

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Pharmacist Preceptor – Repealed.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:~~ 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.

- 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, is a graduate of a high school approved by a state department of education or possesses an equivalent degree of education as evidenced by a valid and legible copy of a diploma, transcript, or other appropriate credential, 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; or~~
- e. ~~who possesses a valid registration, has been credentialed as a pharmacy technician by another state board of pharmacy, has practiced as a pharmacy technician for at least one year in that state, is a graduate of a high school approved by a state department of education or possesses an equivalent degree of education as evidenced by a valid and legible copy of a diploma, transcript or other appropriate credential, 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.~~

Structured Training Program – ~~Repealed~~ a pharmacy technician training program that is currently nationally-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. 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.

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2. 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~~ 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.
- c. The ~~candidate~~ applicant 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.~~
- 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, 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.
- e. Exceptions:
 - i. A pharmacist or pharmacist intern whose board credential has been denied, suspended, revoked, or restricted for disciplinary reasons by any board of pharmacy shall not be a pharmacy technician candidate or pharmacy technician.
 - ii. A pharmacist or pharmacist intern whose board credential is lapsed shall not be a pharmacy technician candidate or pharmacy technician until such lapsed credential is recalled through non-disciplinary board action.

3. Issuance and Maintenance

- a. Upon receipt of a properly completed application, appropriate fee, and any other documentation required by the board ~~of one of the following~~, the board may issue a Pharmacy Technician Candidate Registration to the applicant.
 - ~~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 pharmacy technician certification examination.~~
- b. The board reserves the right to refuse to issue, recall, or discipline a registration for cause.
- c. The registration shall expire ~~18~~ 24 months after the date of issuance, and it shall not be renewable.
- d. A pharmacy technician candidate shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10 days following a change of mailing address. The written notice shall include the candidate's name, registration number, and old and new addresses.
- e. A pharmacy technician candidate shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10 days following a change in location(s) of employment. The written notice shall include the candidate's name, registration number, and name, address, and permit numbers for old and new employers.

- 114 B. Training Programs
- 115 1. All training programs approved by the board shall maintain their [national accreditation by](#)
- 116 ~~ACPE.~~
- 117 1. The training program shall notify the board when a pharmacy technician candidate is no
- 118 longer satisfactorily progressing in the program. Evidence of a program's failure to comply
- 119 with this rule shall constitute sufficient basis for the withdrawal of the board's approval for
- 120 the program.
- 121 2. The training program shall provide an appropriate credential to the pharmacy technician
- 122 candidate who has successfully completed the program, provided, however, that such
- 123 credential shall not be formatted in such a manner to lead anyone to believe that credential
- 124 resembles a document providing legal authority to practice as a pharmacy technician.
- 125 C. Practical Experience
- 126 1. The candidate shall possess a registration prior to performing any permitted professional
- 127 function or earning any practical experience in a pharmacy.
- 128 ~~2. The candidate's registration shall be conspicuously displayed in the prescription department.~~
- 129 3. The candidate shall wear appropriate attire and be properly identified as to name and
- 130 candidate status while on duty in the prescription department.
- 131 4. A candidate shall not work in a permitted site that is on probation with the board, or with a
- 132 pharmacist who is on probation with the board.
- 133 5. The candidate's registration shall evidence his authority to earn a minimum of 600 hours of
- 134 practical experience in a pharmacy, under the supervision of a pharmacist, in satisfaction of
- 135 the requirements for pharmacy technician certification.
- 136 a. In the event the registration was issued to an applicant enrolled in a nationally-
- 137 accredited and board-approved training program, the [applicant candidate](#) shall earn
- 138 the amount of experience prescribed by the curriculum of that program; or
- 139 b. In the event the registration was issued to an applicant [by any other method](#) ~~who~~
- 140 ~~(1) had already successfully completed the board-approved technician certification~~
- 141 ~~examination, or in the alternative (2) had been credentialed as a pharmacy~~
- 142 ~~technician by another state board of pharmacy and had practiced for at least one~~
- 143 ~~year in that state; and further, neither of these applicants and who had never~~
- 144 ~~completed a nationally accredited board-approved pharmacy technician training~~
- 145 ~~program, the [applicant candidate](#) shall earn at least 600 hours of practical~~
- 146 ~~experience in a pharmacy in Louisiana, provided however, that a candidate may~~
- 147 ~~receive board credit for a maximum of 50 hours per week.~~
- 148 ~~6. A candidate may receive board credit for a maximum of 50 hours per week.~~
- 149 7. Hours of practical experience earned by a candidate shall expire ~~one~~ [five two](#) years after the
- 150 expiration date of the registration.
- 151 D. Examination
- 152 1. A board-approved technician examination shall consist of integrated pharmacy subject matter
- 153 and any other disciplines the board may deem appropriate in order to permit the candidate to
- 154 demonstrate his competency. The candidate shall achieve a passing score, as determined by
- 155 the board.
- 156 2. Re-examination
- 157 a. Following the first or second unsuccessful attempt of an examination, the
- 158 candidate may be permitted to retake that examination.
- 159 b. Following the third unsuccessful attempt of an examination, the candidate shall
- 160 wait one year after the date of the last examination to retake that examination. If
- 161 the candidate fails to wait the prescribed one year period, the board may delay any
- 162 future certification until that one year period has elapsed.
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164 AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1212.

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

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§905. Pharmacy Technician Certificate

A. Qualifications

1. An applicant for a pharmacy technician certificate shall be at least 18 years of age, as evidenced by a valid and legible copy of a birth certificate or other appropriate credential.
2. An applicant shall be of good moral character and non-impaired.
3. An applicant shall demonstrate one of the following educational competencies:
 - a. ~~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; and~~
 - b. ~~For those applicants submitting applications on or after January 1, 2016, the applicant shall demonstrate successful completion of a nationally accredited and board-approved pharmacy technician training program, as evidenced by a valid and legible copy of the appropriate credential from that program.~~
 - a. In the event the applicant obtained their technician candidate registration on the basis of their enrollment in a nationally-accredited and board-approved pharmacy technician training program, the applicant shall demonstrate successful completion of that training program, or in the alternative, another nationally-accredited and board-approved pharmacy technician training program;
 - b. In the event the applicant obtained their technician candidate registration on the basis of (1) their prior successful completion of the board approved technician certification examination, or (2) their previous credentialing as a pharmacy technician by another state board of pharmacy, the applicant shall demonstrate the acquisition of at least 600 hours of practical experience under the supervision of a pharmacist, using a form supplied by the board; or
 - c. In the event the applicant obtained their technician candidate registration after July 1, 2013 but before the effective date of this rule amendment, the applicant shall demonstrate the acquisition of at least 600 hours of practical experience under the supervision of a pharmacist, using a form supplied by the board.
 - d. In the event the applicant obtained their technician candidate registration by any other method, the applicant shall demonstrate the acquisition of at least 600 hours of practical experience under the supervision of a pharmacist, using a form supplied by the board.
4. ~~An applicant shall demonstrate evidence of at least 600 hours of practical experience under the supervision of a pharmacist, using a form supplied by the board.~~
5. An applicant shall demonstrate successful completion of a board-approved technician examination, as evidenced by a valid and legible copy of the appropriate credential.

B. Issuance and Maintenance

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

- 228 5. A pharmacy technician shall notify the board, in writing, no later than 10 days following a
 229 change in location(s) of employment. The written notice shall include the technician's name,
 230 certificate number, and name, address, and permit numbers for old and new employers.
 231 6. Upon written request of any certified pharmacy technician in active military service of the
 232 United States or any of its allies, the board may waive the requirement for the annual renewal
 233 of the certificate, including fees.
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235 AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1212.

236 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708
 237 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, repromulgated LR 19:1025 (August 1993), LR 30:2486 (November
 238 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended LR 38:1235 (May 2012), amended LR 39:1777 (July 2013), amended LR
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240 §907. Scope of Practice

- 241 A. Pharmacy technician candidates and pharmacy technicians may assist the pharmacist by performing
 242 those duties and functions assigned by the pharmacist while under his direct and immediate
 243 supervision.
 244 1. The ratio of candidates to pharmacists on duty shall not exceed one to one at any given time.
 245 2. The ratio of technicians to pharmacists on duty shall not exceed two to one at any given time.
 246 However, the ratio of technicians to pharmacists on duty may be increased to three to one if
 247 no technician candidates are on duty at the same time.
 248 B. Pharmacy technician candidates shall not:
 249 1. receive verbal initial prescription orders;
 250 2. give or receive verbal transfers of prescription orders;
 251 3. interpret prescription orders (however, a technician candidate may translate prescription
 252 orders);
 253 4. compound high-risk sterile preparations, as defined by the United States Pharmacopeia (USP),
 254 or its successor.
 255 5. counsel patients.
 256 C. Pharmacy technicians shall not:
 257 1. release a verbal prescription order for processing until it is reduced to written form and
 258 initialed by the receiving technician and supervising pharmacist;
 259 2. interpret prescription orders (however, a technician may translate prescription orders);
 260 ~~3. compound high risk sterile preparations, as defined by the United States Pharmacopeia (USP),~~
 261 ~~or its successor;~~
 262 4. counsel patients.
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264 AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1212.

265 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 30:2486
 266 (November 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended LR 32:1049 (June 2006), amended LR
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268 §909. Continuing Education

- 269 A. A minimum of one technician-specific ACPE or board-approved CPE unit, or 10 credit hours, shall be
 270 required each year as a prerequisite for annual renewal of a pharmacy technician certificate. Such CPE
 271 units shall be credited in the 12-month period prior to the expiration date of the certificate.
 272 B. Certified pharmacy technicians shall maintain copies of their individual records of personal CPE
 273 activities ~~at their primary practice site for at least 2 years~~ with CPE Monitor and shall authorize the
 274 board's access to their file by recording their Louisiana pharmacy technician certificate number within
 275 that file, and shall present them a copy of their CPE Monitor transcript when requested by the board.
 276 C. If judged appropriate by the board, some or all of the required number of hours may be mandated on
 277 specific subjects. When so deemed, the board shall notify all certified pharmacy technicians prior to
 278 the beginning of the renewal year in which the CPE is required.
 279 D. Complete compliance with CPE rules is a prerequisite for renewal of a pharmacy technician certificate.
 280 1. Non-compliance with the CPE requirements shall be considered a violation of R.S.
 281 37:1241(A)(2) and shall constitute a basis for the board to refuse annual renewal.
 282 2. The failure to maintain an individual record of personal CPE activities, or falsifying CPE
 283 documents, shall be considered a violation of R.S. 37:1241(A)(2).

284 3. The inability to comply with CPE requirements shall be substantiated by a written
285 explanation, supported with extraordinary circumstances, and submitted to the board for
286 consideration.

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

289 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708
290 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, amended LR 17:779 (August 1991), repromulgated LR 19:1025 (August
291 1993), amended LR 23:1308 (October 1997), LR 30:2487 (November 2004), effective January 1, 2005, amended
292 LR 39:1778 (July 2013), amended LR

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