

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT RULE IN THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF
PHARMACY RULES,
RULE 480-15-.04 DUTIES OF THE PHARMACIST IN CHARGE RELATED TO
REGISTERED 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 adoption of new Georgia Board of Pharmacy Rules, Rule 480-15-.04 DUTIES OF THE PHARMACIST IN CHARGE RELATED TO REGISTERED 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 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.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 9, 2025 at South University, School of Pharmacy, 709 Mall Blvd., Savannah, GA 31406 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 April 8, 2025. 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 james.joiner@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 April 9, 2025 at South University, School of Pharmacy, 709 Mall Blvd., Savannah, GA 31406. 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. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-52, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-82, 26-4-110, and 43-1-25.

At its meeting on December 18, 2024, 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 18, 2024, 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 5th day of March, 2025.



J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: March 5, 2025.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-15-.04 DUTIES OF THE PHARMACIST IN CHARGE RELATED TO
REGISTERED PHARMACY TECHNICIANS**

Purpose: To renumber the Rule to accord with Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 590-2-1-.02. To provide for duties of the Pharmacist in Charge relative to pharmacy technicians who are authorized to administer vaccines, and to provide for qualifications requisite to authorize such technicians.

Main Features: This amendment renumbers the sections of the rule to accord with Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 590-2-1-.02. The amendment adds requirements for Pharmacists to oversee pharmacy technicians administering vaccines, and adds required qualifications for pharmacy technicians to administer vaccines.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-15-.04 DUTIES OF THE PHARMACIST IN CHARGE RELATED TO
REGISTERED PHARMACY TECHNICIANS**

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-.04. Duties of the Pharmacist in Charge Related to Registered Pharmacy Technicians

- (1) ~~(a)~~ The Pharmacist in Charge shall be responsible for:
- (a) ~~(1)~~ — ~~p~~ Providing updated information to the Board in accordance with rules and regulations regarding the registered pharmacy technicians employed in the pharmacy for purposes maintaining the registry of registered pharmacy technicians established by the Board pursuant to paragraph (7) of subsection (a) of Code Section 26-4-28.
 - (b) ~~(2)~~ — Ensuring the reporting the separation of employment or termination of any Registered pharmacy technician for any suspected or confirmed criminal occupational-related activities committed or any drug-related reason, including but not limited to Adulteration, abuse, theft or diversion and shall include in the notice the reason for the termination.
 - (c) ~~(3)~~ — Assuring that all pharmacists and pharmacy interns and externs employed at the pharmacy are currently licensed and that registered pharmacy technicians employed at the pharmacy are currently registered with the Board of Pharmacy.
 - (d) ~~(4)~~ — Notifying the Board of any change in the employment status of all registered technicians in the pharmacy within 10 days of the technician's separation date from employment,
 - (e) ~~(5)~~ — Ensuring that registered pharmacy technicians in the prescription department shall be easily identifiable by use of a name badge or other similar means which prominently displays their name and job title. The Pharmacist-in-Charge is responsible for ensuring that such persons wear or display such identification at all times when they are working in the prescription department.
 - (f) ~~(6)~~ — Shall ensure that the current registration for each registered pharmacy technician is readily accessible for inspection by the Board or Drugs and Narcotics Agents.
 - (g) ~~(7)~~ — Ensuring that a pharmacist is responsible for the dispensing of all prescription drug orders and for all activities of any pharmacy technician in the preparation of the drug for delivery to the patient, and that a pharmacist shall be present and personally supervising the activities of any pharmacy technician at all times.
 - (h) At the discretion of the supervising pharmacist, a qualified pharmacy technician may be authorized to administer vaccines pursuant to this Rule, under the following conditions:
 - 1. Vaccine administration has been delegated by the supervising pharmacist to the qualified pharmacy technician;
 - 2. The supervising pharmacist is and remains readily and immediately available to the qualified pharmacy technician administering the vaccine;
 - 3. The patient receiving such vaccine is not less than 18 years of age;
 - 4. The vaccine being administered is authorized or licensed for use by the United States Food and Drug Administration; and
 - 5. In the case of a COVID-19 vaccine, the vaccine shall be dispensed and administered according to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 vaccine recommendations.
 - (i) To be qualified to administer vaccinations pursuant to this Rule, a pharmacy technician shall:

1. Have completed a course of training accredited by the Accreditation Counsel for Pharmacy Education or similar health authority or professional body approved by the Board, which course shall include hands-on training in injection techniques, and recognition and treatment of emergency adverse reactions to vaccines; and
2. Maintain current certification in Basic Cardiac Life Support.

(j) The supervising pharmacist shall:

1. Comply with all record-keeping and reporting requirements established by the Board;
2. Make and document reasonable efforts to obtain the name of the patient's primary care provider and to notify such provider of the administration of the vaccine within 72 hours of such administration;
3. Be responsible for compliance with reporting requirements relative to adverse events;
4. Check the Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services prior to dispensing the vaccine or authorizing a qualified pharmacy technician to administer a vaccine;
5. Be responsible for entering the patient's vaccine information into the Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services in accordance with said registry's requirements; and
6. Comply with any applicable requirements or conditions of use set forth in the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's COVID-19 vaccine provider agreement, and any other federal requirements that apply to the administration of COVID-19 vaccines

(k) Nothing in this rule shall be construed to require any pharmacist to authorize a pharmacy technician to administer vaccines or to require any pharmacy technician to administer vaccines.

~~(g)~~(l) Nothing in this rule shall be construed to authorize a qualified pharmacy technician to order vaccines.

(2) ~~(b)~~ **The Board of Pharmacy can take disciplinary action against the license of a pharmacist in charge who violates the provisions of this rule as authorized by O.C.G.A. Sections ~~§§~~ 43-1-19 and 26-4-60.**

Authority: O.C.G.A. ~~Sees.~~ §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-82, 26-4-110, 43-1-19.