

TITLE 172 PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

CHAPTER 93 LICENSURE OF PERSONS PERFORMING MEDICAL RADIOGRAPHY

001. SCOPE AND AUTHORITY. These regulations govern the licensure of medical radiographers, and limited radiographers under Nebraska Revised Statute (Neb. Rev. Stat.) §§ 38-1901 to 38-1920 of the Medical Radiography Practice Act, and the Uniform Credentialing Act.

002. DEFINITIONS. Definitions are set out in the Medical Radiography Practice Act, the Radiation Control Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 71-3501 to 71-3520, the Uniform Credentialing Act, 172 Nebraska Administrative Code (NAC) 10, and this chapter.

002.01 ABDOMEN. Organs contained within the peritoneum.

002.02 ANKLE AND FOOT. Those body parts from the distal phalanges of the foot to the distal one-third of the fibula and tibia.

002.03 APPROVED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM. An educational program for medical radiographers, provided by any accredited community college, university or hospital-based program approved by the board that awards a certificate of completion or an academic degree to its graduates, consisting of 24 months of instruction in radiography which includes radiographic procedures, imaging equipment, image production and evaluation, film processing, radiation physics, radiation protection, radiation biology, radiographic pathology, and quality assurance activities.

002.04 CHEST. The lung fields including the cardiac shadow, as well as the ribs and sternum.

002.05 EXTREMITIES. Extremities refers to:

- (A) Upper extremities which are those body parts from the distal phalanges of the hand to the head of the humerus, including the clavicle and scapula; and
- (B) Lower extremities which are those body parts from the distal phalanges of the foot to the head of the femur and its articulation with the pelvic girdle, including the hip.

002.06 SKULL AND SINUS. The cranium, including facial bones, the paranasal sinuses and the mandible.

002.07 SPINE. Cervical, thoracic, and lumbar vertebrae and their articulations, as well as the pelvis, sacrum, and coccyx.

002.08 USE OF CONTRAST MEDIA. The administration of contrast media by invasive procedures such as insertion of the enema tip, catheter, establishment of an intravenous line, or direct injection.

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 of Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 38-1915 to 38-1918, 172 NAC 10, and this chapter.

003.01 MEDICAL RADIOGRAPHER. An individual applying to practice as a medical radiographer must:

- (A) Submit an official transcript, directly from the issuing institution, verifying completion of an approved educational program in radiography; and
- (B) Submit a score report, directly from the issuing institution, showing the individual has passed a Department-approved examination with a score of 75 or above.

003.02 TEMPORARY MEDICAL RADIOGRAPHER. An individual applying to practice as a temporary medical radiographer must submit official documentation from an approved educational program in radiography indicating that at least 12 months of the program have been completed.

003.03 LIMITED RADIOGRAPHER. An individual applying to practice as a limited radiographer must submit proof that the individual has passed the Examination for the Limited Scope of Practice in Radiography given by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) as follows:

- (1) Achieve a passing score of 70 or above on the core section of the exam; and
- (2) Achieve a passing score of 65% or above on each of the following sections of the exam for which a license is sought:
 - (i) Chest;
 - (ii) Extremities;
 - (iii) Skull and sinus;
 - (iv) Spine;
 - (v) Ankle and foot; or
 - (vi) Bone density.

003.03(A) ABDOMINAL RADIOGRAPHY. A limited radiographer applying to practice abdominal radiography must:

- (i) Submit proof that the individual has passed the spine section of the Examination for the Limited Scope of Practice in Radiography given by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT).

003.03(B) ALTERNATIVE EXAMINATION. As an alternative to the Examination for the Limited Scope of Practice in Radiography given by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT), individuals applying to practice as a limited radiographer must take and achieve a passing score of 70 or above on the core section and a passing score of 65 or above on each of the anatomical categories for which a license is sought on an examination approved by the Board of Medical Radiography.

003.03(C) OUT-OF-STATE EXAMINATION. The individual must request that the Examination for the Limited Scope of Practice in Radiography scores be sent to the Department directly from the state board for which the examination was taken.

004. APPROVAL OF ALTERNATIVE EXAMINATIONS. To be approved as an alternative examination, the examination must be submitted to the Department for review by the Board of Medical Radiography and meet the requirements set out in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 38-1918.

005. RENEWAL, WAIVER OF CONTINUING EDUCATION, AND INACTIVE STATUS. An applicant for renewal must meet the requirements set out in 172 NAC 10. All medical radiography licenses expire on December 1 of even-numbered years.

006. CONTINUING COMPETENCY. On or before the expiration date, individuals holding an active credential must complete a minimum of 24 hours of continuing education during the preceding 24-month period.

006.01 CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS. To be accepted as continuing education for license renewal, continuing education programs must meet the following requirements:

006.01(A) GENERAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS. In addition to meeting the requirements of 172 NAC 93-006.01(H), the continuing education program must:

- (i) Be at least 50 to 60 minutes in duration per continuing education unit (CEU) given;
- (ii) Include topics or objectives related to medical radiography, including, mammography, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computed tomography (CT), cardiovascular technology, quality management, nuclear medicine, radiation therapy, ultrasound, and medical dosimetry; and
- (iii) Be open to all medical radiographers and limited radiographers;
 - (1) Participation may be restricted if a level of knowledge is required to understand the subject matter presented.

006.01(B) NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS. Programs must meet the quality standards established by nationally recognized organizations or associations of radiography, such as the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) or the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT):

- (i) Passing an advanced level examination in mammography, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computed tomography (CT), cardiovascular technology, quality management, nuclear medicine, radiation therapy or ultrasound during the biennial renewal period may be used to satisfy the 24-hour continuing education requirement.

006.01(C) RELATED TO THE PRACTICE OF MEDICAL RADIOGRAPHY. Learning experiences which are related to the practice of medical radiography, provided they are planned and conducted for individuals performing medical radiography.

006.01(D) ACADEMIC COURSES. Academic courses in an accredited post-secondary institution which are related to the specific knowledge and technical skills required for the practice of medical radiography.

006.01(E) TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE. Courses, lectures or offerings related to the technical and scientific knowledge for the practice of medical radiography which includes:

- (i) Radiation protection;
- (ii) Equipment maintenance and operation;
- (iii) Image production and evaluation;
- (iv) Patient care and management; and
- (v) Quality assurance activities.

006.01(F) CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION (CPR). A course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) which results in certification by the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, or Health and Safety Institute. Such certification must be valid at the time of renewal:

- (i) Only 4 credit hours of this type of course may be counted within the biennial renewal period; and
- (ii) A copy of the current certification card will be documentation of completion.

006.01(G) HOME STUDY. If there is no testing mechanism or certificate of completion, the licensee must submit an abstract or summary of the material covered to the Department. The abstract or summary must only be written by the licensee and will be reviewed for approval by the Department. Only courses which have been assigned a specific number of continuing education credit hours by the home study provider will be approved.

006.01(H) OTHER CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS. Continuing education obtained to meet continuing competency requirements of a health care profession other than medical radiography licensed, certified, or registered by the Department may be acceptable if such continuing education has a rational connection to the practice of medical radiography; and no more than 4 hours of this type of continuing education may be counted within each year of the 24-month renewal period.

007. UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT. Unprofessional conduct is set out in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 38-179.

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

009. FEES. Fees are set out in 172 NAC 2.