

By: Sparks

S.B. No. 531

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the licensing of a psychologist as a licensed
3 specialist in school psychology; authorizing a fee.

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

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

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

11 (1) satisfaction of minimum recognized graduate
12 degree requirements;

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

15 (A) psychological foundations;

16 (B) educational foundations;

17 (C) interventions;

18 (D) assessments; and

19 (E) professional issues and ethics;

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

22 (4) receipt of a passing score on a nationally
23 recognized qualifying examination determined to be appropriate by
24 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, 2026.

2 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.