

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND RULE IN THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF  
PHARMACY RULES,  
RULE 480-15-.02 REGISTRATION OF PHARMACY TECHNICIANS, 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 amendments to the Georgia Board of Pharmacy Rules, Rule 480-15-.02 REGISTRATION OF PHARMACY TECHNICIANS (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 Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303. 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 September 14, 2022 at the Georgia Pharmacy Association, 6065 Barfield Road NE, Suite 100, Sandy Springs, GA 30328 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 September 7, 2022. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Peachtree Street NW, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. 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 September 14, 2022 at the Georgia Pharmacy Association, 6065 Barfield Road NE, Suite 100, Sandy Springs, GA 30328. 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 December 15, 2021, 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 December 15, 2021, 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 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.



Eric R. Lacefield  
Executive Director  
Georgia Board of Pharmacy

Posted: August 10, 2022

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE  
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE  
RULE 480-15-.02 REGISTRATION OF PHARMACY TECHNICIANS**

- Purpose of Rule:** The purpose of this amendment is to add continuing education requirements for renewal of pharmacy technician registrations.
- Main Feature:** The proposed amendment adds a requirement for pharmacy technicians to complete continuing education as a requirement of the renewal of their registration.

**DIFFERENCES OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE  
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE  
RULE 480-15-.02 REGISTRATION OF PHARMACY TECHNICIANS**

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

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

- (~~a~~1) Effective August 1, 2011, a pharmacy may only employ registered pharmacy technicians to perform pharmacy technician duties.
- (~~b~~2) In order to be registered as a Pharmacy Technician in this State, an applicant shall:
- (~~4~~a) Submit an application to the Board on the form prescribed by the Board;
- (~~2~~b) Attest that applicant is at least 17 years old;
- (~~3~~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;
- (~~4~~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;
- (~~5~~e) Submit the name and address of employer and place of employment;
- (~~6~~f) Pay application fees; and
- (~~7~~g) If certified, submit evidence of training supporting designation as certified.
- (~~e~~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.
- (~~d~~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.
- (~~e~~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 dated within the biennium.
- (c) During the technician’s first registration cycle,
1. A pharmacy technician registered during the first six (6) months of the biennium (January to June), shall be required to obtain 20 hours of C.E.
2. A pharmacy technician registered during the following twelve (12) months (July to June) shall be required to obtain 10 hours of C.E.
3. A pharmacy technician registered during the last six (6) months (July to December) 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.
- (f7) 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.