Louisiana: the rules for aesthetic practice

What Louisiana's laws and boards say about who may do aesthetic treatments, who must supervise them, and who can own the practice.

Nurse practitioners: Reduced Practice

Nurse practitioners

Reduced (AANP). NPs keep a collaborative practice agreement with a physician (La. R.S. 37:913); the Board of Nursing alone regulates NP licensure (37:911). NPs may not prescribe Schedule II drugs for chronic or intractable pain or for obesity. Prescribers need 6 CE hours a year in pharmacotherapeutics, 3 on controlled substances if they prescribe them (46 LAC XLVII §4513).

Delegating to RNs, estheticians and staff

No Board of Nursing guidance on cosmetic injections by RNs was checked in November 2026. Ask the Board of Nursing before delegating.

Lasers

By statute, only people licensed to practice medicine, veterinary medicine, dentistry or podiatry may perform laser surgery (La. R.S. 37:1274.1). In 2021 the House asked the Board of Medical Examiners to write rules for nonsurgical cosmetic laser treatments, noting none existed. Whether a cosmetic laser treatment counts as laser surgery wasn't confirmed in November 2026; ask the Board of Medical Examiners before an NP, RN or esthetician runs a laser.

Who can own the practice

In a Louisiana professional medical corporation, only shares held by a Louisiana-licensed physician (or another such corporation) vote or share in earnings, and only physicians and podiatrists provide medical services for it (La. R.S. 12:906, 12:911). Whether a business owned by a non-physician may employ or contract physicians is not settled: no statute, board ruling or court decision on it was found. Confirm the entity type with a Louisiana healthcare attorney.

The biggest risk in Louisiana. Lasers run by anyone other than a licensed physician, and Schedule II prescriptions for weight loss.

Check it with your boards: Louisiana State Board of Nursing - lsbn.state.la.us and Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners - lsbme.la.gov. Checked November 3, 2026. Rules change, so read the current rule on the board's own site before you act.

Ask S.A.G.E. next. S.A.G.E., our AI practice advisor, answers from this same Louisiana reference, free in your TMAA account, which you can set up at go.medicalaestheticsassociation.com/start-here. Try:

1. I'm an RN in Louisiana. What has to be in place before I offer injectables?
2. What must my medical director agreement cover in Louisiana?
3. What can an esthetician do in Louisiana, and what needs an order?

S.A.G.E. is not legal advice. For a binding answer, talk to a healthcare attorney in your state.