NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Health Board of Pharmacy

Pharmacists Application (LAC 46:LIII.501)

In accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (R.S. 49:950 et seq.) and the Pharmacy Practice Act (R.S. 37:1161 et seq.), the Board of Pharmacy hereby gives notice of its intent to amend §501 of its rules relative to pharmacists application. The proposed rule change removes the requirement to submit an application for initial pharmacist licensure to the board at least 30 days prior to any examination.

Title 46 PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS Part LIII. Pharmacists Chapter 5. Pharmacists

§501. Application

A. An application for initial pharmacist licensure, whether by examination or reciprocity, shall be submitted, with appropriate fee, to the board. An application shall expire one year after the date of receipt in the board office. AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1182.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, amended LR 29:2082 (October 2003), effective January 1, 2004, amended LR 50:

Family Impact Statement

In accordance with Section 953 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a family impact statement on the Rule proposed for adoption, repeal, or amendment. The following statements will be published in the *Louisiana Register* with the proposed agency Rule.

1. The Effect on the Stability of the Family. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on the stability of the family.

2. The Effect on the Authority and Rights of Parents Regarding the Education and Supervision of their Children. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on the authority and rights of parents regarding the education and supervision of their children.

3. The Effect on the Functioning of the Family. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on the functioning of the family.

4. The Effect on Family Earnings and Family Budget. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on family earnings and family budget.

5. The Effect on the Behavior and Personal Responsibility of Children. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on the behavior and personal responsibility of children.

6. The Ability of the Family or a Local Government to Perform the Function as Contained in the Proposed Rule. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on the ability of the family or a local government to perform the activity as contained in the proposed rule.

Poverty Impact Statement

In accordance with Section 973 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a poverty impact statement on the Rule proposed for adoption, repeal, or amendment.

1. The Effect on Household Income, Assets, and Financial Security. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on household income, assets, or financial security.

2. The Effect on Early Childhood Development and Preschool through Postsecondary Education Development. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on early childhood development or preschool through postsecondary education development.

3. The Effect on Employment and Workforce Development. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on employment and workforce development.

4. The Effect on Taxes and Tax Credits. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on taxes or tax credits.

5. The Effect on Child and Dependent Care, Housing, Health Care, Nutrition, Transportation, and Utilities Assistance. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on child and dependent care, housing, health care, nutrition, transportation, or utilities assistance.

Small Business Analysis

In accordance with Section 965 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a regulatory flexibility analysis on the Rule proposed for adoption, repeal, or amendment. This will certify the agency has considered, without limitation, each of the following methods of reducing the impact of the proposed Rule on small businesses:

1. The Establishment of Less Stringent Compliance or Reporting Requirements for Small Businesses. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on reporting requirements for small business.

2. The Establishment of Less Stringent Schedules or Deadlines for Compliance or Reporting Requirements for Small Businesses. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small business.

3. The Consolidation or Simplification of Compliance or Reporting Requirements for Small Businesses. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on consolidation or simplification of compliance or reporting requirements for small business.

4. The Establishment of Performance Standards for Small Businesses to Replace Design or Operational Standards Required in the Proposed Rule. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on establishment of performance standards for small businesses to replace design or operational standards for small business.

5. The Exemption of Small Businesses from All or Any Part of the Requirements Contained in the Proposed Rule. There are no exemptions for small businesses in the proposed rule amendment.

Provider Impact Statement

In accordance with House Concurrent Resolution No. 170 of the Regular Session of the 2014 Legislature, there is hereby submitted a provider impact statement on the Rule proposed for adoption, repeal, or amendment. This will certify the agency has considered, without limitation, the following effects on the providers of services to individuals with developmental disabilities:

1. The effect on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service.

2. The Total Direct and Indirect Effect on the Cost to the Provider to Provide the Same Level of Service. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on the cost to the provider to provide the same level of service.

3. The Overall Effect on the Ability of the Provider to Provide the Same Level of service. The proposed rule amendment will have no effect on the ability of the provider to provide the same level of service.

Public Comments

Interested persons may submit written comments, via United States Postal Service or other mail carrier, or in the alternative by personal delivery to M. Joseph Fontenot Jr., Executive Director, at the office of the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy, 3388 Brentwood Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1700. He is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding the proposed Rule amendment. The deadline for the receipt of all written comments is 12 p.m. on Thursday, December 28, 2023.

Public Hearing

A public hearing to solicit comments and testimony on the proposed Rule changes is scheduled for 9a.m. on Thursday, December 28, 2023 at the board office. During the hearing, all interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to submit comments and testimony, either verbally or in writing. The deadline for the receipt of all comments and testimony is 12 p.m. that same day. To request reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, please call the board office at 225.925.6496.

M. Joseph Fontenot Jr. Executive Director

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RULE TITLE: Pharmacists Application

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

The proposed rule change will require the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy (LBP) to publish the proposed and final rules in the state register, resulting in estimated printing expenses of \$1,000 in FY 24. Other than publication costs, which are included in the LBP's annual operating budget, the proposed rule change is not anticipated to result in any additional expenditures or cost savings for LBP or other state or local governmental units.

The proposed rule change removes the requirement to submit an application for initial pharmacist licensure to the Board at least 30 days prior to any examination.

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

The proposed rule change may result in a slight reduction in application fees for initial licensure to the extent that it results in fewer prospective pharmacists applying for licensure, failing their exams, and then needing to apply again.

Applications for initial licensure are valid for one year from the date of submission. Currently, if a candidate is not licensed within one year of submitting the application, they must submit a new application, incurring the \$300 application fee twice. By allowing prospective pharmacists to wait until they have passed their exams to submit an application, the proposed rule change may reduce the number of prospective pharmacists who submit multiple applications.

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

The proposed rule change will benefit pharmacist applicants by removing the requirement to submit the initial application for licensure at least 30 days prior to taking any examination. The proposed rule change will allow applicants to submit the initial application for licensure after successful completion of all required examinations.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

The proposed rule change will have no effect on competition or employment.

M. Joseph Fontenot, Jr.	Patrice Thomas
Executive Director	Deputy Fiscal Officer
2311#019	Legislative Fiscal Officer