

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

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Return Address:	<u>11410 Lake Sherwood Ave.</u> <u>North, Ste A</u> <u>Baton Rouge, LA, 70816</u>	Rule Title:	<u>Continuing Education for LMFTs</u>
		Date Rule Takes Effect:	<u>Immediate</u>

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)

Other than the cost of rulemaking, which is approximately \$900 in FY 25 related to publishing the proposed rule and final rule in the Louisiana Register, the proposed rule changes are not anticipated to result in implementation costs or savings to state or local governmental units. The cost of rulemaking will be paid from self-generated funds.

Existing rules provide that preapproved continuing education for Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFT) may be provided by the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) and its regional or state divisions. The proposed changes would allow additional preapproval of continuing education hours by the Louisiana Counseling Association (LCA). Secondly, the proposed changes add peer consultation as a mode of accruing continuing education hours for LMFTs, as it is currently permitted for Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC). Thirdly, the continuing education hours for original presentations would count as three continuing education hours per one hour presentation for LMFTs. Currently, the ratio is two continuing education hours per one hour presentation. For informational purposes, rules for LPCs currently allow five continuing education hours per one hour presentation. The proposed changes also include technical revisions that were made to provide clarity on the definition of continuing education and the requirement that information be submitted to the board online rather than via mail.

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

The proposed rule changes will not affect revenue collections for state or local governmental units.

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

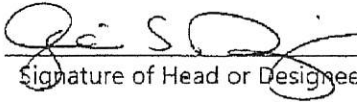
Applicants for license renewal may benefit from the additional modes of obtaining continuing education provided under the proposed changes. Peer consultation does not require preapproved coursework, and a licensee can obtain up to ten hours via this mode. The proposed changes will allow licensees to accrue more continuing education hours via presentations. The addition of the LCA as a preapproved continuing education provider for LMFTs may also benefit renewal applicants as they can obtain preapproval of continuing education for both the LPC and LMFT licenses at one annual conference.

The proposed rule changes may result in decreased income to accredited providers of continuing

education coursework or professional associations, as licensees will be able to obtain continuing education hours from additional sources under the proposed changes.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

The proposed rule changes may result in increased competition among continuing education providers as there will be more options for preapproved coursework and additional methods for accruing hours. The proposed rule changes are not expected to affect employment.



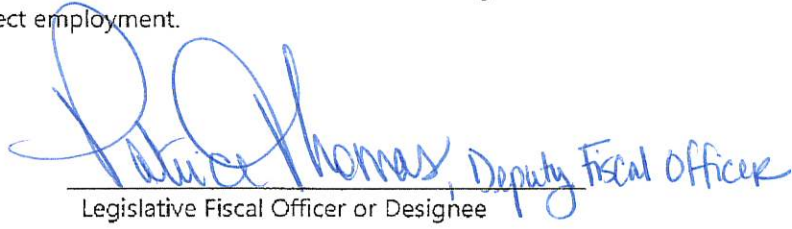
Signature of Head or Designee

Jamie S. Doming/Executive Director

Typed Name & Title of Agency Head or Designee

9/6/2024

Date of Signature



Patricia Thomas, Deputy Fiscal Officer

Legislative Fiscal Officer or Designee

9/06/2024

Date of Signature

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
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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).

Existing rules provide that preapproved continuing education for Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFT) may be provided by the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) and its regional or state divisions. The proposed changes would allow additional preapproval of continuing education hours by the Louisiana Counseling Association (LCA). Secondly, the proposed changes add peer consultation as a mode of accruing continuing education hours for LMFTs, as it is currently permitted for Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC). Thirdly, the continuing education hours for original presentations would count as three continuing education hours per one hour presentation for LMFTs. Currently, the ratio is two continuing education hours per one hour presentation. For informational purposes, rules for LPCs currently allow five continuing education hours per one hour presentation. The proposed changes also include technical revisions that were made to provide clarity on the definition of continuing education and the requirement that information be submitted to the board online rather than via mail.

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

Many licensees in Louisiana hold both LPC and LMFT licenses. Current regulations differ in the amount of continuing education hours that can be accrued through peer consultation and original presentations. The proposed changes would align the two license types in the opportunity to obtain continuing education through these methods.

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 the amount and source of funding.

Other than the cost of rulemaking, which is approximately \$900 in FY 25 related to publishing the proposed rule and final rule in the Louisiana Register, the proposed rule changes are not anticipated to result in implementation costs or savings to state or local governmental units. The cost of rulemaking will be paid from self-generated funds.

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

The board operates on self-generated funds and receives no appropriation from the legislature.

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?

COSTS	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$0	\$0	\$0
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$900	\$0	\$0
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$0	\$0	\$0
OTHER CHARGES	\$0	\$0	\$0
EQUIPMENT	\$0	\$0	\$0
MAJOR REPAIR & CONSTR.	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$900	\$0	\$0
POSITIONS (#)	0	0	0

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.

Other than the cost of rulemaking, which is approximately \$900 in FY 25 related to publishing the proposed rule and final rule in the Louisiana Register, the proposed rule changes are not anticipated to result in implementation costs or savings to state or local governmental units. The cost of rulemaking will be paid from self-generated funds.

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

SOURCE	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27
STATE GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$0	\$0
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	\$900	\$0	\$0
DEDICATED	\$0	\$0	\$0
FEDERAL FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$0
OTHER (Specify)	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$900	\$0	\$0

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

The Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors Board has sufficient funds for this rule change.

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.

The proposed rule changes are not anticipated to result in any costs or savings for local governmental units.

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

Sources of funding of local governmental units will not be affected by the proposed changes.

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 25	FY 26	FY 27
State General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agency Self-Generated	\$0	\$0	\$0
Dedicated Funds*	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$0

*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.

The proposed rule changes will not affect revenue collections for state or local governmental units.

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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.

Applicants for license renewal may benefit from the additional modes of obtaining continuing education provided under the proposed changes. Peer consultation does not require preapproved coursework, and a licensee can obtain up to ten hours via this mode. The proposed changes will allow licensees to accrue more continuing education hours via presentations. The addition of the LCA as a preapproved continuing education provider for LMFTs may also benefit renewal applicants as they can obtain preapproval of continuing education for both the LPC and LMFT licenses at one annual conference.

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.

The proposed rule changes may result in decreased income to accredited providers of continuing education coursework or professional associations, as licensees will be able to obtain continuing education hours from additional sources under the proposed changes.

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.

The proposed rule changes may result in increased competition among continuing education providers as there will be more options for preapproved coursework and additional methods for accruing hours. The proposed rule changes are not expected to affect employment.