

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Pharmacist Preceptor – Repealed.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, registered by the board, training to become a pharmacy technician, who assists in the practice of pharmacy under the direct and immediate supervision of a Louisiana-licensed pharmacist.

Training Program – a pharmacy technician training program that is currently nationally-accredited 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. All pharmacy technician candidates shall obtain a registration from the board prior to performing any professional functions in a pharmacy; failure to do may result in disciplinary action by the board.

2. Qualifications

a. The applicant shall be at least 18 years of age, as evidenced by a valid and legible copy of a birth certificate or other appropriate credential.

b. The applicant shall be of good moral character and non-impaired.

c. The applicant shall satisfy one of the following eligibility criteria:

i. Proof of enrollment in a nationally-accredited and board-approved pharmacy technician training program; or

ii. Proof of successful completion of the board-approved technician certification examination, and further, proof of successful completion of a high school approved by a state department of education or an equivalent degree of education, as evidenced by a valid and legible copy of a diploma, transcript, or other appropriate credential; or

iii. Proof of credentialing as a pharmacy technician by another state board of pharmacy as well as evidence of practice as a pharmacy technician for at least one year in that state, and further, proof of successful completion of the board-approved technician certification examination.

- 57 d. Exceptions:
- 58 i. A pharmacist or pharmacist intern whose board credential has been denied,
- 59 suspended, revoked, or restricted for disciplinary reasons by any board of
- 60 pharmacy shall not be a pharmacy technician candidate or pharmacy
- 61 technician.
- 62 ii. A pharmacist or pharmacist intern whose board credential is lapsed shall
- 63 not be a pharmacy technician candidate or pharmacy technician until such
- 64 lapsed credential is recalled through non-disciplinary board action.
- 65 3. Issuance and Maintenance
- 66 a. Upon receipt of a properly completed application, appropriate fee, and any other
- 67 documentation required by the board, the board may issue a Pharmacy Technician
- 68 Candidate Registration to the applicant.
- 69 b. The board reserves the right to refuse to issue, recall, or discipline a registration
- 70 for cause.
- 71 c. The registration shall expire 24 months after the date of issuance, and it shall not
- 72 be renewable.
- 73 d. A pharmacy technician candidate shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10
- 74 days following a change of mailing address. The written notice shall include the
- 75 candidate's name, registration number, and old and new addresses.
- 76 e. A pharmacy technician candidate shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10
- 77 days following a change in location(s) of employment. The written notice shall
- 78 include the candidate's name, registration number, and name, address, and permit
- 79 numbers for old and new employers.
- 80 B. Training Programs
- 81 1. All training programs approved by the board shall maintain their national accreditation.
- 82 2. The training program shall notify the board when a pharmacy technician candidate is no
- 83 longer satisfactorily progressing in the program. Evidence of a program's failure to comply
- 84 with this rule shall constitute sufficient basis for the withdrawal of the board's approval for
- 85 the program.
- 86 3. The training program shall provide an appropriate credential to the pharmacy technician
- 87 candidate who has successfully completed the program, provided, however, that such
- 88 credential shall not be formatted in such a manner to lead anyone to believe that credential
- 89 resembles a document providing legal authority to practice as a pharmacy technician.
- 90 C. Practical Experience
- 91 1. The candidate shall possess a registration prior to performing any permitted professional
- 92 function or earning any practical experience in a pharmacy.
- 93 2. The candidate shall wear appropriate attire and be properly identified as to name and
- 94 candidate status while on duty in the prescription department.
- 95 3. A candidate shall not work in a permitted site that is on probation with the board, or with a
- 96 pharmacist who is on probation with the board.
- 97 4. The candidate's registration shall evidence his authority to earn practical experience in a
- 98 pharmacy, under the supervision of a pharmacist, in satisfaction of the requirements for
- 99 pharmacy technician certification.
- 100 a. In the event the registration was issued to an applicant enrolled in a nationally-
- 101 accredited and board-approved training program, the candidate shall earn the
- 102 amount of experience prescribed by the curriculum of that program; or
- 103 b. In the event the registration was issued to an applicant by any other method, the
- 104 candidate shall earn at least 600 hours of practical experience in a pharmacy in
- 105 Louisiana, provided however, that a candidate may receive board credit for a
- 106 maximum of 50 hours per week.
- 107 5. Hours of practical experience earned by a candidate shall expire two years after the expiration
- 108 date of the registration.
- 109 D. Examination
- 110 1. A board-approved technician examination shall consist of integrated pharmacy subject matter
- 111 and any other disciplines the board may deem appropriate in order to permit the candidate to
- 112 demonstrate his competency. The candidate shall achieve a passing score, as determined by
- 113 the board.

114 2. Re-examination

- 115 a. Following the first or second unsuccessful attempt of an examination, the
116 candidate may be permitted to retake that examination.
117 b. Following the third unsuccessful attempt of an examination, the candidate shall
118 wait one year after the date of the last examination to retake that examination. If
119 the candidate fails to wait the prescribed one year period, the board may delay any
120 future certification until that one year period has elapsed.
121

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

123 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708
124 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, repromulgated LR 19:1025 (August 1993), amended LR 23:1307
125 (October 1997), LR 30:2485 (November 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended LR 39:1777 (July 2013),
126 amended LR
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130 **§905. Pharmacy Technician Certificate**

131 A. Qualifications

- 132 1. An applicant for a pharmacy technician certificate shall be at least 18 years of age, as
133 evidenced by a valid and legible copy of a birth certificate or other appropriate credential.
134 2. An applicant shall be of good moral character and non-impaired.
135 3. An applicant shall demonstrate one of the following educational competencies:
136 a. In the event the applicant obtained their technician candidate registration on the
137 basis of their enrollment in a nationally-accredited and board-approved pharmacy
138 technician training program, the applicant shall demonstrate successful completion
139 of that training program, or in the alternative, another nationally-accredited and
140 board-approved pharmacy technician training program;
141 b. In the event the applicant obtained their technician candidate registration by any
142 other method, the applicant shall demonstrate the acquisition of at least 600 hours
143 of practical experience under the supervision of a pharmacist, using a form
144 supplied by the board.
145 4. An applicant shall demonstrate successful completion of a board-approved technician
146 examination, as evidenced by a valid and legible copy of the appropriate credential.

147 B. Issuance and Maintenance

- 148 1. Upon receipt of a properly completed application, copies of valid and legible credentials, the
149 appropriate fee, and any other documentation required by the board, and following
150 verification that all requirements have been satisfied, the board may issue a pharmacy
151 technician certificate to the applicant for the current renewal period.
152 2. The board reserves the right to refuse to issue, recall, or discipline a certificate for cause.
153 3. The annual renewal shall expire and become null and void on June 30 of each year.
154 a. The board shall make available, no later than May 1 of each year, an application
155 for renewal to all pharmacy technicians to the address of record.
156 b. The completed application, along with the appropriate fee, shall be submitted to
157 the board by June 30 of each year.
158 c. A pharmacy technician shall not assist in the practice of pharmacy in Louisiana
159 with an expired renewal.
160 d. An application for an expired pharmacy technician renewal, along with the
161 appropriate fee, shall be submitted to the board's Reinstatement Committee for
162 consideration.
163 4. A pharmacy technician shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10 days following a
164 change of mailing address. The written notice shall include the technician's name, certificate
165 number, and old and new addresses.
166 5. A pharmacy technician shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10 days following a
167 change in location(s) of employment. The written notice shall include the technician's name,
168 certificate number, and name, address, and permit numbers for old and new employers.

- 169 6. Upon written request of any certified pharmacy technician in active military service of the
170 United States or any of its allies, the board may waive the requirement for the annual renewal
171 of the certificate, including fees.
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173 AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1212.

174 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708
175 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, repromulgated LR 19:1025 (August 1993), LR 30:2486 (November
176 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended LR 38:1235 (May 2012), amended LR 39:1777 (July 2013), amended LR
177

178 §907. Scope of Practice

- 179 A. Pharmacy technician candidates and pharmacy technicians may assist the pharmacist by performing
180 those duties and functions assigned by the pharmacist while under his direct and immediate
181 supervision.
182 1. The ratio of candidates to pharmacists on duty shall not exceed one to one at any given time.
183 2. The ratio of technicians to pharmacists on duty shall not exceed two to one at any given time.
184 However, the ratio of technicians to pharmacists on duty may be increased to three to one if
185 no technician candidates are on duty at the same time.
186 B. Pharmacy technician candidates shall not:
187 1. receive verbal initial prescription orders;
188 2. give or receive verbal transfers of prescription orders;
189 3. interpret prescription orders (however, a technician candidate may translate prescription
190 orders);
191 4. compound high-risk sterile preparations, as defined by the United States Pharmacopeia (USP),
192 or its successor.
193 5. counsel patients.
194 C. Pharmacy technicians shall not:
195 1. release a verbal prescription order for processing until it is reduced to written form and
196 initialed by the receiving technician and supervising pharmacist;
197 2. interpret prescription orders (however, a technician may translate prescription orders);
198 3. counsel patients.
199

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

201 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 30:2486
202 (November 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended LR 32:1049 (June 2006), amended LR
203

204 §909. Continuing Education

- 205 A. A minimum of one technician-specific ACPE or board-approved CPE unit, or 10 credit hours, shall be
206 required each year as a prerequisite for annual renewal of a pharmacy technician certificate. Such CPE
207 units shall be credited in the 12-month period prior to the expiration date of the certificate.
208 B. Certified pharmacy technicians shall maintain copies of their individual records of personal CPE
209 activities with CPE Monitor and shall authorize the board's access to their file by recording their
210 Louisiana pharmacy technician certificate number within that file, and shall present a copy of their
211 CPE Monitor transcript when requested by the board.
212 C. If judged appropriate by the board, some or all of the required number of hours may be mandated on
213 specific subjects. When so deemed, the board shall notify all certified pharmacy technicians prior to
214 the beginning of the renewal year in which the CPE is required.
215 D. Complete compliance with CPE rules is a prerequisite for renewal of a pharmacy technician certificate.
216 1. Non-compliance with the CPE requirements shall be considered a violation of R.S.
217 37:1241(A)(2) and shall constitute a basis for the board to refuse annual renewal.
218 2. The failure to maintain an individual record of personal CPE activities, or falsifying CPE
219 documents, shall be considered a violation of R.S. 37:1241(A)(22).
220 3. The inability to comply with CPE requirements shall be substantiated by a written
221 explanation, supported with extraordinary circumstances, and submitted to the board for
222 consideration.
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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 14:708
226 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, amended LR 17:779 (August 1991), repromulgated LR 19:1025 (August
227 1993), amended LR 23:1308 (October 1997), LR 30:2487 (November 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended
228 LR 39:1778 (July 2013), amended LR
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