

§ 27.1. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

Pharmacy technician—

(i) [An unlicensed person working in a pharmacy to assist a pharmacist in the practice of pharmacy in accordance with § 27.12 (relating to practice of pharmacy and delegation of duties).] An individual who is registered with the board that may assist in the practice of pharmacy under the direct and immediate personal supervision of a licensed pharmacist.

(ii) The term does not include a pharmacy intern, or clerical or housekeeping personnel.

Pharmacy technician trainee – An individual who has been issued a temporary permit by the board that authorizes the individual to perform the duties of a pharmacy technician under the direct and immediate personal supervision of a licensed pharmacist.

§ 27.12. Practice of pharmacy and delegation of duties.

(a) *General.* It is unlawful for a person not licensed as a pharmacist by the Board to engage or allow another person to engage in the practice of pharmacy as defined in § 27.1 (relating to definitions) and section 2 of the act (63 P. S. § 390-2) except in accordance with this section.

(b) *Delegation.* A pharmacist may delegate aspects of the practice of pharmacy to a pharmacy intern [or], pharmacy technician, or pharmacy technician trainee as defined in § 27.1, subject to the following conditions:

(1) The pharmacist shall review every prescription or drug order prior to its being dispensed to determine the name of the drug, strength, dosage, quantity, permissible refills and other information required under § 27.18(b) (relating to standards of practice) to verify the accuracy of the preparation.

(2) The pharmacist shall provide direct, immediate and personal supervision to pharmacy interns [and], pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees working with the pharmacist. Direct, immediate and personal supervision means that the supervising pharmacist has reviewed the prescription or drug order prior to its being dispensed, has verified the final product and is immediately available on the premises to direct the work of interns [and], technicians and trainees and respond to questions or problems.

(3) The pharmacist shall ensure that the label of the container in which a nonproprietary drug is dispensed or sold pursuant to a prescription complies with the labeling requirements of § 27.18(d).

(c) *Pharmacy interns.*

(1) A pharmacy intern may work only under the direct, immediate, personal supervision of a pharmacist in accordance with subsection (b)(2).

(2) A pharmacy intern may neither enter nor be in a pharmacy if a pharmacist is not on duty.

(3) A pharmacy intern working under the direct, immediate, personal supervision of a pharmacist may perform procedures which require professional skill and training. Examples of these procedures include: verifying ingredients, weighing ingredients, compounding ingredients and other similar processing of ingredients.

(d) [*Pharmacy technicians.*] *Pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees.*

(1) [A pharmacy technician] Pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees may work only under the direct, immediate, personal supervision of a pharmacist in accordance with subsection (b)(2).

(2) The following are examples of the types of activities which [a pharmacy technician] pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees may perform:

(i) Carry containers of drugs in and around the pharmacy.

(ii) Count pills, tablets and capsules and put them in a container.

(iii) Type or print, or both, labels.

(iv) Maintain records which are related to the practice of pharmacy.

[(v) Assist the pharmacist in preparing and reconstituting parenteral products and other medications. After the parenteral product or other medication has been prepared, the supervising pharmacist shall initial the label of the product or medication to document his final inspection and to accept total responsibility for its preparation.]

(vi) Enter prescription, drug order or patient information in a patient profile.

(vii) Assist the pharmacist in the compounding of parenteral and other drug products, as permitted by the written protocol created and maintained in accordance with paragraph (4).

(3) [A pharmacy technician] Pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees may not:

(i) Accept or transcribe an oral order or telephone prescription.

(ii) Enter or be in a pharmacy if a pharmacist is not on duty.

(iii) Perform any act within the practice of pharmacy that involves discretion or independent professional judgment.

(iv) Perform a duty until the technician or trainee has been trained and the duty has been specified in a written protocol.

(4) The pharmacist manager shall create and maintain a written protocol for each pharmacy technician and pharmacy technician trainee employed in the pharmacy. The protocol shall specify each duty which the pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician trainee may perform. The pharmacist manager and the pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician trainee shall date and sign the protocol and each amendment to the protocol. The pharmacist manager shall make the protocol available to agents of the Board upon demand.

(5) Pharmacy technicians shall wear a name tag that clearly identifies the pharmacy technician's first name with the title "Registered Pharmacy Technician."

(6) Pharmacy technician trainees shall wear a name tag that clearly identifies the pharmacy technician trainee's first name with the title "Pharmacy Technician Trainee."

§ 27.31. Biennial renewal.

(a) A holder of a pharmacy permit shall renew the permit every 2 years, in odd-number years. Renewal requires completion of a form mailed to the holder by the Board in advance of the renewal period or completion of an online electronic form, and payment of the specified fee.

(b) A licensed pharmacist shall renew the license every 2 years, in even-numbered years. Renewal requires completion of a form mailed to the pharmacist by the Board in advance of the

renewal period or completion of an online electronic form, and payment of the specified fee. A pharmacist shall also submit proof of compliance with the continuing education requirements of § 27.32 (relating to continuing education).

(c) A registered pharmacy technician shall renew the registration every 2 years, in even-numbered years. Renewal requires completion of a form mailed to the pharmacy technician by the Board in advance of the renewal period or completion of an online electronic form, and payment of the specified fee.

[(c)] (d) A pharmacist, pharmacy technician or holder of a pharmacy permit who fails to timely renew shall cease practice or operation until the license or permit is renewed. The holder may be subject to disciplinary action, and will be assessed an additional fee of \$5 for each month or part of month after which renewal occurs beyond the date specified by the Board. Notice of lapsed pharmacy permits shall be forwarded to other Commonwealth agencies, including the Department of Health, [the Department of Public Welfare] the Department of Human Services and the Department of Aging.

[(d)] (e) A pharmacist allowing the license to lapse may so notify the Board on the renewal form. Reasons shall be briefly stated, and the pharmacist's pocket license and display license shall be surrendered to the Board with the renewal form. A pharmacist who has had a lapsed license for 1 year or more, and who then seeks to reactivate the license, will be required to show current proficiency to practice pharmacy. The full-time practice of pharmacy in another state, during the period of lapsed licensure in this Commonwealth, will be evidence of current proficiency. A holder of a lapsed license who engaged in activities outside the profession of pharmacy during the lapsed period shall complete hours of continuing education equivalent to the hours which he would have been required to take had he held an active license.

§ 27.91. Schedule of fees.

An applicant for a license, certificate, permit or service shall pay the following fees at the time of application:

Application for pharmacy intern certificate ...	\$35
Application for pharmacist license ...	\$45
Certification of examination scores or internship hours ...	\$25
Verification of licensure ...	\$15
Assistant pharmacist biennial renewal ...	\$120
Registered pharmacist biennial renewal ...	\$190
Registered pharmacist late renewal penalty ...	\$25
New pharmacy permit application ...	\$125
Reinspection of new pharmacy after failure at first inspection ...	\$115
Pharmacy permit change without inspection ...	\$45
Pharmacy permit change when inspection required ...	\$125
Change in pharmacy ownership or Board of Directors ...	\$30
Verification of permit ...	\$15
Biennial renewal of pharmacy permit ...	\$125
Pharmacy permit late renewal penalty ...	\$25

Application for approval to administer injectables ... \$30

Biennial renewal of approval to administer injectables ... \$30

Application for pharmacy technician registration ... \$

Application for pharmacy technician trainee registration ... \$

Biennial renewal for pharmacy technician registration ... \$

§ 27.701. Qualifications for a pharmacy technician registration.

An applicant for a pharmacy technician registration shall meet the following requirements:

- (a) Be at least seventeen years of age.
- (b) Possess a high school diploma or equivalent.
- (c) Complete a board approved pharmacy technician training program.
- (d) Submit to a criminal history record check.

§ 27.702. Pharmacy technician training programs.

- (a) Pharmacy technician training programs shall at a minimum cover the following areas of pharmacy practice:
 - (1) Roles and responsibilities of the pharmacy technician.
 - (2) Knowledge of prescription medications.

- (3) Knowledge of strengths or dose, dosage forms, physical appearance, routes of administration, and duration of drug therapy.
 - (4) The dispensing process.
 - (5) Pharmaceutical calculations.
 - (6) Interacting with patients.
 - (7) Third party prescriptions.
 - (8) Compounding.
 - (9) Confidentiality.
 - (10) Requirements for preparing, labeling, dispensing, storing, prepackaging, distributing and administration of medications.
 - (11) Hazardous drug handling and disposal.
 - (12) Patient safety and error prevention strategies.
 - (13) Diversion prevention.
 - (14) Federal and State laws and regulations governing the practice of pharmacy.
- (b) Pharmacy technician training programs may be offered by the following:
- (1) Pharmacy employers.
 - (2) Nationally recognized pharmacy technician training programs.
 - (3) Accredited educational institutions pharmacy technician training programs.
 - (4) Pharmacy technician training programs offered by the U.S. Armed Forces.

(c) Pharmacy employers that offer a pharmacy technician training program shall keep a copy of the pharmacy technician training program in the pharmacy at all times. The pharmacist manager shall certify that the pharmacy technician has successfully completed the training program. Documentation of the training shall be maintained at the pharmacy by the pharmacist manager.

§ 27.703. Qualifications for a pharmacy technician trainee registration.

An applicant for a pharmacy technician trainee registration shall meet the following requirements:

- (a) Be at least sixteen years of age.
- (b) Submit to a criminal history record check.

§ 27.704. Expiration of pharmacy technician trainee registration.

An applicant can only receive one pharmacy technician trainee registration which shall expire two years after the date of issue or upon obtaining registration as a pharmacy technician under § 27.701 (relating to qualifications for a pharmacy technician registration).