

By: Allen, Garcia, Oliverson, et al.

H.B. No. 4156

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the licensing of a psychologist as a licensed specialist in school psychology; authorizing a fee.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 501.260, Occupations Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsections (b-1) and (d) to read as follows:

(b) The executive council shall set the standards to qualify for a license under this section. Except as provided by Subsection (b-1), ~~The~~ standards must include:

(1) satisfaction of minimum recognized graduate degree requirements;

(2) completion of graduate course work at a regionally accredited institution of higher education in:

(A) psychological foundations;

(B) educational foundations;

(C) interventions;

(D) assessments; and

(E) professional issues and ethics;

(3) completion of at least 1,200 hours of supervised experience;

(4) receipt of a passing score on a nationally recognized qualifying examination determined to be appropriate by the executive council and on any other examination required by the

1 executive council; and

2 (5) satisfaction of the requirements under Sections  
3 501.2525(a)(3)-(9).

4 (b-1) The executive council by rule shall provide for the  
5 issuance of a license under this section to a person who:

6 (1) is licensed as a psychologist under this chapter;

7 (2) has received a passing score on a nationally  
8 recognized qualifying examination determined to be appropriate by  
9 the executive council and on any other examination required by the  
10 executive council;

11 (3) applies for the license in the manner prescribed  
12 by the executive council; and

13 (4) pays the fee set by the executive council.

14 (d) The executive council by rule may establish continuing  
15 education requirements for a psychologist who holds a license  
16 issued under this section in accordance with Subsection (b-1),  
17 including continuing education coursework in an amount and  
18 frequency established by the executive council that is related to:

19 (1) the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act  
20 (20 U.S.C. Section 1400 et seq.);

21 (2) Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C.  
22 Section 794);

23 (3) special education evaluations; and

24 (4) school-based psychological services.

25 SECTION 2. The Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council  
26 shall adopt rules and fees necessary to implement Sections  
27 501.260(b-1) and (d), Occupations Code, as added by this Act, not

1 later than January 1, 2024.

2 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.