

EFFECTIVE
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NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

172 NAC 90

TITLE 172 PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

CHAPTER 90 LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

001. SCOPE AND AUTHORITY. These regulations govern the licensure and supervision of physician assistants under Nebraska Revised Statute (Neb. Rev. Stat.) §§ 38-2001 to 38-2063 of the Medicine and Surgery Practice Act and the Uniform Credentialing Act (UCA).

002. DEFINITIONS. Definitions are set out in the Medicine and Surgery Practice Act, the Uniform Credentialing Act, 172 Nebraska Administrative Code (NAC) 10, and this chapter.

002.01 BACKUP PHYSICIAN. A physician designated by the supervising physician to ensure supervision of the physician assistant in the supervising physician's absence. A backup physician is subject to the same requirements imposed upon the supervising physician when the backup physician is acting as a supervising physician.

002.02 PRIMARY PRACTICE SITE. Where the supervising physician maintains his or her primary practice.

002.03 SECONDARY PRACTICE SITES. A practice site which is not the primary practice site of the supervising physician or physicians.

003. LICENSE REQUIREMENTS. To obtain a license, an individual must submit a complete application provided by the Department and provide documentation demonstrating that the applicant meets the licensing requirements set out in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 38-2049, 38-131, 172 NAC 10, and this chapter.

003.01 EDUCATION. Submit an official transcript, sent directly from the issuing institution, verifying successful completion of an approved program for the education of physician assistants.

003.02 EXAMINATION. Submit proof of successful completion of the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination.

003.03 TEMPORARY LICENSE. To receive a temporary license to practice as a physician assistant, an individual must have met the education requirements of this chapter but not yet passed the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination; however, there must be no other grounds for denial of the license.

003.03(A) TEMPORARY PRACTICE. A physician assistant with a temporary credential may practice only when the supervising physician is actually present at the practice site.

004. RENEWAL, WAIVER OF CONTINUING EDUCATION, AND INACTIVE STATUS. The applicant must meet the requirements set out in 172 NAC 10 and this chapter.

004.01 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT EXPIRATION. All physician assistant licenses expire on October 1 of each odd-numbered year.

004.02 TEMPORARY PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT TERM AND EXPIRATION. Temporary physician assistant licenses are only good for one year from date of issuance and may be extended at the discretion of the Department with the recommendation of the Board.

005. CONTINUING COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS. On or before the expiration date, individuals holding an active license from the State of Nebraska must earn one of the following during the preceding 24-month period:

- (A) 50 hours of Category 1 continuing education approved by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA); or
- (B) Meet the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) requirements within the previous 24-month period.

005.01 CONTINUING EDUCATION CARRY OVER. Hours are to be earned within the 24 months preceding the date of expiration, except that a licensee who has earned more than 50 hours required for renewal for a 24-month renewal period, is allowed to carry over up to 25 hours to the next 24-month renewal period.

005.02 ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTATION. Acceptable documentation that the credential holder has met the continuing competency requirements include:

- (A) Proof of current certification with the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA); or
- (B) Documentation of completion of continuing education approved by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA).

006. REQUIREMENTS FOR SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS. Supervising physicians must meet the requirements of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 38-2050 and this chapter.

006.01 COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT. A supervising physician or supervising podiatrist must define the scope of practice of the physician assistant as set forth in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 38-2047, or Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 38-3013 and 38-3014.

006.02 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SERVICES PERFORMED MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS. Physician assistants must meet the requirements set forth in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 38-2047.

006.03 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SUPERVISION WAIVER. The Board may consider a request for waiving the requirement that a supervising physician may supervise no more than

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4 physician assistants at any time, as set forth in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 38-2050(4). In determining good cause, the factors considered by the Board include but are not limited to:

- (A) The type of practice setting;
- (B) The experience of the physician assistants;
- (C) The experience the supervising physician has had with physician assistants; and
- (D) The general level of patient problem complexity.

007. UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT. Unprofessional conduct is set out in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 38-179, and 172 NAC 88 as applicable to physician assistants.

008. REINSTATEMENT. The applicant must meet the requirements set out in 172 NAC 10.

009. FEES. Fees are set out in 172 NAC 2, and Neb. Rev. Stat. § 38-151.