

## Louisiana Administrative Code

### Title 46 – Professional and Occupational Standards

#### Part LIII: Pharmacists

#### Chapter 9. Pharmacy Technicians

##### §901. Definitions

A. As used in this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this Section:

*ACPE* – Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education.

~~*Pharmacist Preceptor* – an individual who is currently licensed as a pharmacist by the board, meets certain qualifications as established by the board, and is responsible for the instructional training of pharmacy technician candidates.~~

*CPE* – continuing pharmaceutical education, as part of a postgraduate educational program to enhance professional competence.

*CPE unit* – a standard of measurement adopted by the ACPE for the purpose of accreditation of CPE programs. One CPE unit is equivalent to 10 credit hours.

*Pharmacy Technician* – an individual, certified by the board, who assists in the practice of pharmacy under the direct and immediate supervision of a Louisiana-licensed pharmacist.

*Pharmacy Technician Candidate* – an individual not yet certified as a pharmacy technician by the board who is:

- a. an individual who possesses a valid registration, ~~is satisfactorily progressing in a board-approved structured program,~~ and is working under the supervision of a pharmacist ~~preceptor~~ for the purpose of obtaining practical experience for certification as a pharmacy technician by the board; or
- b. an individual who possesses a valid registration, ~~has successfully completed a board-approved structured program,~~ and is awaiting examination.

~~*Structured Program* – systematic instruction in pharmacy-related functions in a board-approved pharmacy technician training program.~~

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1212.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 30:2485 (November 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended

##### §903. Pharmacy Technician Candidates

A. Registration

1. Qualifications

- a. All pharmacy technician candidates shall register with the board; failure to do so may result in disciplinary action by the board.

- 41 b. The candidate shall be at least 18 years of age, as evidenced by a valid and legible  
42 copy of a birth certificate or other appropriate credential.
- 43 c. The candidate shall be of good moral character and non-impaired.
- 44 d. The candidate shall be a graduate from a high school approved by a state  
45 department of education, or shall possess an equivalent degree of education, as  
46 evidenced by a valid and legible copy of a diploma, transcript, or other appropriate  
47 credential.
- 48 e. Exceptions:
- 49 i. A pharmacist or pharmacist intern whose board credential has been denied,  
50 suspended, revoked, or restricted for disciplinary reasons by any board of  
51 pharmacy shall not be a pharmacy technician candidate or pharmacy  
52 technician.
- 53 ii. A pharmacist or pharmacist intern whose board credential is lapsed shall  
54 not be a pharmacy technician candidate or pharmacy technician until such  
55 lapsed credential is recalled through non-disciplinary board action.

56 2. Issuance and Maintenance

- 57 a. Upon receipt of a properly completed application, appropriate fee, ~~proof of~~  
58 ~~enrollment in a board approved structured program~~, and any other documentation  
59 required by the board, the board may issue a Pharmacy Technician Candidate  
60 Registration to the applicant.
- 61 b. The board reserves the right to refuse to issue, recall, or discipline a registration  
62 for cause.
- 63 c. The registration shall expire 18 months after the date of issuance, and it shall not  
64 be renewable.
- 65 d. A pharmacy technician candidate shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10  
66 days following a change of mailing address. The written notice shall include the  
67 candidate's name, registration number, and old and new addresses.
- 68 e. A pharmacy technician candidate shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10  
69 days following a change in ~~either training program site or~~ location(s) of  
70 employment. The written notice shall include the candidate's name, registration  
71 number, and name, address, and permit numbers for old and new ~~training program~~  
72 ~~sites or~~ employers.

73 ~~B. Structured Program~~

- 74 ~~1. All structured programs shall meet competency standards as established by the board.~~
- 75 ~~2. The curriculum of the structured program shall be composed of the elements contained in the~~  
76 ~~*Pharmacy Technician Training Program Minimum Competencies*, as approved by the board.~~
- 77 ~~3. The structured program shall notify the board when a pharmacy technician candidate is no~~  
78 ~~longer satisfactorily progressing in the program.~~

79 4. ~~The structured program shall provide an appropriate credential to the candidate who has~~  
80 ~~successfully completed the program.~~

81 C. Practical Experience

82 1. The candidate shall possess a registration prior to earning any practical experience in a  
83 pharmacy.

84 2. The candidate's registration shall be conspicuously displayed in the prescription department.

85 3. The candidate shall wear appropriate attire and be properly identified as to name and  
86 candidate status while on duty in the prescription department.

87 4. A candidate shall not work in a permitted site that is on probation with the board, or with a  
88 pharmacist who is on probation with the board.

89 ~~5. The candidate's registration shall evidence his authority to earn a minimum of 600 hours of~~  
90 ~~practical experience in a pharmacy, under the supervision of a pharmacist preceptor, in~~  
91 ~~satisfaction of the requirements for pharmacy technician certification. Of the required~~  
92 ~~minimum 600 hours, not less than 200 hours shall be earned during and as part of a structured~~  
93 ~~program.~~

94 6. A candidate may receive board credit for a maximum of 50 hours per week.

95 7. Hours of practical experience earned by a candidate shall expire one year after the expiration  
96 date of the registration.

97 D. Examination

98 1. A board-approved technician examination shall consist of integrated pharmacy subject matter  
99 and any other disciplines the board may deem appropriate in order to permit the candidate to  
100 demonstrate his competency. The candidate shall achieve a passing score, as determined by  
101 the board.

102 2. Re-examination

103 a. Following the first or second unsuccessful attempt of an examination, the  
104 candidate may be permitted to retake that examination.

105 b. Following the third unsuccessful attempt of an examination, the candidate shall  
106 wait one year after the date of the last examination to retake that examination. If  
107 the candidate fails to wait the prescribed one year period, the board may delay any  
108 future certification until that one year period has elapsed.

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110 AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1212.

111 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708  
112 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, repromulgated LR 19:1025 (August 1993), amended LR 23:1307  
113 (October 1997), LR 30:2485 (November 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended

114

115 **§905. Pharmacy Technician Certificate**

116 A. Qualifications

- 117 1. An applicant for a pharmacy technician certificate shall be at least 18 years of age, as  
118 evidenced by a valid and legible copy of a birth certificate or other appropriate credential.  
119 2. An applicant shall be of good moral character and non-impaired.  
120 3. An applicant shall demonstrate the following educational competencies:  
121 a. shall be a graduate from a high school approved by a state department of  
122 education, or shall possess an equivalent degree of education, as evidenced by a  
123 valid and legible copy of a diploma, transcript, or other appropriate credential; and  
124 ~~b. shall have successfully completed a board-approved structured program for~~  
125 ~~pharmacy technician education and training, as evidenced by a valid and legible~~  
126 ~~copy of the appropriate credential from that program.~~  
127 c. For those applicants submitting applications on or after January 1, 2016, the  
128 applicant shall demonstrate successful completion of a nationally-accredited and  
129 board-approved pharmacy technician training program, as evidenced by a valid  
130 and legible copy of the appropriate credential from that program.  
131 4. An applicant shall demonstrate evidence of at least 600 hours of practical experience under  
132 the supervision of a pharmacist ~~preceptor~~, using a form supplied by the board.  
133 5. An applicant shall demonstrate successful completion of a board-approved technician  
134 examination, as evidenced by a valid and legible copy of the appropriate credential.

135 B. Issuance and Maintenance

- 136 1. Upon receipt of a properly completed and notarized application, properly executed preceptor  
137 affidavit(s), copies of valid and legible credentials, and the appropriate fee, and following  
138 verification that all requirements have been satisfied, the board may issue a pharmacy  
139 technician certificate to the applicant for the current renewal period.  
140 2. The board reserves the right to refuse to issue, recall, or discipline a certificate for cause.  
141 3. The annual renewal shall expire and become null and void on June 30 of each year.  
142 a. The board shall make available, no later than May 1 of each year, an application  
143 for renewal to all pharmacy technicians to the address of record.  
144 b. The completed application, along with the appropriate fee, shall be submitted to  
145 the board by June 30 of each year.  
146 c. A pharmacy technician shall not assist in the practice of pharmacy in Louisiana  
147 with an expired renewal.  
148 d. An application for an expired pharmacy technician renewal, along with the  
149 appropriate fee, shall be submitted to the board's Reinstatement Committee for  
150 consideration.  
151 4. A pharmacy technician shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10 days following a  
152 change of mailing address. The written notice shall include the technician's name, certificate  
153 number, and old and new addresses.

- 154                   5. A pharmacy technician shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10 days following a  
155                   change in location(s) of employment. The written notice shall include the technician's name,  
156                   certificate number, and name, address, and permit numbers for old and new employers.  
157                   6. Upon written request of any certified pharmacy technician in active military service of the  
158                   United States or any of its allies, the board may waive the requirement for the annual renewal  
159                   of the certificate, including fees.

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161   AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1212.

162   HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708  
163   (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, repromulgated LR 19:1025 (August 1993), LR 30:2486 (November  
164   2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended LR 38:1235 (May 2012), amended

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### 166   **§907. Scope of Practice**

167           A. Pharmacy technician candidates and pharmacy technicians may assist the pharmacist by performing  
168           those duties and functions assigned by the pharmacist while under his direct and immediate  
169           supervision.

170                   1. The ratio of candidates to pharmacists on duty shall not exceed one to one at any given time.

171                   2. The ratio of technicians to pharmacists on duty shall not exceed two to one at any given time.

172                   However, the ratio of technicians to pharmacists on duty may be increased to three to one if  
173                   no technician candidates are on duty at the same time.

174           B. Pharmacy technician candidates shall not:

175                   1. receive verbal initial prescription orders;

176                   2. give or receive verbal transfers of prescription orders;

177                   3. interpret prescription orders (however, a technician candidate may translate prescription  
178                   orders);

179                   4. compound high-risk sterile preparations, as defined by the United States Pharmacopeia (USP),  
180                   or its successor.

181                   5. counsel patients.

182           C. Pharmacy technicians shall not:

183                   1. release a verbal prescription order for processing until it is reduced to written form and  
184                   initialed by the receiving technician and supervising pharmacist;

185                   2. interpret prescription orders (however, a technician may translate prescription orders);

186                   3. compound high-risk sterile preparations, as defined by the United States Pharmacopeia (USP),  
187                   or its successor;

188                   4. counsel patients.

189

190   AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1212.

191 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 30:2486  
192 (November 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended LR 32:1049 (June 2006).

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### 194 **§909. Continuing Education**

- 195 A. A minimum of one technician-specific ACPE or board-approved CPE unit, or 10 credit hours, shall be  
196 required each year as a prerequisite for annual renewal of a pharmacy technician certificate. Such CPE  
197 units shall be credited in the 12-month period prior to the expiration date of the certificate.
- 198 B. Certified pharmacy technicians shall maintain copies of their individual records of personal CPE  
199 activities at their primary practice site for at least 2 years, and shall present them when requested by  
200 the board.
- 201 C. If judged appropriate by the board, some or all of the required number of hours may be mandated on  
202 specific subjects. When so deemed, the board shall notify all certified pharmacy technicians prior to  
203 the beginning of the renewal year in which the CPE is required.
- 204 D. Complete compliance with CPE rules is a prerequisite for renewal of a pharmacy technician certificate.
- 205 1. Non-compliance with the CPE requirements shall be considered a violation of R.S.  
206 37:1241(A)(2) and shall constitute a basis for the board to refuse annual renewal.
- 207 2. The failure to maintain an individual record of personal CPE activities, or falsifying CPE  
208 documents, shall be considered a violation of R.S. 37:1241(A)(22).
- 209 3. The inability to comply with CPE requirements shall be substantiated by a written  
210 explanation, supported with extraordinary circumstances, and submitted to the board for  
211 consideration.

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213 AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1212.

214 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708  
215 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, amended LR 17:779 (August 1991), repromulgated LR 19:1025 (August  
216 1993), amended LR 23:1308 (October 1997), LR 30:2487 (November 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended

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### 218 **§911. Impairment**

- 219 A. Pharmacy technician candidates and pharmacy technicians shall be non-impaired.
- 220 B. Pharmacy technician candidates and pharmacy technicians who have knowledge that a pharmacist,  
221 pharmacist intern, pharmacy technician candidate, or pharmacy technician is impaired shall notify the  
222 board of that fact.
- 223 C. Pharmacy technician candidates and pharmacy technicians shall be subject to a medical evaluation for  
224 impairment by a board-approved addictionist, as authorized by the Louisiana Pharmacy Practice Act,  
225 R.S. 37:1161 *et seq.*

226

227 AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1212.

228 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708  
229 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, amended LR 17:779 (August 1991), repromulgated LR 19:1025 (August  
230 1993), amended 23:1308 (October 1997), LR 30:2487 (November 2004), effective January 1, 2005.  
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