

PHARMACY BOARD [657]

Notice of Intended Action

The Board of Pharmacy hereby proposes to amend Chapter 3, “Pharmacy Technicians,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 147.76 and 155A.6A.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 155A.6A.

Purpose and Summary

This rule making provides the minimum training requirements for pharmacy technicians to engage in the administration of vaccinations. Currently, under the national emergency declaration and PREP Act in response to the global coronavirus pandemic, pharmacy technicians are authorized, pursuant to training and continuing education requirements, to administer pediatric vaccinations to any patient aged three to 18 years old and COVID vaccinations to patients of any age for which the vaccination is authorized or approved. This rule making identifies properly trained technicians so that such technicians may engage in pharmacist-delegated vaccine administration under the board’s statewide protocol for immunizations and not be limited to pediatric or COVID vaccinations.

Fiscal Impact

This rule making has no fiscal impact to the state of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs can be determined.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rule making would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Board for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any, pursuant to 657—Chapter 34.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit comments concerning this proposed rule making. Written comments in response to this rule making must be received by the Board no later than 4:30 p.m. on _____, 2021. Comments should be directed to:

Sue Mears, RPh
Iowa Board of Pharmacy
400 SW 8th Street, Suite E
Des Moines, IA 50309
Sue.mears@iowa.gov

Public Hearing

No public hearing is scheduled at this time. As provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1) “b,” an oral presentation regarding this rule making may be demanded by 25 interested persons, a governmental subdivision, the Administrative Rules Review Committee, an agency, or an association having 25 or more members.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rule making by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rule making at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee’s meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rule-making action proposed:

Amend rule 657—3.17(155A) as follows:

657—3.17 (155A) Training and utilization of pharmacy technicians.

3.17(1) Policies and procedures. All licensed pharmacies located in Iowa that utilize pharmacy technicians shall develop, implement, and periodically review written policies and procedures for the training and utilization of pharmacy technicians appropriate to the practice of pharmacy. Pharmacy policies shall specify the frequency of review.

3.17(2) Documented training. Pharmacy technician training shall be documented and maintained by the pharmacy for the duration of employment. ~~Policies and procedures and documentation of pharmacy technician training shall be available for inspection and copying by the board or an agent of the board.~~

3.17(3) Vaccine administration training and continuing education. A pharmacy technician who administers a vaccine or immunization under the supervision of a pharmacist shall document successful completion of the requirements in paragraph 3.17(3)”a” or “b” and shall maintain competency by completing and maintaining documentation of the continuing education

requirements in paragraph 3.17(3)"c".

a. Initial qualification. Except as provided in paragraph "b", a technician shall have successfully completed an ACPE-accredited program on vaccine administration that is an evidence-based program that includes study material and hands-on training and techniques for administering vaccines, requires testing with a passing score, complies with current CDC guidelines, and provides instruction and experiential training in the following content areas:

1. Standards for immunization practices;
2. Basic immunology and vaccine protection;
3. Vaccine-preventable diseases;
4. Recommended immunization schedules;
5. Vaccine storage and management;
6. Informed consent;
7. Physiology and techniques for vaccine administration;
8. Immunization record management; and
9. Identification of adverse events.

b. Previous qualification. A technician who is currently licensed as a registered nurse shall be deemed to have met the training requirement.

c. Continuing education. During any technician registration renewal period, a technician who engages in the administration of vaccines shall complete and document at least one hour of ACPE-approved continuing education with the ACPE topic designator "06" followed by the letter "T" or "P".

d. Certification maintained. During any period within which a technician may engage in the administration of vaccines, the technician shall maintain current certification in basic cardiac life support through a training program designated for health care providers that includes hands-on training.

Emergency Rule Making Adopted by Reference

This proposed rule making is also published herein as an Adopted and Filed Emergency rule making (see ARC {XXXXC}). The purpose of this Notice of Intended Action is to solicit public comment on that emergency rule making, whose subject matter is hereby adopted by reference.

