

## 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.

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

*CPE Monitor* – a collaborative service from the National Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) and the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) that provides an electronic system for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to record and track their completed CPE activities.

*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.

*Pharmacist Preceptor* – Repealed.

*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 nationally-accredited and board-approved pharmacy technician training program, and is working under the supervision of a pharmacist 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 the board-approved technician certification examination, and is ~~awaiting examination~~ working under the supervision of a pharmacist for the purpose of obtaining practical experience for certification as a pharmacy technician by the board.

*Structured Training Program* – ~~Repealed a pharmacy technician training program that is currently accredited by ACPE and has been approved by the board.~~

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 LR 39:1777 (July 2013), amended LR

##### §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.
- b. The candidate shall be at least 18 years of age, as evidenced by a valid and legible copy of a birth certificate or other appropriate credential.
- c. The candidate shall be of good moral character and non-impaired.
- d. ~~The candidate shall be a graduate from a high school approved by a state department of education, or shall possess an equivalent degree of education, as evidenced by a valid and legible copy of a diploma, transcript, or other appropriate credential.~~  
d. The applicant for a pharmacy technician candidate registration shall provide proof of enrollment in a nationally-accredited and board-approved pharmacy technician training program; however, this requirement may be waived in the event the applicant has already successfully completed the board-approved technician certification examination.
- e. Exceptions:

- 57 i. A pharmacist or pharmacist intern whose board credential has been denied,  
 58 suspended, revoked, or restricted for disciplinary reasons by any board of  
 59 pharmacy shall not be a pharmacy technician candidate or pharmacy  
 60 technician.  
 61 ii. A pharmacist or pharmacist intern whose board credential is lapsed shall  
 62 not be a pharmacy technician candidate or pharmacy technician until such  
 63 lapsed credential is recalled through non-disciplinary board action.  
 64 2. Issuance and Maintenance  
 65 a. Upon receipt of a properly completed application, appropriate fee, and ~~any other~~  
 66 documentation ~~required by the board~~ of one of the following, the board may issue  
 67 a Pharmacy Technician Candidate Registration to the applicant:  
 68 i. Proof of enrollment in a nationally-accredited and board-approved  
 69 pharmacy technician training program; or  
 70 ii. Proof of successful completion of the board-approved pharmacy technician  
 71 certification examination.  
 72 b. The board reserves the right to refuse to issue, recall, or discipline a registration  
 73 for cause.  
 74 c. The registration shall expire ~~18~~ 24 months after the date of issuance, and it shall  
 75 not be renewable.  
 76 d. A pharmacy technician candidate shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10  
 77 days following a change of mailing address. The written notice shall include the  
 78 candidate's name, registration number, and old and new addresses.  
 79 e. A pharmacy technician candidate shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10  
 80 days following a change in location(s) of employment. The written notice shall  
 81 include the candidate's name, registration number, and name, address, and permit  
 82 numbers for old and new employers.

#### 83 B. Training Programs

- 84 1. All training programs approved by the board shall maintain their accreditation by ACPE.  
 85 2. The training program shall notify the board when a pharmacy technician candidate is no  
 86 longer satisfactorily progressing in the program. Evidence of a program's failure to comply  
 87 with this rule shall constitute sufficient basis for the withdrawal of the board's approval for  
 88 the program.  
 89 3. The training program shall provide an appropriate credential to the pharmacy technician  
 90 candidate who has successfully completed the program, provided, however, that such  
 91 credential shall not be formatted in such a manner to lead anyone to believe that credential  
 92 resembles a document providing legal authority to practice as a pharmacy technician.

#### 93 C. Practical Experience

- 94 1. The candidate shall possess a registration prior to performing any permitted professional  
 95 function or earning any practical experience in a pharmacy.  
 96 ~~2. The candidate's registration shall be conspicuously displayed in the prescription department.~~  
 97 3. The candidate shall wear appropriate attire and be properly identified as to name and  
 98 candidate status while on duty in the prescription department.  
 99 4. A candidate shall not work in a permitted site that is on probation with the board, or with a  
 100 pharmacist who is on probation with the board.  
 101 5. The candidate's registration shall evidence his authority to earn ~~a minimum of 600 hours of~~  
 102 practical experience in a pharmacy, under the supervision of a pharmacist, in satisfaction of  
 103 the requirements for pharmacy technician certification.  
 104 a. In the event the registration was issued to an applicant enrolled in a nationally-  
 105 accredited and board-approved training program, the applicant shall earn the  
 106 amount of experience prescribed by the curriculum of that program; or  
 107 b. In the event the registration was issued to an applicant who had already  
 108 successfully completed the board-approved technician certification examination  
 109 and who had never completed a nationally-accredited board-approved pharmacy  
 110 technician training program, the applicant shall earn at least 600 hours of practical  
 111 experience in a pharmacy in Louisiana, provided however, that a candidate may  
 112 receive board credit for a maximum of 50 hours per week.  
 113 ~~6. A candidate may receive board credit for a maximum of 50 hours per week.~~

- 114 7. ~~Hours of practical experience earned by a candidate shall expire one year after the expiration~~  
 115 ~~date of the registration.~~

116 D. Examination

- 117 1. A board-approved technician examination shall consist of integrated pharmacy subject matter  
 118 and any other disciplines the board may deem appropriate in order to permit the candidate to  
 119 demonstrate his competency. The candidate shall achieve a passing score, as determined by  
 120 the board.  
 121 2. Re-examination  
 122 a. Following the first or second unsuccessful attempt of an examination, the  
 123 candidate may be permitted to retake that examination.  
 124 b. Following the third unsuccessful attempt of an examination, the candidate shall  
 125 wait one year after the date of the last examination to retake that examination. If  
 126 the candidate fails to wait the prescribed one year period, the board may delay any  
 127 future certification until that one year period has elapsed.  
 128

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

130 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708  
 131 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, repromulgated LR 19:1025 (August 1993), amended LR 23:1307  
 132 (October 1997), LR 30:2485 (November 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended LR 39:1777 (July 2013),  
 133 amended LR

134  
 135 ...

137 **§905. Pharmacy Technician Certificate**

138 A. Qualifications

- 139 1. An applicant for a pharmacy technician certificate shall be at least 18 years of age, as  
 140 evidenced by a valid and legible copy of a birth certificate or other appropriate credential.  
 141 2. An applicant shall be of good moral character and non-impaired.  
 142 3. An applicant shall demonstrate one of the following educational competencies:  
 143 a. ~~shall be a graduate from a high school approved by a state department of~~  
 144 ~~education, or shall possess an equivalent degree of education, as evidenced by a~~  
 145 ~~valid and legible copy of a diploma, transcript, or other appropriate credential; and~~  
 146 b. ~~For those applicants submitting applications on or after January 1, 2016, the~~  
 147 ~~applicant shall demonstrate successful completion of a nationally accredited and~~  
 148 ~~board approved pharmacy technician training program, as evidenced by a valid~~  
 149 ~~and legible copy of the appropriate credential from that program.~~  
 150 a. In the event the applicant obtained their technician candidate registration on the  
 151 basis of their enrollment in a nationally-accredited and board-approved pharmacy  
 152 technician training program, the applicant shall demonstrate successful completion  
 153 of that training program, or in the alternative, another nationally-accredited and  
 154 board-approved pharmacy technician training program;  
 155 b. In the event the applicant obtained their technician candidate registration on the  
 156 basis of their prior successful completion of the board-approved technician  
 157 certification examination, the applicant shall demonstrate the acquisition of at least  
 158 600 hours of practical experience under the supervision of a pharmacist, using a  
 159 form supplied by the board; or  
 160 c. In the event the applicant obtained their technician candidate registration after July  
 161 1, 2013 but before the effective date of this rule amendment, the applicant shall  
 162 demonstrate the acquisition of at least 600 hours of practical experience under the  
 163 supervision of a pharmacist, using a form supplied by the board.  
 164 4. ~~An applicant shall demonstrate evidence of at least 600 hours of practical experience under~~  
 165 ~~the supervision of a pharmacist, using a form supplied by the board.~~  
 166 5. An applicant shall demonstrate successful completion of a board-approved technician  
 167 examination, as evidenced by a valid and legible copy of the appropriate credential.

168 B. Issuance and Maintenance

- 169 1. Upon receipt of a properly completed and notarized application, ~~properly executed preceptor~~  
 170 ~~affidavit(s),~~ copies of valid and legible credentials, ~~and~~ the appropriate fee, and any other

- 171 documentation required by the board, and following verification that all requirements have  
 172 been satisfied, the board may issue a pharmacy technician certificate to the applicant for the  
 173 current renewal period.
- 174 2. The board reserves the right to refuse to issue, recall, or discipline a certificate for cause.
  - 175 3. The annual renewal shall expire and become null and void on June 30 of each year.
    - 176 a. The board shall make available, no later than May 1 of each year, an application  
 177 for renewal to all pharmacy technicians to the address of record.
    - 178 b. The completed application, along with the appropriate fee, shall be submitted to  
 179 the board by June 30 of each year.
    - 180 c. A pharmacy technician shall not assist in the practice of pharmacy in Louisiana  
 181 with an expired renewal.
    - 182 d. An application for an expired pharmacy technician renewal, along with the  
 183 appropriate fee, shall be submitted to the board's Reinstatement Committee for  
 184 consideration.
  - 185 4. A pharmacy technician shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10 days following a  
 186 change of mailing address. The written notice shall include the technician's name, certificate  
 187 number, and old and new addresses.
  - 188 5. A pharmacy technician shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10 days following a  
 189 change in location(s) of employment. The written notice shall include the technician's name,  
 190 certificate number, and name, address, and permit numbers for old and new employers.
  - 191 6. Upon written request of any certified pharmacy technician in active military service of the  
 192 United States or any of its allies, the board may waive the requirement for the annual renewal  
 193 of the certificate, including fees.

194  
 195 AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1212.

196 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708  
 197 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, repromulgated LR 19:1025 (August 1993), LR 30:2486 (November  
 198 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended LR 38:1235 (May 2012), amended LR 39:1777 (July 2013), amended LR  
 199

## 200 §907. Scope of Practice

- 201 A. Pharmacy technician candidates and pharmacy technicians may assist the pharmacist by performing  
 202 those duties and functions assigned by the pharmacist while under his direct and immediate  
 203 supervision.
  - 204 1. The ratio of candidates to pharmacists on duty shall not exceed one to one at any given time.
  - 205 2. The ratio of technicians to pharmacists on duty shall not exceed two to one at any given time.  
 206 However, the ratio of technicians to pharmacists on duty may be increased to three to one if  
 207 no technician candidates are on duty at the same time.
- 208 B. Pharmacy technician candidates shall not:
  - 209 1. receive verbal initial prescription orders;
  - 210 2. give or receive verbal transfers of prescription orders;
  - 211 3. interpret prescription orders (however, a technician candidate may translate prescription  
 212 orders);
  - 213 4. compound high-risk sterile preparations, as defined by the United States Pharmacopeia (USP),  
 214 or its successor.
  - 215 5. counsel patients.
- 216 C. Pharmacy technicians shall not:
  - 217 1. release a verbal prescription order for processing until it is reduced to written form and  
 218 initialed by the receiving technician and supervising pharmacist;
  - 219 2. interpret prescription orders (however, a technician may translate prescription orders);
  - 220 ~~3. compound high risk sterile preparations, as defined by the United States Pharmacopeia (USP),~~  
 221 ~~or its successor;~~
  - 222 4. counsel patients.

223  
 224 AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1212.

225 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 30:2486  
 226 (November 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended LR 32:1049 (June 2006), amended LR  
 227

**§909. Continuing Education**

- 228  
229  
230  
231  
232  
233  
234  
235  
236  
237  
238  
239  
240  
241  
242  
243  
244  
245  
246  
247
- A. A minimum of one technician-specific ACPE or board-approved CPE unit, or 10 credit hours, shall be required each year as a prerequisite for annual renewal of a pharmacy technician certificate. Such CPE units shall be credited in the 12-month period prior to the expiration date of the certificate.
  - B. Certified pharmacy technicians shall maintain copies of their individual records of personal CPE activities ~~at their primary practice site for at least 2 years~~ with CPE Monitor and shall authorize the board's access to their file by recording their Louisiana pharmacy technician certificate number within that file, and shall present ~~them~~ a copy of their CPE Monitor transcript when requested by the board.
  - C. If judged appropriate by the board, some or all of the required number of hours may be mandated on specific subjects. When so deemed, the board shall notify all certified pharmacy technicians prior to the beginning of the renewal year in which the CPE is required.
  - D. Complete compliance with CPE rules is a prerequisite for renewal of a pharmacy technician certificate.
    1. Non-compliance with the CPE requirements shall be considered a violation of R.S. 37:1241(A)(2) and shall constitute a basis for the board to refuse annual renewal.
    2. The failure to maintain an individual record of personal CPE activities, or falsifying CPE documents, shall be considered a violation of R.S. 37:1241(A)(22).
    3. The inability to comply with CPE requirements shall be substantiated by a written explanation, supported with extraordinary circumstances, and submitted to the board for consideration.

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

249 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708  
250 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, amended LR 17:779 (August 1991), repromulgated LR 19:1025 (August  
251 1993), amended LR 23:1308 (October 1997), LR 30:2487 (November 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended  
252 LR 39:1778 (July 2013), amended LR

253  
254 ...  
255