

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT RULE IN THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF  
PHARMACY RULES,  
RULE 480-15-.02 REGISTRATION OF PHARMACY TECHNICIANS AND  
CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC  
HEARING**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter "Board") proposes adoption of new Georgia Board of Pharmacy Rules, Rule 480-15-.02 REGISTRATION OF PHARMACY TECHNICIANS AND CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS (hereinafter "proposed amendments").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy's web page at [www.gbp.georgia.gov](http://www.gbp.georgia.gov).

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on December 13, 2023 at Department of Community Health, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30334 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to December 6, 2023. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. You may email your comments to [elacefield@dch.ga.gov](mailto:elacefield@dch.ga.gov).

The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on December 13, 2023 at Department of Community Health, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-27, and 26-4-28.

At its meeting on July 19, 2023, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on July 19, 2023, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 13 day of November, 2023.



Eric R. Lacefield  
Executive Director  
Georgia Board of Pharmacy

Posted: November 13, 2023.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE  
RULE 480-15-.02 REGISTRATION OF PHARMACY TECHNICIANS AND  
CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

- Purpose:** To amend the rule to correct errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, and/or formatting in the language of the rule. To amend the rule language to clarify CE requirements for newly registered pharmacy technicians.
- Main Features:** Correction of errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, and/or formatting in the rule language. Amendment to rule language to provide additional specificity in the CE requirement for newly registered pharmacy technicians based upon the date of initial registration.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE  
RULE 480-15-.02 REGISTRATION OF PHARMACY TECHNICIANS AND  
CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

**Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.**

**Rule 480-15-.02. Registration of Pharmacy Technicians and Continuing Education Requirements**

- (1) Effective August 1, 2011, a pharmacy may only employ registered pharmacy technicians to perform pharmacy technician duties.
- (2) In order to be registered as a Pharmacy Technician in this State, an applicant shall:
  - (a) Submit an application to the Board on the form prescribed by the Board;
    1. Mere submission of an application to the Board is not registration pursuant to this Rule.
    2. No applicant shall be deemed registered until such time as his/her application has been completely processed by the Board's administrative office, to include receipt and processing of any applicable fees, and a registration number has issued to the applicant;
  - (b) Attest that applicant is at least 17 years old;
  - (c) Attest that applicant is currently enrolled in high school, or has a high school diploma, or has a GED, or has a postsecondary education or college degree;
  - (d) Consent to, provide the necessary information to conduct, and pay for a background check to be conducted by the Board, its agent or a firm or firms approved by the Board, which background check will include a criminal history, driver license history and other information as the Board deems necessary, and will authorize the Board and the Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency to receive the results;
  - (e) Submit the name and address of employer and place of employment;
  - (f) Pay application fees; and
  - (g) If certified, submit evidence of training supporting designation as certified.
- (3) The Board may deny registration or conditionally grant registration for any of the reasons set forth in Code sections 26-4-60 or 43-1-19. This includes convictions, pleas of nolo contendere and guilty pleas related to misdemeanor crimes of moral turpitude or marijuana and to felonies. In addition, no pharmacist whose license has been denied, revoked, suspended, or restricted for disciplinary purposes shall be eligible to be registered as a pharmacy technician.
- (4) The denial of an application for registration as a pharmacy technician shall not be a contested case and the applicant shall not be entitled to a hearing under the Georgia Administrative Procedures Action, O.C.G.A. T. 50, Ch. 13, but such applicant may be entitled to an appearance before the Board.
- (5) A registration, once issued, is renewable biennially, upon payment of a fee. Registrations shall expire on June 30th of each odd-numbered year. If the application for renewal is not made and the fee paid before September 1st of the odd-numbered year, the registration shall lapse and shall not be renewed. An application for a new registration shall be required.
- (6) On and after July 1, 2023, as a requirement for the biennial renewal of his/her registration, a pharmacy technician must complete not less than twenty (20) hours of approved continuing education.
  - (a) "Approved continuing education" means courses approved by the Board as described in Rule 480-3-.03.

- (b) One hour of C.E. is defined as 0.1 C.E.U. Each pharmacy technician in the State of Georgia must obtain 20 hours of continuing education or 2.0 C.E.U.'s per biennium for registration renewal.
1. Certificates documenting 20 hours of approved continuing education or 2.0 C.E.U.'s must be completed and date within the biennium.
- (c) C.E. requirements ~~During~~ during the technician's first biennial registration cycle:
1. A pharmacy technician registered during the first six (6) months of the biennium (~~January~~ July 1, Year-One to ~~June~~ December 31, Year-One), shall be required to obtain 20 hours of C.E.
  2. A pharmacy technician registered during the following twelve (12) months (~~July~~ January 1, Year-Two to ~~June~~ December 31, Year-Two), shall be required to obtain 10 hours of C.E.
  3. A pharmacy technician registered during the last six (6) months (~~July~~ January 1, Year-Three to ~~December~~ June 30, Year-Three) of the biennium, shall be exempt from continuing education for that biennium only.
- (d) In the event of an audit and a pharmacy technician fails to submit certificates, which document his/her required continuing education credits, the Board will not process his/her request to renew the registration until the continuing education requirements are provided to the Board.
1. The pharmacy technician may not carry over continuing education credits from one registration period to the next.
  2. Nothing is meant to prohibit representatives from the Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency (GDNA) from checking, auditing, or verifying a pharmacy technician's continuing education certificates as needed.
  3. Each registered pharmacy technician shall maintain these certificates of attendance at continuing education meetings for a period of two (2) years from the date of the preceding renewal period.
- (e) The staff of the Georgia Board of Pharmacy may audit, or otherwise select randomly, the continuing education of a percentage of registrants as determined by the Board.
- (7) A registrant has a responsibility to update the Board with a change of home address and employment address within ten (10) days of such change.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 16-13-111, 26-4-5, 26-4-20, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-84, 26-4-85, 26-4-88, 26-4-110, 43-1-19.