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities or the Office of Aging and Adult Services;

A.2. - B.2. . .

\*\*\*

C. Criminal History. In accordance with R.S. 40:1203.1-5 et seq., the provider shall have a written policy and process to request in writing a security check and the criminal history of an employee, either contracted or directly employed, conducted by the Louisiana State Police or authorized agency, upon offer of employment or contract.

1. An employer may make an offer of temporary employment to a non-licensed person pending the results of the criminal history and security check on the person. In such instances, the employer shall provide to the Louisiana State Police, or authorized agency, the name and relevant information relating to the person within 72 hours after the date the person accepts temporary employment.

2. The security check shall consist of the use of personal identifiers, such as name, social security number, date

of birth, and driver's license number, to search the national sex offender public registry. The provider shall obtain from the Louisiana State Police or the authorized agency the results of the security check to verify if an applicant is listed in the national sex offender public registry.

D - D.2. Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:2179-2179.1.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 32:2061 (November 2006), amended LR 33:97 (January 2007), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 38:3176 (December 2012), LR 42:894 (June 2016), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 45:663 (May 2019), LR 49:

**Family Impact Statement**

In compliance with Act 1183 of the 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the impact of this proposed Rule on the family has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

**Poverty Impact Statement**

In compliance with Act 854 of the 2012 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the poverty impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on child, individual, or family poverty in relation to individual or community asset development as described in R.S. 49:973.

#### **Small Business Analysis**

In compliance with the Small Business Protection Act, the economic impact of this proposed Rule on small businesses has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on small businesses.

#### **Provider Impact Statement**

In compliance with House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 170 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the provider impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, no direct or indirect cost to the provider to provide the same level of service, and will have no impact on the provider's ability to provide the same level of service as described in HCR 170.

#### **Public Comments**

Interested persons may submit written comments to Tasheka Dukes, RN, Health Standards Section, P.O. Box 3767, Baton Rouge,

LA 70821. Ms. Dukes is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed Rule. The deadline for submitting written comments is at 4:30 p.m. on July 31, 2023.

**Public Hearing**

Interested persons may submit a written request to conduct a public hearing by U.S. mail to the Office of the Secretary ATTN: LDH Rulemaking Coordinator, Post Office Box 629, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0629; however, such request must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on July 10, 2023. If the criteria set forth in R.S. 49:961(B)(1) are satisfied, LDH will conduct a public hearing at 9:30 a.m. on July 27, 2023 in Room 118 of the Bienville Building, which is located at 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. To confirm whether or not a public hearing will be held, interested persons should first call Allen Enger at (225) 342-1342 after July 10, 2023. If a public hearing is to be held, all interested persons are invited to attend and present data, views, comments, or arguments, orally or in writing.

Stephen R. Russo, JD

Secretary

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Person Preparing Statement: Veronica Dent Dept.: Health  
Phone: 324-3238 Office: Bureau of Health Services Financing  
Return Address: P.O. Box 91030 Rule Title: Direct Service Worker Registry  
Baton Rouge, LA Date Rule  
Takes Effect: September 20, 2023

SUMMARY  
(Use complete sentences)

In accordance with Section 961 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS SUMMARIZE ATTACHED WORKSHEETS, I THROUGH IV AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LOUISIANA REGISTER WITH THE PROPOSED AGENCY RULE.

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will have no programmatic fiscal impact to the state other than the cost of promulgation for FY 22-23. It is anticipated that \$540 will be expended in FY 22-23 for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

It is anticipated that the implementation of this proposed rule will not affect federal revenue collections as this measure has no impact on licensing fees.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

This proposed rule amends the provisions governing the Direct Service Worker (DSW) Registry to ensure that prior to hiring a DSW or trainee, the licensed and/or certified provider ensures that the individuals are at least 18 years of age or that the individuals are at least 16 years of age and have received an Age Restriction Exception from the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities or the Office of Aging and Adult Services. It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will not result in costs to DSWs or small businesses in FY 22-23, FY 23-24, and FY 24-25, but may increase recruitment opportunities.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

This rule has no known effect on competition, but may increase recruitment opportunities.

Tasheka Dukes  
Signature of Agency Head or Designee

Tasheka Dukes, RN  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
LDH Health Standards Section  
Typed Name & Title of Agency Head or Designee

6/8/2023  
Date of Signature

Evan Brasel, Intern Dept. Fiscal Officer  
Legislative Fiscal Officer or Designee

6/8/23  
Date of Signature

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberation on the proposed rule.

A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

This proposed rule amends the provisions governing the Direct Service Worker (DSW) Registry to ensure that prior to hiring a DSW or trainee, the licensed and/or certified provider ensures that the individuals are at least 18 years of age or that the individuals are at least 16 years of age and have received an Age Restriction Exception from the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities or the Office of Aging and Adult Services.

B. Summarize the circumstances, which require this action. If the Action is required by federal regulation, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend the provisions governing the Direct Service Worker (DSW) Registry to ensure that prior to hiring a DSW or trainee, the licensed and/or certified health care provider ensures that the individuals are at least 18 years of age or that the individuals are at least 16 years of age and have received an age restriction exception from the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities or the Office of Aging and Adult Services.

C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session

(1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

No. It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will have no programmatic fiscal impact to the state other than the cost of promulgation for FY 22-23. In FY 22-23, \$540 is included for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

(2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically appropriated the funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_ Yes. If yes, attach documentation.

(b) \_\_\_\_\_ NO. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
WORKSHEET**

**I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED**

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed action?

<b>COSTS</b>	<b>FY 23</b>	<b>FY 24</b>	<b>FY 25</b>
Personal Services			
Operating Expenses	\$540	\$0	\$0
Professional Services			
Other Charges			
Equipment			
Major Repairs & Constr.			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$540</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>POSITIONS (#)</b>			

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A. 1.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

In FY 22-23, \$540 will be spent for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>FY 23</b>	<b>FY 24</b>	<b>FY 25</b>
State General Fund	\$540	\$0	\$0
Agency Self-Generated			
Dedicated			
Federal Funds			
Other (Specify)			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$540</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

Yes, sufficient funds are available to implement this rule.

**B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED**

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

This proposed rule has no known impact on local government.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit, which will be affected by these costs or savings.

There is no known impact on the sources of local governmental unit funding.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
WORKSHEET

II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25
State General Fund			
Agency Self-Generated			
Dedicated Funds*			
Federal Funds			
Local Funds			
<b>TOTAL</b>			

\*Specify the particular fund being impacted.

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
WORKSHEET

III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

A. What persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

This proposed rule amends the provisions governing the Direct Service Worker (DSW) Registry to ensure that prior to hiring a DSW or trainee, the licensed and/or certified provider ensures that the individuals are at least 18 years of age or that the individuals are at least 16 years of age and have received an Age Restriction Exception from the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities or the Office of Aging and Adult Services.

B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will not result in costs to DSWs or small businesses in FY 22-23, FY 23-24, and FY 24-25, but may increase recruitment opportunities.

IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

This rule has no known effect on competition, but may increase recruitment opportunities.