

2026 -- H 7335

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S T A T E O F R H O D E I S L A N D

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PSYCHOLOGISTS

Introduced By: Representatives DeSimone, Fellela, Boylan, Messier, and McGaw

Date Introduced: January 28, 2026

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Legislative findings and purpose.

2 (a) The general assembly finds that:

3 (1) School psychologists are part of a comprehensive program to meet student needs,
4 consistent with 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 [the "Individuals with Disabilities Education Act"] and 20
5 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 [the "Every Student Succeeds Act"].

6 (2) School psychologists are an integral part of the school team and support student
7 learning, mental health and behavior to help students achieve academically, socially, behaviorally,
8 and emotionally.

9 (3) The National Association of School Psychologists recommends a maximum ratio of
10 five hundred (500) students per school psychologists in order to provide a comprehensive range of
11 school psychological services.

12 (4) There is a shortage of school psychologists in Rhode Island, with an estimated ratio of
13 763:1. Ratios in the urban districts average 1:1000.

14 (5) A shortage of school psychologists across the State of Rhode Island jeopardizes the
15 state's ability to provide essential services and supports to students, schools, and communities.

16 (6) Data indicate that shortages of school psychologists will persist into the future.

17 (7) There is an insufficient number of credentialed school psychology graduates produced
18 by the state's higher education institutions to fill existing gaps.

19 (8) Initiatives designed to promote and support the education and preparation of school

1 psychologists can help mitigate the problem of a shortage.

2 (9) Research and best practice show that after three (3) years of employment within a
3 school, school psychologists become imbedded in their community, resulting in lower turnover
4 within the profession.

5 (b) The purpose of this legislation is:

6 (1) To address the shortage of school psychologists in the State of Rhode Island.

7 (2) To address the shortage of school psychologists in the higher education pipeline.

8 (3) To create a pipeline for licensure through the department of health that would allow for
9 independent contracting, educational evaluations, consultation, and other services related to the
10 academic learning process.

11 (4) To improve the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional well-being of children and
12 youth by increasing access to high quality school-employed mental and behavioral health
13 professionals.

14 (5) To improve the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional well-being of children and
15 youth by increasing community access to high quality mental and behavioral health professionals
16 who specialize in school psychology, and psychoeducational evaluations.

17 (6) To ensure the state fulfills its obligations to state and federal laws that address students
18 with disabilities, school safety, school climate and social and emotional learning.

19 SECTION 2. Sections 5-44-1, 5-44-12, 5-44-13 and 5-44-15 of the General Laws in
20 Chapter 5-44 entitled "Psychologists" are hereby amended to read as follows:

21 **5-44-1. Definitions.**

22 As used in this chapter:

23 (1) "Academic psychologist" means a person employed by or associated with a recognized
24 college or university or other recognized institution who is engaged in teaching, studying, or
25 conducting research in the science of psychology.

26 (2) "Board" means the board of psychology established by § 5-44-3.

27 (3) "Department" means the Rhode Island department of health.

28 (4) "Director" means the director of the Rhode Island department of health.

29 (5) "Education" means the academic program pursued by a person in obtaining a doctoral
30 degree, that program to include formal course work, seminars, and practica.

31 (6) "Graduate program" means a program accredited by the state that is dedicated to
32 providing an organized program of graduate preparation in school psychology and provides no less
33 than sixty (60) graduate semester hours (or the equivalent) and includes coursework and experience
34 relevant to both education and psychology. Coursework shall advance knowledge in:

(i) Data collection and analysis, and data-based decision making;

(ii) Student assessment and evaluation;

(iii) Academic programs and instructional support;

(iv) Multi-tiered systems of support to address students' academic, social--emotional, and mental and behavioral health needs including:

(A) Universal screening and early identification;

(B) Prevention and intervention services;

(C) Progress monitoring; and

(D) Providing a range of increasingly intensive services based on student need;

(v) School-wide practices to promote student learning, resilience and risk factors, and crisis preparedness, response, and recovery;

(vi) Mental health interventions;

(vii) Consultation and collaboration;

(viii) Family--school--community collaboration;

(ix) Diversity in development and learning;

(x) Program evaluation and research;

(xi) Professional ethics;

(xii) Systems; and

(xiii) All relevant local, state and federal laws, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the requirements specific to the role of the school psychologist.

~~(6)~~(7) “Licensed psychologist” means a person who has been licensed for the practice of psychology under this chapter. “Psychologist” as used in this chapter means a licensed psychologist as defined in this section.

(8) "Licensed school psychologist" means a school psychologist who meets the qualifications set forth in § 5-44-9.1.

(9) "Living wage" means the amount of money needed to provide for annual basic needs for an individual to live above the poverty level and is determined by the state.

~~(7)~~(10) “Practice of psychology” means the rendering of professional psychological services to individuals, groups, families, or any public or private organization for remuneration. Professional psychological services means applying established psychological principles, methods, or procedures for the purpose of preventing or eliminating symptomatic, maladaptive, or undesired behavior and of enhancing interpersonal relationships, work and life adjustment, personal effectiveness, and mental health. The practice of psychology includes, but is not limited to:

(i) Diagnoses and treatment of emotional, mental, or behavioral dysfunction, disorder, or

1 disability, alcoholism and substance-abuse disorders of habit or conduct, as well as of the
2 psychological aspects of physical illness, accident, injury, or disability;

3 (ii) Psychological testing and evaluation of intelligence, personality, abilities, interests,
4 aptitudes, and neuropsychological functioning;

5 (iii) Psychoeducation evaluation, therapy, remediation, and consultation; and

6 (iv) Counseling, psychotherapy, psychoanalysis, hypnotherapy, biofeedback, and behavior
7 analysis and therapy.

8 ~~(8)(11)~~ “Psychology student,” “psychology trainee,” “psychology intern,” or “psychology
9 resident” means a student, intern, or other person studying or preparing for the profession of
10 psychologist under the supervision of recognized educational or training institutions or facilities.

11 (12) "School psychology internship" means a culminating and immersive field-supervised
12 experience in which the primary focus is on providing high-quality experiences, attainment of
13 comprehensive school psychology competencies, and integration and application of the full range
14 of domains of school psychology. Minimum requirements for an internship shall include:

15 (i) At least one thousand two hundred (1,200) hours in duration over the course of an
16 academic year;

17 (ii) At least six hundred (600) hours of the internship shall occur in a school-based setting
18 as defined by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) standards;

19 (iii) Opportunities and supervision in a broad range of direct and indirect school
20 psychological services; and

21 (iv) Supervision shall be conducted by a credentialed school psychologist or a professional
22 appropriately credentialed for the internship setting.

23 ~~(9)(13)~~ “Training” means the pre-professional or professional-supervised experience
24 received by the person at the pre- or post-doctoral level, that experience to have been obtained in
25 an internship, clinic, or other similar professional setting.

26 **5-44-12. Application fee.**

27 The applicant applying for licensure as a psychologist or a licensed school psychologist
28 shall pay a fee as set forth in § 23-1-54 to the department.

29 **5-44-13. Temporary license.**

30 (a) Pursuant to §§ 5-44-6 and 5-44-23(f) and rules and regulations promulgated hereunder,
31 a temporary permit to practice psychology under supervision may be granted to a candidate for
32 licensure who has paid the required fee as set forth in § 23-1-54 and has satisfied the following
33 requirements:

34 (1) Filed an application for licensure with all required supporting materials;

10 (5) The temporary permit shall be valid for a period of two (2) years from the date of
11 issuance.

15 **544-15. Expiration and renewal of licenses — Continuing education — Lapsed**

16 **license.**

17 (a) The license of every person licensed under the provisions of this chapter shall expire
18 on the first day of July of the next even-numbered year following the issuance of his or her license.

19 (b) On or before the first day of May of each even-numbered year, the department shall
20 mail an application for renewal of license to every person to whom a license has been issued or
21 renewed during the cycle.

22 (c) Every licensed person who desires to renew his or her license shall file with the
23 department a renewal application, executed, together with a renewal fee as set forth in § 23-1-54,
24 on or before the first day of June in each even-numbered year. Upon receipt of a renewal application
25 and payment of the renewal fee, the accuracy of the application shall be verified and the department
26 may grant a renewal license effective July 1st and expiring the June 30th in each even-numbered
27 year.

28 (d) Every licensed psychologist or licensed school psychologist who desires to continue
29 licensure as a licensed psychologist or licensed school psychologist shall present satisfactory
30 evidence to the board and approved by rule or regulation of the board that the licensed psychologist
31 or licensed school psychologist has completed a prescribed course of continuing licensed
32 psychological education.

33 (e) Any person who allows his or her license to lapse, by failing to renew it on or before
34 June 1st in each even-numbered year, as provided in this section, may be reinstated by the

1 department on payment of the current renewal fee, plus an additional fee as set forth in § 23-1-54.
2 Any person using the title "psychologist" or offering services defined as the practice of psychology
3 under this chapter during the time his or her license has lapsed is subject to the penalties provided
4 for violation of this chapter.

5 SECTION 3. Section 23-1-54 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-1 entitled "Department
6 of Health" is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 **23-1-54. Fees payable to the department of health.**

8 Fees payable to the department shall be as follows:

9	PROFESSION	RIGL Section	Description of Fee	FEE
10	Barbers/hairdressers	5-10-10(a)	Renewal application	\$25.00
11	Barbers/hairdressers	5-10-10(a)	Renewal application:	
12	Manicuring		Instructors and manicurists	\$25.00
13	Barbers/hairdressers	5-10-10(b)	Minimum late renewal fee	\$25.00
14	Barbers/hairdressers	5-10-10(b)	Maximum late renewal fee	\$100.00
15	Barbers/hairdressers	5-10-11[c]	Application fee	\$25.00
16	Barbers/hairdressers	5-10-11[c]	Application fee: manicuring	
17			Instructors and manicurists	\$25.00
18	Barbers/hairdressers	5-10-13	Demonstrator's permit	\$90.00
19	Barbers/hairdressers	5-10-15	Shop license: initial	\$170.00
20	Barbers/hairdressers	5-10-15	Shop license: renewal	\$170.00
21	Veterinarians	5-25-10	Application fee	\$40.00
22	Veterinarians	5-25-11	Examination fee	\$540.00
23	Veterinarians	5-25-12(a)	Renewal fee	\$580.00
24	Veterinarians	5-25-12[c]	Late renewal fee	\$120.00
25	Podiatrists	5-29-7	Application fee	\$240.00
26	Podiatrists	5-29-11	Renewal fee: minimum	\$240.00
27	Podiatrists	5-29-11	Renewal fee: maximum	\$540.00
28	Podiatrists	5-29-13	Limited registration	\$65.00
29	Podiatrists	5-29-14	Limited registration:	
30			Academic faculty	\$240.00
31	Podiatrists	5-29-14	Application fee:	
32			Renewal minimum	\$240.00
33	Podiatrists	5-29-14	Application fee:	
34			Renewal maximum	\$440.00

1	Chiropractors	5-30-6	Examination fee:	\$210.00
2	Chiropractors	5-30-7	Examination exemption fee	\$210.00
3	Chiropractors	5-30-8(b)	Exam Physiotherapy	\$210.00
4	Chiropractors	5-30-8(b)	Exam chiro and	\$210.00
5			physiotherapy	
6	Chiropractors	5-30-12	Renewal fee	\$210.00
7	Dentists/dental hygienists	5-31.1-6(d)	Dentist: application fee	\$965.00
8	Dentists/dental hygienists	5-31.1-6(d)	Dental hygienist:	
9			application fee	\$65.00
10	Dentists/dental hygienists	5-31.1-6(d)	Reexamination: dentist	\$965.00
11	Dentists/dental hygienist	5-31.1-6(d)	Reexamination: hygienist	\$65.00
12	Dentists/dental hygienists	5-31.1-21(b)	Reinstatement fee dentist	\$90.00
13	Dentists/dental hygienists	5-31.1-21(b)	Reinstatement fee hygienist	\$90.00
14	Dentists/dental hygienists	5-31.1-21(c)	Inactive status: dentist	\$220.00
15	Dentists/dental hygienists	5-31.1-21(c)	Inactive status: hygienist	\$40.00
16	Dentists/dental hygienists	5-31.1-22	Limited registration	\$65.00
17	Dentists/dental hygienists	5-31.1-23[c]	Limited reg: Academic faculty	\$965.00
18	Dentists/dental hygienists	5-31.1-23[c]	Limited reg:	
19			Academic faculty renewal	\$500.00
20	Electrolysis	5-32-3	Application fee	\$25.00
21	Electrolysis	5-32-6(b)	Renewal fee	\$25.00
22	Electrolysis	5-32-7	Reciprocal license fee	\$25.00
23	Electrolysis	5-32-17	Teaching license	\$25.00
24	Funeral directors/embalmers	5-33.2-12	Funeral establishment license	\$120.00
25	Funeral services establishments			
26	Funeral directors/embalmers	5-33.2-15	Renewal: funeral/director -	\$90.00
27	Funeral services establishments		embalmer	\$30.00
28	Funeral directors/embalmers	5-33.2-12	Funeral branch ofc license	\$90.00
29	Funeral directors/embalmers	5-33.2-13.1	Crematories: application fee	\$120.00
30	Funeral services establishments			
31	Funeral directors/embalmers	5-33.2-15	Renewal: funeral/director	
32	Funeral Svcs establishments		establishment	\$120.00
33	Funeral directors/embalmers	5-33.2-15	Additional branch office	
34	Funeral services Establishments		licenses	\$120.00

1	Funeral directors/embalmers	5-33.2-15	Crematory renewal fee	
2	Funeral svcs establishments			\$120.00
3	Funeral directors/embalmers	5-33.2-15	Late renewal fee	
4	Funeral svcs establishments		(All license types)	\$25.00
5	Funeral directors/embalmers	5-33.2-16(a)	Intern registration fee	
6	Funeral Services establishments-			\$25.00
7	Nurses	5-34-12	RN Application fee	\$135.00
8	Nurses	5-34-16	LPN Application fee	\$45.00
9	Nurses	5-34-19	Renewal fee: RN	\$135.00
10	Nurses	5-34-19	Renewal fee: LPN	\$45.00
11	Nurses	5-34-37	RNP application fee	\$80.00
12	Nurses	5-34-37	RNP renewal fee	\$80.00
13	Nurses	5-34-37	RNP prescriptive privileges	\$65.00
14	Nurses	5-34-40.3	Clin nurse spec application	\$80.00
15	Nurses	5-34-40.3	Clin nurse spec renewal	\$80.00
16	Nurses	5-34-40.3	Clin nurse spec Rx privilege	\$65.00
17	Nurse anesthetists	5-34.2-4(a)	CRNA application fee	\$80.00
18	Nurse anesthetists	5-34.2-4(b)	CRNA renewal fee	\$80.00
19	Optometrists	5-35.1-4	Application fee	\$280.00
20	Optometrists	5-35.1-7	Renewal fee	\$280.00
21	Optometrists	5-35.1-7	Late fee	\$90.00
22	Optometrists	5-35.1-7	Reactivation of license fee	\$65.00
23	Optometrists	5-35.1-19(b)	Violations of section	\$650.00
24	Optometrists	5-35.1-20	Violations of chapter	\$260.00
25	Opticians	5-35.2-3	Application fee	\$30.00
26	Physicians	5-37-2	Application fee	\$1,090.00
27	Physicians	5-37-2	Re-examination fee	\$1,090.00
28	Physicians	5-37-10(b)	Late renewal fee	\$170.00
29	Physicians	5-37-16	Limited registration fee	\$65.00
30	Physicians	5-37-16.1	Ltd reg: academic faculty	\$600.00
31	Physicians	5-37-16.1	Ltd reg: academic	
32			Faculty renewal	\$170.00
33	Acupuncture	5-37.2-10	Application fee	\$310.00
34	Acupuncture	5-37.2-13(4)	Acupuncture assistant	\$310.00

1			Licensure fee	\$170.00
2	Social workers	5-39.1-9	Application fee	\$70.00
3	Social workers	5-39.1-9	Renewal fee	\$70.00
4	Physical therapists	5-40-8	Application fee	\$155.00
5	Physical therapists	5-40-8.1	Application: physical	\$50.00
6			therapy assistants	
7	Physical therapists	5-40-10(a)	Renewal fee:	
8			Physical therapists	\$155.00
9	Physical therapists	5-40-10(a)	Renewal fee: Physical	
10			therapy assistants	\$50.00
11	Physical therapists	5-40-10[c]	Late renewals	\$50.00
12	Occupational therapists	5-40.1-12(2)	Renewal fee	\$140.00
13	Occupational therapists	5-40.1-12(5)	Late renewal fee	\$50.00
14	Occupational therapists	5-40.1-12(b)	Reactivation fee	\$140.00
15	Occupational therapists	5-40.1-13	Application fee	\$140.00
16	Psychologists/ licensed school	5-44-12	Application fee	\$230.00
17	psychologist			
18	Psychologists/ licensed school	5-44-13	Temporary permit	\$120.00
19	psychologist			
20	Psychologists/ licensed school	5-44-15[c]	Renewal fee	\$230.00
21	psychologist			
22	Psychologists/ licensed school	5-44-15(e)	Late renewal fee	\$50.00
23	psychologist			
24	Nursing home administrators	5-45-10	Renewal fee	\$160.00
25	Speech pathologist/audiologists	5-48-1(14)	Speech lang support	
26			personnel: late filing	\$90.00
27	Speech pathologist/audiologists	5-48-9(a)	Application fee: Audiologist	\$65.00
28	Speech pathologist/audiologists	5-48-9(a)	Application fee:	
29			Speech Pathologist	\$145.00
30	Speech pathologist/audiologists	5-48-9(a)	Renewal fee: Audiologist	\$65.00
31	Speech pathologist/audiologists	5-48-9(a)	Renewal fee: Speech	\$145.00
32			Pathologist	
33	Speech pathologist/ audiologists	5-48-9(a)	Provisional license:	
34			renewal fee	\$65.00

1	Speech pathologist/audiologists	5-48-9(b)	Late renewal fee	\$50.00
2				
3	Speech pathologist/audiologists	5-48-9(d)(1)	Reinstatement fee:	
4			audiologist	\$65.00
5	Speech pathologist/audiologists	5-48-9(d)(1)	Reinstatement fee:	
6			audiologist	\$65.00
7			speech pathologists	\$145.00
8			personnel: late filing	\$65.00
9	Hearing aid dealers/fitters	5-49-6(a)	License endorsement	
10			Examination fee	\$25.00
11	Hearing aid dealers/fitters	5-49-8(b)	Temporary permit fee	\$25.00
12	Hearing aid dealers/fitters	5-49-8(d)	Temporary permit	\$35.00
13			renewal fee	
14	Hearing aid dealers/fitters	5-49-11(a)(1)	License fee	\$25.00
15	Hearing aid dealers/fitters	5-49-11(b)	License renewal fee	\$25.00
16	Hearing aid dealers/fitters	5-49-11[c]	License renewal late fee	\$25.00
17	Physician assistants	5-54-9(4)	Application fee	\$110.00
18	Physician assistants	5-54-11(b)	Renewal fee	\$110.00
19	Orthotics/prosthetic practice	5-59.1-5	Application fee	\$120.00
20	Orthotics/prosthetic practice	5-59.1-12	Renewal fee	\$120.00
21	Athletic trainers	5-60-11	Application fee	\$60.00
22	Athletic trainers	5-60-11	Renewal fee	\$60.00
23	Athletic trainers	5-60-11	Late renewal fee	\$25.00
24	Mental health counselors/	5-63.2-16	Application fee: Marriage/	
25	Marriage and family		Family therapist	\$130.00
26	therapists			
27	Mental health counselors/	5-63.2-16	Application fee: Mental	
28	Marriage and family therapists		Health counselors	\$70.00
29	Mental health counselors/	5-63.2-16	Reexamination fee:	
30	Marriage and family therapists		Marriage/family therapist	\$130.00
31	Mental health counselors/	5-63.2-16	Reexamination fee:	
32	Marriage and family therapists		Mental health counselors	\$70.00
33	Mental health counselors/	5-63.2-17(a)	Renewal fee: Marriage/	
34	Marriage and Family therapists		Family therapist	\$130.00

1	Mental health counselors/	5-63.2-17(a)	Renewal fee:	
2	Marriage and Family therapist		Mental health counselor	\$50.00
3	Mental health counselors/	5-63.2-17(b)	Late renewal fee:	
4	Marriage and Family therapist		Marriage and family	\$90.00
5			therapist	
6	Dieticians/nutritionists	5-64-6(b)	Application fee	\$75.00
7	Dieticians/nutritionists	5-64-7	Graduate status:	
8			Application fee:	\$75.00
9	Dieticians/nutritionists	5-64-8	Renewal fee	\$75.00
10	Dieticians/nutritionists	5-64-8	Reinstatement fee	\$75.00
11	Radiologic technologists	5-68.1-10	Application fee maximum	\$190.00
12	Licensed chemical de-	5-69-9	Application fee	\$75.00
13	pendency professionals			
14	Licensed chemical de-	5-69-9	Renewal fee	\$75.00
15	pendency professionals			
16	Licensed chemical	5-69-9	Application fee	\$75.00
17	Licensed chemical	5-69-9	Application fee	\$75.00
18	dependency clinical supervisor			
19	Licensed chemical	5-69-9	Renewal fee	\$75.00
20	dependency clinical supervisor			
21	Deaf interpreters	5-71-8(a)(3)	License fee maximum	\$25.00
22	Deaf interpreters	5-71-8(a)(3)	License renewal fee	\$25.00
23	Milk producers	21-2-7(g)(1)	In-state milk processor	\$160.00
24	Milk producers	21-2-7(g)(2)	Out-of-state milk processor -	\$160.00
25	Milk producers	21-2-7(g)(3)	Milk distributors	\$160.00
26	Frozen desserts	21-9-3(1)	In-state wholesale	\$550.00
27	Frozen desserts	21-9-3(2)	Out-of-state wholesale	\$160.00
28	Frozen desserts	21-9-3(3)	Retail frozen dess pro-	\$160.00
29			cessors	
30	Meats	21-11-4	Wholesale	\$160.00
31	Meats	21-11-4	Retail	\$40.00
32	Shellfish packing houses	21-14-2	License fee:	
33			Shipper/reshipper	\$320.00
34	Shellfish packing houses	21-14-2	License fee:	

1			Shucker packer/repacker	\$390.00
2	Non-alcoholic bottled	21-23-2	Bottler permit	
3	beverages, drinks & juices			\$550.00
4	Non-alcoholic bottled	21-23-2	Bottle apple cider fee	
5	beverages, drinks and juices			\$60.00
6	Farm home food manu-	21-27-6.1(4)	Registration fee	\$65.00
7	facturers			
8	Cottage Food Manu-	21-27-6.2(4)	Registration fee	\$65.00
9	facturers			
10	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(1)	Food processors wholesale	\$300.00
11	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(2)	Food processors retail	\$120.00
12	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(3)	Food service establishments	
13			50 seats or less	\$160.00
14	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(3)	Food service establishments	
15			more than 50 seats	\$240.00
16	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(3)	Mobile food service units	\$100.00
17	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(3)	Industrial caterer or	
18			food vending	
19			Machine commissary	\$280.00
20	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(3)	Cultural heritage	
21			educational Facility	\$80.00
22	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(4)	Vending Machine	
23			Location3 units or less	\$50.00
24	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(4)	Vending Machine	
25			Location 4-10 units	\$100.00
26	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(4)	Vending Machine	
27			Location = 11 units	\$120.00
28	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(5)	Retail Mkt	
29			1-2 cash registers	\$120.00
30	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(5)	Retail Market	
31			3-5 cash registers	\$240.00
32	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(5)	Retail Market = 6	
33			Cash registers	\$510.00
34	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(6)	Retail food peddler	\$100.00

1	Food businesses	21-27-10(e)(7)	Food warehouses	\$190.00
2	Food businesses	21-27-11.2	Certified food safety mgr	\$50.00
3	License verification fee	23-1-16.1	All license types	\$50.00
4	Tattoo and body piercing	23-1-39	Annual registration	
5			fee: Person	\$90.00
6	Tattoo and body piercing	23-1-39	Annual registration fee:	
7			establishment	\$90.00
8	Vital records	23-3-25(a)(1)	Certificate of birth, fetal	
9			death, death, marriage, birth,	
10			or Certification that such	
11			record Cannot be found	\$20.00
12	Vital records	23-3-25(a)(1)	Each duplicate of	
13			certificate of birth,	
14			fetal death, death, marriage,	
15			birth, or certification that	
16			such record cannot be found	\$15.00
17	Vital records	23-3-25(a)(2)	Each additional calendar	
18			year Search, if within 3	
19			months of original	
20			search and if receipt of	
21			original search presented	\$2.00
22	Vital records	23-3-25(a)(3)	Expedited service	\$7.00
23	Vital records	23-3-25(a)(4)	Adoptions, legitimations,	
24			or Paternity determinations	\$15.00
25	Vital records	23-3-25(a)(5)	Authorized corrections,	
26			Alterations, and additions	\$10.00
27	Vital records	23-3-25(a)(6)	Filing of delayed record	
28			and Examination of docu-	
29			mentary Proof	\$20.00
30	Vital records	23-3-25(a)(6)	Issuance of certified copy	
31			of a delayed record	\$20.00
32	Medical Examiner	23-4-13	Autopsy reports	\$40.00
33	Medical Examiner	23-4-13	Cremation	
34			certificates and statistics	\$30.00

1	Medical Examiner	23-4-13	Testimony in civil suits:	
2			Minimum/day	\$650.00
3	Medical Examiner	23-4-13	Testimony in civil suits:	
4			Maximum/day	\$3,250.00
5	Emergency medical	23-4.1-10[c]	Annual fee: ambulance	
6	technicians		service maximum	\$540.00
7	Emergency medical	23-4.1-10[c]	Annual fee: vehicle	
8	technicians		license maximum	\$275.00
9	Emergency medical	23-4.1-10[c]	Triennial fee: EMT	
10	technicians		license maximum	\$120.00
11	Emergency medical	23-4.1-10(c)(2)	Exam fee maximum:	\$120.00
12	technicians		EMT	
13	Emergency medical	23-4.1-10(c)(2)	Vehicle inspection	
14	technicians		Maximum	\$190.00
15	Clinical laboratories	23-16.2-4(a)	Clinical laboratory	
16			license	
17			per specialty	\$650.00
18	Clinical laboratories	23-16.2-4(a)	Laboratory station	\$650.00
19			license	
20	Clinical laboratories	23-16.2-4(b)	Permit fee	\$70.00
21	Health care facilities	23-17-38	Hospital: base fee	\$16,900.00
22			annual	
23	Health care facilities	23-17-38	Hospital: annual per	\$120.00
24			bed fee	
25	Health care facilities	23-17-38	ESRD: annual fee	\$3,900.00
26	Health care facilities	23-17-38	Home nursing-care/	
27			home-	
28			care providers	\$650.00
29	Health care facilities	23-17-38	OACF: annual fee	\$650.00
30	Assisted living residences/	23-17.4-15.2(d)	License application fee:	\$220.00
31	administrators			
32	Assisted living residences/	23-17.4-15.2(d)	License renewal fee:	\$220.00
33	administrators			
34	Assisted living residences	23-17.4-31	Annual facility fee: base	\$330.00

1	Assisted living residences	23-17.4-31	Annual facility per bed	\$70.00
2	Nursing assistant registration	23-17.9-3	Application: competency evaluation training	
3			program maximum	\$325.00
4				
5	Nursing assistant registration	23-17.9-5	Application fee	\$35.00
6	Nursing assistant registration	23-17.9-5	Exam fee: skills proficiency	\$170.00
7	Nursing assistant registration	23-17.9-6	Registration fee	\$35.00
8	Nursing assistant registration	23-17.9-7	Renewal fee	\$35.00
9	Sanitarians	23-19.3-5(a)	Registration fee	\$25.00
10	Sanitarians	23-19.3-5(b)	Registration renewal	\$25.00
11	Massage therapy	23-20.8-3(e)	Massage therapist appl fee	\$65.00
12	Massage therapy	23-20.8-3(e)	Massage therapist	\$65.00
13			renewal fee	
14	Recreational facilities	23-21-2	Application fee	\$160.00
15	Swimming pools	23-22-6	Application license:	
16			first pool	\$250.00
17	Swimming pools	23-22-6	Additional pool	
18			fee at same location	\$75.00
19	Swimming pools	23-22-6	Seasonal application	
20			license: first pool	\$150.00
21	Swimming pools	23-22-6	Seasonal additional pool	
22			fee at same location	\$75.00
23	Swimming pools	23-22-6	Year-round license	
24			for non-profit	\$25.00
25	Swimming pools	23-22-10	Duplicate license	\$2.00
26	Swimming pools	23-22-12	Penalty for violations	\$50.00
27	Respiratory care practitioners -	23-39-11	Application fee	\$60.00
28	Respiratory care practitioners	23-39-11	Renewal fee	\$60.00

29 SECTION 4. Chapter 5-44 of the General Laws entitled "Psychologists" is hereby amended
 30 by adding thereto the following sections:

31 **5-44-9.1. Qualifications for licensed school psychologist.**

32 An applicant for licensure shall submit to the board written evidence satisfying the criteria
 33 set forth herein, on forms furnished by the professional regulation unit of the department of labor
 34 and training, verified under oath, that said applicant:

- 1 (1) Is of good moral character;
- 2 (2) Has obtained an advanced graduate degree in school psychology from a regionally
- 3 accredited college or university whose school psychology program is accredited by the American
- 4 Psychological Association and/or the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and
- 5 requires at least sixty (60) graduate credits with one thousand two hundred (1,200) hours of
- 6 supervised school psychology experience;
- 7 (3) Has three (3) years or three thousand six hundred (3,600) hours of postgraduate
- 8 supervised experience as a school psychologist;
- 9 (4) Has passed the Educational Testing Service's School Psychology Examination as
- 10 determined by the National School Psychology Certification Board; and
- 11 (5) Has obtained credentials as a Nationally Certified School Psychologist by the National
- 12 Association of School Psychologists.

5-44-9.2. Scope of practice of a licensed school psychologist.

14 (a) A licensed school psychologist may engage in the practice of school psychology in
15 public schools kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12), early childhood and pre-K settings, and
16 private and charter schools as an employee or consultant to the local education agency or school.
17 Licensed school psychologists may practice outside of these settings or independent of an
18 employment or consulting relationship. The practice of educational psychology is the performance
19 of any of the following professional functions pertaining to academic learning processes or the
20 education system or both:

(1) Educational evaluation.

(2) Diagnosis of psychological disorders related to academic learning processes.

23 (3) Administration of diagnostic tests related to academic learning processes including tests
24 of academic ability, learning patterns, achievement, motivation, and personality factors.

25 (4) Interpretation of diagnostic tests related to academic learning processes including tests
26 of academic ability, learning patterns, achievement, motivation, and personality factors.

27 (5) Providing psychological counseling for individuals, groups, and families.

28 (6) Consultation with other educators and parents on issues of social development and
29 behavioral and academic difficulties.

30 (7) Conducting psychoeducational assessments for the purposes of identifying special
31 needs

32 (8) Developing treatment programs and strategies to address problems of adjustment

(9) Coordinating intervention strategies for management of individual crises

(b) The board of psychology shall further define the practice of school psychology in rules

1 and regulations.

2 SECTION 5. Chapter 16-11 of the General Laws entitled "Certification of Teachers [See
3 Title 16 Chapter 97 — The Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" is hereby amended by adding
4 thereto the following sections:

5 **16-11-11. School psychologist graduate preparation grant program.**

6 (a) There is hereby established a grant program to incentivize and support the
7 implementation and operation of school psychologist graduate preparation programs within state-
8 funded institutions of higher education. This program shall be a culminating and immersive field-
9 supervised experience in which the primary focus is on providing high-quality experiences,
10 attainment of comprehensive school psychology competencies, and integration and application of
11 the full range of domains of school psychology. Minimum requirements for an internship shall
12 include:

13 (1) At least one thousand two hundred (1,200) hours in duration over the course of an
14 academic year;

15 (2) At least six hundred (600) hours of the internship shall occur in a school-based setting
16 as defined by national standards;

17 (3) Opportunities and supervision in a broad range of direct and indirect school
18 psychological services; and

19 (4) Supervision shall be conducted by a credentialed school psychologist or a professional
20 appropriately credentialed for the internship setting.

21 (b) The department of education shall provide annual funding to institutions of higher
22 education to fill faculty vacancies in existing graduate programs in school psychology.

23 (1) For institutions of higher education with existing graduate programs in school
24 psychology that do not have unfilled vacancies, the department shall provide funding to recruit and
25 supplement the costs of additional faculty to train and prepare more qualified school psychology
26 candidates.

27 (2) The department shall work with institutions of higher education to place school
28 psychology interns in high needs districts, while ensuring the availability of effective and
29 appropriate internship supervision, and provide an annual living internship stipend that meets the
30 state requirements for a living wage.

31 (3) The department shall forgive the school loans accrued by school psychologists in
32 pursuit of their degree, upon completion of five (5) years of employment in a high needs district.

33 **16-11-12. Reporting requirements.**

34 (a) The department of education ("department") shall conduct an annual collection of data

1 on the number of school psychologists who are employed:

2 (1) Full-time by a school or district;

3 (2) Part-time by a school or district;

4 (3) By an outside organization and provides school psychological services as a school

5 psychologist in a school or district; and

6 (4) As a full- or part-time contract employee providing services as a school psychologist

7 in a school or district.

8 **(b) Data shall be:**

9 **(1) Used to inform the department regarding high needs districts;**

10 **(2) Used to inform the department's decision making regarding the effective use of state**

11 **funds to recruit, train, and retain school psychologists;**

12 **(3) Used to help identify and target funding needs;**

13 **(4) Made publicly available on the state department of education website; and**

14 **(5) Reported annually to the general assembly and the governor.**

15 SECTION 6. The title of Chapter 5-63.2 of the General Laws entitled "Mental Health
16 Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists" is hereby amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 5 63.2

~~Mental Health Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists~~

CHAPTER 5-63.2

20 MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS AND
21 LICENSED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS

22 SECTION 7. Sections 5-63.2-2 and 5-63.2-9 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-63.2 entitled
23 "Mental Health Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists" are hereby amended to read as
24 follows:

5-63.2-2. Definitions.

26 As used in this chapter:

27 (1) "Advertise" means, but is not limited to, the issuing or causing to be distributed any
28 card, sign, or device to any person; or the causing, permitting, or allowing any sign or marking on
29 or in any building, radio, or television; or by advertising by any other means designed to secure
30 public attention.

31 (2) "Allied field" means counselor education, psychology, marriage and family therapy,
32 counseling psychology, community mental health, education with a concentration in counseling or
33 psychology, or other field determined by the board to be an allied field. Said allied field shall
34 include all components of the core curriculum.

1 ~~(2)~~(3) "Board" means the board of mental health counselors and marriage and family
2 therapists and mental health counselors.

3 ~~(3)~~(4) "Clinical mental health counselor" means a person who is licensed pursuant to § 5-
4 63.2-9, which license is in force and not suspended or revoked as of the particular time in question.

5 (5) "Clinical instruction" means all supervised course work within which the student has
6 the opportunity to engage in a broad range of clinical activities similar to those performed by a
7 licensed counselor/therapist. This instruction includes all practice and internships completed within
8 a student's program.

9 (6) "Department" means the Rhode Island department of health.

10 (7) "Director" means the director of the Rhode Island department of health.

11 ~~(4)~~(8) "Internship" means a part of an organized graduate program in counseling therapy
12 and constitutes a supervised experience within a mental health and/or marriage and family setting.

13 (9) "Licensed school psychologist" means a person who is duly licensed and which license
14 is in force and not suspended or revoked as of the particular time in question.

15 ~~(5)~~(10) "Marriage and family therapist" means a person who is licensed pursuant to § 5-
16 63.2-10, which license is in force and not suspended or revoked as of the particular time in question.

17 ~~(6)~~(11) "Person" means any individual, firm, corporation, partnership, organization, or
18 body politic.

19 ~~(7)~~(12) "Practice of clinical mental health counseling" means the rendering of professional
20 services to individuals, families, or groups for monetary compensation. These professional services
21 include:

22 (i) Applying the principles, methods, and theories of counseling and/or psychotherapeutic
23 techniques to define goals and develop a treatment plan of action aimed toward the prevention,
24 treatment, and resolution of social, mental, and emotional dysfunction and intra or interpersonal
25 disorders in persons diagnosed at intake as non-psychotic and not presenting medical problems;
26 and.

27 (ii) Engaging in psychotherapy of a nonmedical nature, utilizing supervision when
28 appropriate, and making referrals to other psychiatric, psychological, or medical resources when
29 the person is diagnosed as psychotic or presenting a medical problem;

30 (iii) Promoting mental health and wellness, which includes the achievement of social,
31 education and career, and emotional development across the lifespan, as well as preventing and
32 treating mental disorders and providing crisis intervention;

33 (iv) Psychotherapy, diagnosis, evaluation, administration of assessments, tests, and
34 appraisals, referral, and treatment of behavioral, emotional, addiction and mental disorders, and

1 establishment of counseling treatment plans for individuals, couples, groups, and families with
2 emotional, mental, addiction, cognitive, academic and physical disorders; and

3 (v) Consultation and program evaluation, program administration within and to schools
4 and organizations, and training and supervision of interns, trainees, and pre-licensed professional
5 counselors through accepted and established principles, methods, procedures, and ethics of
6 counselor supervision.

7 (vi) The practice of clinical mental health counseling does not include functions or
8 practices that are not within the professional's training or education.

9 (8)(13) "Practice of marriage and family therapy" means the rendering of professional
10 services to individuals, family groups, couples, or organizations for monetary compensation. These
11 professional services include applying principles, methods, and therapeutic techniques for the
12 purpose of resolving emotional conflicts; modifying perceptions and behavior; enhancing
13 communications and understanding among all family members; and the prevention of family and
14 individual crisis. Individual marriage and family therapists shall also engage in psychotherapy of a
15 nonmedical and non-psychotic nature with appropriate referrals to psychiatric resources.

16 (14) "Practice of school psychology" or "licensed school psychologist (LSP)" means the
17 performance of any of the following professional functions pertaining to academic learning
18 processes or the education system or both: educational evaluation; diagnosis of psychological
19 disorders related to academic learning processes; administration of diagnostic tests related to
20 academic learning processes including tests of academic ability, learning patterns, achievement,
21 motivation, and personality factors; interpretation of diagnostic tests related to academic learning
22 processes including tests of academic ability, learning patterns, achievement, motivation, and
23 personality factors; providing psychological counseling for individuals, groups, and families;
24 consultation with other educators and parents on issues of social development and behavioral and
25 academic difficulties; conducting psychoeducational assessments for the purposes of identifying
26 special needs; developing treatment programs and strategies to address problems of adjustment,
27 and coordinating intervention strategies for management of individual crises.

28 (9)(15) "Practicum" means a part of an organized graduate program in counseling therapy
29 and constitutes a supervised experience within the graduate counseling program.

30 (10)(16) "Qualified supervision" means the supervision of clinical services in accordance
31 with standards established by the board under the supervision of an individual who has been
32 recognized by the board as an approved supervisor.

33 (11)(17) "Recognized educational institution" means any educational institution that grants
34 a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree and is recognized by the board of mental health

1 counselors and marriage and family therapists or a recognized postgraduate clinical training
2 program as specified in §§ 5-63.2-9 and 5-63.2-10.

3 ~~(12)~~⁽¹⁸⁾ “Use a title or description of” means to hold oneself out to the public as having a
4 particular status by means of stating on signs, mailboxes, address plates, stationery,
5 announcements, calling cards, or other instruments of professional identification.

6 **5-63.2-9. Qualifications of licensed clinical mental health counselor associates and**
7 **licensed clinical mental health counselors. Qualifications of licensed clinical mental health**
8 **counselor associates, licensed clinical mental health counselors and school psychologists.**

9 (a) The department shall issue the appropriate license to applicants who meet the
10 qualifications in this section.

11 (1) Prerequisites for licensure of a clinical mental health counselor associate. A license as
12 a “clinical mental health counselor associate” shall be issued to an applicant who meets the
13 following qualifications:

14 (i) Is of good character;

15 (ii) Has received a graduate degree specializing in counseling/therapy from a college or
16 university accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, or an equivalent
17 regional accrediting agency, and that has the approval by a cognizable national or regional
18 certifying authority;

19 (iii) Has completed sixty (60) semester hours or ninety (90) quarter hours within his or her
20 graduate counseling/therapy program; and

21 (iv) Has completed a minimum of twelve (12) semester hours or eighteen (18) quarter hours
22 of supervised practicum and a minimum of one calendar year of supervised internship consisting
23 of twenty (20) hours per week, or its equivalent, with emphasis in mental health counseling
24 supervised by the department within the college or university granting the requisite degree or by an
25 accredited postgraduate clinical training program recognized by the United States Department of
26 Education, or education and/or experience that is deemed equivalent by the board.

27 (2) Prerequisites for licensure of a clinical mental health counselor. A license as a “clinical
28 mental health counselor” shall be issued to an applicant who meets the following qualifications:

29 (i) Has completed a minimum of two (2) years of relevant postgraduate experience,
30 including at least two thousand (2,000) hours of direct client contact offering clinical or counseling
31 or therapy services with emphasis in mental health counseling subsequent to being awarded a
32 master’s degree, certificate of advanced graduate study, or doctorate;

33 (ii) Has a minimum of one hundred (100) hours of post-degree supervised case work spread
34 over a two-year (2) period; provided, that the supervision was provided by a person who, at the

1 time of rendering the supervision, was recognized by the board as an approved supervisor; and
2 (iii) Has passed, to the satisfaction of the board, an examination conducted by it to
3 determine the applicant's qualification for licensure as a clinical mental health counselor or is
4 applying for licensure under the provisions of § 5-63.2-15.

5 (3) A license as a "licensed school psychologist" shall be issued to an applicant who meets
6 the following qualifications:

7 (i) Filed an application for licensure with all required supporting materials;
8 (ii) Has received an advanced level degree in school psychology from a program accredited
9 by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), or equivalent, and successfully
10 completed one thousand two hundred (1,200) hours of appropriately supervised practice; and
11 (iii) Shall only practice within the scope of competency, and adherence to the Code of
12 Ethics, set forth by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP).

13 (b) Provisional permit holders may request from the board a one year extension. Such an
14 extension may be granted at the discretion of the board upon review of the applicant's
15 circumstances. This extension shall only be granted once.

16 ~~(b)~~(c) A candidate shall be held to have qualified for licensure as a clinical mental health
17 counselor associate, or a clinical mental health counselor upon the affirmative vote of at least four
18 (4) members of the board, two (2) of whom must be mental health counselors on the board.

19 SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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LC004414

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PSYCHOLOGISTS

- 1 This act would include licensed school psychologists under the provisions of the general
- 2 laws governing the regulations of psychologists and would expand the licensing of school
- 3 psychologists for independent practice.
- 4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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LC004414
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