

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND RULE IN THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF
PHARMACY RULES,
RULE 480-35-.02 PHARMACIST CERTIFICATION., 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 480-35-.02 PHARMACIST CERTIFICATION. (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.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 11:00 AM on April 15, 2015 at the Georgia Board of Pharmacy, Department of Community Health, 2 Peachtree Street, 36th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30303 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, 2015. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303 FAX: 678-717-6694. You may email your comments to tbattle@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 11:05 AM on 4/15/2015 at the Georgia Board of Pharmacy, Department of Community Health, 2 Peachtree Street, 36th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. 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. §§ 16-13-41, 16-13-74, 26-4-6, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-50, 26-4-81, 43-1-7, 43-34-24.

At its meeting on January 21, 2015, 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.

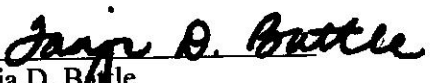
At its meeting on 1/21/2015, the Board also voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A§ 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of these

amendments 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 19th day of February, 2015.



Tanja D. Battle
Executive Director
Georgia Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 19, 2015

**SYNOPSIS OF GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
480-35-.02 PHARMACIST CERTIFICATION.**

Purpose of Rule: The purpose of this rule is to set forth the requirements for a complete initial application and a complete renewal application for a certification to enter a protocol or agreement with a physician for drug therapy modification.

Main Features: The main features of this rule are an expiration date for certifications authorizing drug therapy modification protocol and a listing of the renewal requirements.

**DIFFERENCES OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
480-35-.02 PHARMACIST CERTIFICATION.**

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

480-35-.02 Pharmacist Certification.

- (1) A pharmacist may apply to the Board for a certification which will allow the pharmacist to enter into a protocol or agreement with a physician for drug therapy modification. Each application shall be reviewed by the Board for completeness and authenticity before certification can be issued. Such application shall include, but is not limited to:
 - (a) Completion of an application form approved by the Board to include at a minimum:
 - (i) Name, home address, telephone number, and email address (if applicable);
 - (ii) Georgia pharmacist license number, including any previous sanctions by the Board or any other actions by a licensing or criminal authority; and
 - (iii) Current place of practice setting, including name, address, and telephone number and place where the protocol and patient records will be maintained.
 - (b) Submission of an application fee approved by the Board;
 - (c) Submission of evidence of completion of a course of study, approved by the Board, related to drug therapy modification; and
 - (d) Submission of evidence of 0.3 continuing education units (CEUs) or 3.0 contact hours in courses related to drug therapy modification. Such CEUs must be obtained during the 12 months prior to submitting the application.
- (2) The Board will review the completed application. If the pharmacist has a current license in good standing, the completed course of study is approved, and the continuing education hours are acceptable, the Board may issue a certification, renewable on an annual basis.
- (3) A certification authorizing drug therapy modification ~~shall expire one year following its date of issuance and shall be renewed annually.~~ must be renewed by December 31st of each year. A certification authorizing drug therapy modification not renewed by December 31st shall expire.
- (4) In order to renew a certification, a pharmacist must apply to the Board on an application form approved by the Board, submit a renewal fee, and submit evidence of 0.3 CEUs or 3 contact hours in continuing education courses obtained annually and approved by the Board or the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE).
- (5) The current certification must be posted with the pharmacist's license.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 16-13-41, 16-13-74, 26-4-6, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-50, 26-4-81, 43-1-7, 43-34-24.