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Department of Health Health Standards Section

Hospitals Licensing Standards **(LAC 48:I.9323, 9479)**

In accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., the Department of Health, Health Standards Section (the department), published a Notice of Intent in the September 20, 2025 edition of the *Louisiana Register* (LR 51:1494-1495) to amend LAC 48:I.9323, §9479, and §9501 as authorized by R.S. 36:254. This Notice of Intent proposed to amend provisions governing the licensing of hospitals to update hospital administrator requirements, and to clarify requirements of the director of nursing and registered nurse manager.

As a result of comments received in response to the proposed Rule, the department determined that additional, non-technical revisions were necessary to the provisions of the September 20, 2025 Notice of Intent.

Taken together, these revisions will closely align the proposed Rule with the department's original intent and the concerns brought forth during the comment period for the Notice of Intent as originally published.

Title 48

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

Chapter 93. Hospitals

Subchapter B. Hospital Organization and Services

§9323. Administration

A. In accordance with the hospital policy, there shall be a full-time administrator or administrator designee, who is responsible for hospital operations. The administrator or administrator designee shall be given power by the governing

body. ~~Beginning June 1, 2025, no administrator shall be administrator of more than one licensed hospital.~~

1. ~~The administrator may be an administrator of one additional licensed hospital, if the following terms are met:~~

- ~~a. the additional hospital shall also be licensed for less than 50 beds; and~~
- ~~b. the additional hospital shall not be under a settlement agreement with LDH1. - 1.b. Repealed.~~

B. - G.5. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S.36:254 and R.S. 40:2100-2115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Office of the Secretary, LR 13:246 (April 1987), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 21:177 (February 1995), LR 29:2407 (November 2003), amended by the Department of Health, Health Standards Section, LR 50:1481 (October 2024), LR 51:958 (July 2025), LR 52:

Subchapter P. Rehabilitation Services (Optional)

§9479. Organization and Staffing

A. - C. ...

D. A general hospital rehabilitation unit shall have a registered nurse (RN) as unit manager. The RN shall have at least one year of clinical nursing experience providing rehabilitative nursing care. ~~The clinical nursing experience shall be in an acute care hospital's rehabilitation unit, or in a rehabilitation hospital.~~ The unit shall provide:

1. - 2. ...

E. In a rehabilitation hospital, the director of nursing (DON) services shall be a full-time RN. The DON shall have three years clinical nursing experience. At least one year of clinical nursing experience shall be in providing rehabilitative nursing

care in an acute care hospital's rehabilitation unit, or in a rehabilitation hospital. In addition to the DON services, the hospital shall provide:

E.1. - J.12. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and R.S. 40:2100-2115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing LR 21:177 (February 1995), amended LR 29:2423 (November 2003), amended by the Department of Health, Health Standards Section, LR 50:1490 (October 2024), LR 52:

Interested persons may submit written comments to Cecile Castello, RN, Health Standards Section, P.O. Box 3767, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. Ms. Castello is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed Rule. A public hearing on the substantive changes to the proposed Rule is scheduled for February 4, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 118, Bienville Building, 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. At that time all interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to submit data, views, or arguments either orally or in writing. The deadline for receipt of all written comments is February 5, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.

Bruce D. Greenstein

Secretary