

**RULES
OF
TENNESSEE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
DIVISION OF HEALTH RELATED BOARDS**

**CHAPTER 0880-5
GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE UTILIZATION
OF X-RAY OPERATORS IN PHYSICIAN'S OFFICES**

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0880-5-.01 DEFINITIONS. As used in this Chapter of rules the following terms and acronyms will have the meaning ascribed to them:

- (1) A.R.R.T. - American Registry of Radiologic Technologists.
- (2) Full Certification - Certification obtained by submitting certification issued by the A.R.R.T. which will enable the holder to perform, except for bone densitometry, any and all radiographic procedures or functions in a physician's office.
- (3) Limited Certification - Certification issued by the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners which enables the holder to perform only those radiological procedures or functions intended for the body areas or specialty indicated on the issued certification, other than those procedures involving the administration of contrast media.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-204, 63-6-101, 63-6-224, and Public Chapter 956 of the Public Acts of 2000. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 4, 1985; effective April 3, 1985. Repeal and new rule filed December 7, 1993; effective February 20, 1994. Amendment filed August 31, 2000; effective November 14, 2000. Amendment filed March 22, 2006; effective June 5, 2006.

0880-5-.02 FEES. The following fees are nonrefundable and apply to all applicants and certificate holders. All fees may be paid in person, by mail or electronically by cash, check, money order, or by credit and/or debit cards accepted by the Division. If the fees are paid by certified, personal or corporate check they must be drawn against an account in a United States Bank, and made payable to the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners.

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|-----------------------|--|--|-----------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|
| (1) | Application and Certification Fee - To be paid by all applicants at the time an application is filed. | <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Limited Certification</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$100.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Full Certification</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 50.00</td> </tr> </table> | Limited Certification | \$100.00 | Full Certification | \$ 50.00 |
| Limited Certification | \$100.00 | | | | | |
| Full Certification | \$ 50.00 | | | | | |
| (2) | Biennial Certification Renewal Fee - To be paid by all persons holding certification. | \$ 50.00 | | | | |
| (3) | State Regulatory Fee - To be paid upon application and annually thereafter to be collected at biennial renewal from all certificate holders. | \$ 5.00
(\$10.00 biennially) | | | | |

(Rule 0880-5-.02, continued)

- (4) Late Renewal - Reactivation Fee \$100.00

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-3-1011, 4-5-202, 4-5-204, 63-6-101, and 63-6-224. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 4, 1985; effective April 3, 1985. Repeal and new rule filed December 7, 1993; effective February 20, 1994. Amendment filed May 7, 1997; effective July 21, 1997. Amendment filed August 16, 2002; effective October 30, 2002.

0880-5-.03 CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT. All persons operating x-ray machines in physicians' offices in Tennessee must possess a certificate issued by the Board pursuant to this Chapter of rules with the exception of the following who are exempted from certification:

- (1) Licensed medical doctors
- (2) Medical interns, residents and clinical fellows
- (3) Students engaged in clinical practice while enrolled in a Board approved radiological education course required to receive radiological certification.
- (4) Graduates of a Board approved radiological education course who are awaiting examination but only for a period not to exceed six (6) months from the date that the course was completed. After sitting for the examination this exemption shall continue for a period not to exceed seventy five (75) days. At all times while awaiting examination or examination results and until certification is received, graduates shall practice only under supervision as set forth in rule 0880-5-.05 (2)(c).

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-204, 63-6-101, 63-6-224, and Public Chapter 956 of the Public Acts of 2000. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 4, 1985; effective April 3, 1985. Amendment filed April 23, 1986; effective May 23, 1986. Repeal and new rule filed December 7, 1993; effective February 20, 1994. Amendment filed May 7, 1997; effective July 21, 1997. Amendment filed August 31, 2000; effective November 14, 2000.

0880-5-.04 QUALIFICATIONS FOR FULL AND LIMITED CERTIFICATION.

- (1) Certification areas:
 - (a) Limited certification is available until June 1, 2008 from the Board in the following specific specialty areas:
 1. Chest
 2. Extremities
 3. Skull - AP/PA and Lateral Skull Only, and Sinuses
 4. Lumbar Spine - AP and Lateral Lumbar Spine Only
 - (b) After June 1, 2008 limited certification is available from the Board in only the following specific specialty areas:
 1. Chest
 2. Extremities
 3. Skull and Sinus

(Rule 0880-5-.04, continued)

4. Spine
 - (c) Persons who hold a limited certification in "Lumbar Spine - AP and Lateral Lumbar Spine Only" pursuant to part (1) (a) 4. may have their certification changed to reflect the expanded specialty area "Spine" listed in part (1) (b) 4. by submitting to the Board's administrative office on or before June 1, 2012 documentation of having completed a course(s) that includes instruction in all of the following subject areas.
 1. Cervical – includes AP/PA, lateral, obliques, and open mouth odontoid.
 2. Thoracic – includes AP/PA, lateral, and Swimmers.
 3. Lumbar – includes AP/PA, lateral, spot lateral of L5-S1, and obliques.
 - (d) On June 1, 2012 those who have not submitted the necessary documentation to obtain the expanded designation as required by subparagraph (1) (c) shall not be authorized to participate in the expanded areas in the "spine" certification and their certification will entitle them to only take AP and Lateral Lumbar Spine radiographs.
 - (e) On June 1, 2008, the certificates that are designated "Skull - AP/PA and Lateral Skull Only, and Sinuses" shall automatically be converted to the designation "Skull and Sinus" without any further action by the holder of such limited certification.
- (2) Unless otherwise qualified pursuant to paragraph (3) of this rule, to be eligible for a limited or full radiological certification a person must meet the following minimum qualifications:
 - (a) Be at least eighteen (18) years of age; and
 - (b) Possess a high school diploma or a GED certificate; and
 - (c) Be of good moral character; and
 - (d) Be free from physical or mental impairment which would interfere with the performance of duties or otherwise constitute a hazard to the health and safety of patients; and
 - (e) Cause to have submitted verification of attendance and successful completion of a Board approved radiological certification training course for the type of certification sought pursuant to Rule 0880-5-.05(2) or cause to be submitted verification of an A.R.R.T. certificate; and
 - (f) Have successfully completed the Board approved examination pursuant to Rule 0880-5-.06 or possess an A.R.R.T. certificate; and
 - (g) Cause to be submitted to the Board's administrative office directly from the vendor identified in the Board's licensure application materials, the result of a criminal background check; and
 - (h) Have made application for certification pursuant to Rule 0880-5-.07 and paid all fees.
- (3) Any person who holds a radiological certificate issued by another state obtained pursuant to standards and procedures substantially equivalent to the standards set by these Rules may receive a certification at an appropriate level at the Board's discretion upon compliance with subparagraph (2) (g) of this rule.

(Rule 0880-5-.04, continued)

- (4) Any person who holds a certification issued by the A.R.R.T. who meets the qualifications of paragraph (2) of this rule may receive full certification from the Board.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-204, 63-6-101, 63-6-214, 63-6-224, and Public Chapter 956 of the Public Acts of 2000. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 4, 1985; effective April 3, 1985. Amendment filed April 23, 1986; effective May 23, 1986. Repeal and new rule filed December 7, 1993; effective February 20, 1994. Amendment filed July 12, 1995; effective September 25, 1995. Amendment filed August 31, 2000; effective November 14, 2000. Amendment filed May 28, 2003; effective August 11, 2003. Amendments filed March 14, 2006; effective May 28, 2006. Amendment filed May 27, 2008; effective August 10, 2008

0880-5-.05 EDUCATIONAL COURSE, APPROVAL AND CURRICULUM FOR LIMITED CERTIFICATION.

- (1) Course approval
- (a) To be approved to provide limited radiological certification training the educational course director must obtain Board approval by submitting the following information to the Board Administrative Office:
1. Location of the course; and
 2. Names of physicians, A.R.R.T. technologists, physicists, or other work qualified personnel who are acting as instructors. Individuals with just a limited x-ray certification, without further credentials that this rule allows or the Board feels uniquely qualifies them to instruct students in a particular subject, may not under any circumstances teach or otherwise provide limited radiological certification training; and
 3. Course description and curriculum.
- (b) If the substance of the requirements in subparagraph (1) (a) changes the course provider must submit, within fifteen (15) days of the change, a new request for course approval. Course approval may be withdrawn for failure to timely submit the new request and/or for changes that result in the course no longer meeting the requirements of subparagraph (1) (a).
- (c) To remain approved to provide limited radiological certification training the educational course director must obtain Board approval every two (2) years by submitting the information required in subparagraph (1) (a).
- (2) The following curriculum is mandatory for all limited certification education programs and course approval shall be based upon the level of radiological education obtainable through the program courses according to the following:
- (a) Basic Course - Defined as the core, theory or foundation education basic to radiography. The basic course is prerequisite to any specialty area certification but need be successfully completed only once. The basic radiological course shall include, but not be limited to, imaging equipment, principles of radiographic exposure, radiation protection, radiographic quality and radiographic film processing. This course shall consist of fifty (50) clock hours. Successful completion of this basic course can be substituted for the course required for limited certification in bone densitometry.
- (b) Specialty Areas - Defined as the study of radiography of a particular anatomical part including human structure and function, radiographic positioning and procedures, and

(Rule 0880-5-.05, continued)

evaluation of radiographs. Each separate specialty area course shall minimally consist of the following amount of classroom clock hours:

1. Chest — ten (10) classroom clock hours;
2. Extremities — until June 1, 2008 ten (10) classroom clock hours and thereafter forty (40) classroom clock hours;
3. Skull and Sinuses — ten (10) classroom clock hours; and
4. Spine — until June 1, 2008 ten (10) classroom clock hours and thereafter thirty (30) classroom clock hours.

(c) Clinical Training - Defined as "hands-on" observation and participation in the production of diagnostic radiographs. Clinical training must be supervised by either a residency-trained radiologist, or by a licensed physician in conjunction and consultation with a fully-licensed and registered operator (A.R.R.T. technologist) with at least three (3) years experience when appropriate. This training shall minimally consist of the following amount of clinical clock hours for each specialty area in which certification is sought:

1. Chest — until June 1, 2008 sixty (60) clinical clock hours and thereafter thirty (30) clinical clock hours;
2. Extremities — until June 1, 2008 sixty (60) clinical clock hours and thereafter eighty (80) clinical clock hours;
3. Skull and Sinuses — until June 1, 2008 sixty (60) clinical clock hours and thereafter thirty (30) clinical clock hours; and
4. Spine — until June 1, 2008 sixty (60) clinical clock hours and thereafter eighty (80) clinical clock hours.

(d) Specialty areas defined

1. Chest - includes visceral thorax only; routine projections are PA, AP, Lateral, Oblique, Decubitus, and Apical Lordotic, but does not include ribs or sternum.
2. Extremities
 - (i) Upper Extremity — includes all routine views of the fingers up through the pectoral girdle.
 - (ii) Lower Extremity includes the toes up through the femur including routine unilateral hip joint views, but not the pelvis.
3. Skull and Sinuses
 - (i) Skull — includes AP/PA, Townes and Lateral.
 - (ii) Sinuses — includes upright PA/Caldwell, Lateral, and Waters.
4. Spine - Prior to June 1, 2008 shall be limited to only the AP/PA and Lateral Lumbar Spine but thereafter for those who have complied with rule 0880-5-.04 (1) (c) shall include the following:

(Rule 0880-5-.05, continued)

- (i) Cervical — includes AP/PA, lateral, obliques, and open mouth odontoid.
 - (ii) Thoracic — includes AP/PA, lateral, and Swimmers.
 - (iii) Lumbar — includes AP/PA, lateral, spot lateral of L5-S1, and obliques.
- (3) Course approval may be withdrawn if the Board finds the course is in violation of any of its statutes or regulations or if the Board finds the course inadequate for certification purposes based upon random auditing of the course and/or its effectiveness in producing qualified graduates. The minimum standard for continued course approval shall be based upon at least a sixty-five percent (65%) graduate pass rate for first time takers on the examinations over at least a six (6) month period.
- (4) The Board of Medical Examiner's designee may issue course approval subject to subsequent Board ratification.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-204, 63-6-101, and 63-6-224. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed March 4, 1985; effective April 3, 1985. Repeal and new rule filed December 7, 1993; effective February 20, 1994. Amendment filed July 12, 1995; effective September 25, 1995. Amendment filed August 31, 2000; effective November 14, 2000. Amendment filed October 4, 2002; effective December 18, 2002. Amendment filed May 28, 2003; effective August 11, 2003. Amendment filed March 22, 2007; effective June 5, 2007. Amendment filed May 27, 2008; effective August 10, 2008.

0880-5-.06 EXAMINATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION.

- (1) The Board adopts as its certification examination all limited scope examinations and the general examination provided by the A.R.R.T.
- (2) Applicants for the various areas of certification must successfully complete the following examinations or their identified successor examinations:
 - (a) Specialty Limited Certifications -
 1. The A.R.R.T. core examination; and
 2. The limited scope examination(s) for the area(s) in which certification is sought.
 - (b) Full Certification - A.R.R.T. certification will substitute for all examinations required by the Board and will be the basis for full certification.
- (3) It is the applicant's responsibility to apply directly to the examination agency for admission to the examinations. The Board does not process applications for examination.
- (4) An applicant will be deemed to have successfully completed any of the examinations required for certification upon correctly answering sixty-five percent (65%) of all questions contained on the examinations which the Board or its designee deem to be appropriate and applicable to the type(s) of certification(s) sought.
- (5) After the fourth (4th) unsuccessful attempt at passing any section of an examination, the applicant may no longer participate in supervised limited radiography. No certificate will be issued until the exam is successfully completed and the applicant shows documentation of repeating a Board-approved course or completing an acceptable remedial program provided by a Board-approved Course Provider.

(Rule 0880-5-.06, continued)

- (6) Nothing in this Rule shall prohibit certification course instructors from examining students as they deem necessary; or from defining terms for successful completion of courses for their own purposes.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-204, 63-6-101, 63-6-224, and Public Chapter 956 of the Public Acts of 2000. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rule filed December 7, 1993; effective February 20, 1994. Amendment filed August 31, 2000; effective November 14, 2000. Amendment filed October 4, 2002; effective December 18, 2002. Amendment filed May 28, 2003; effective August 11, 2003. Amendment filed March 22, 2007; effective June 5, 2007.

0880-5-.07 OBTAINING AND UPGRADING FULL AND LIMITED CERTIFICATION.

(1) Initial Certification

- (a) An applicant shall obtain an application form from the Board Administrative Office, respond truthfully and completely to every question or request for information contained in the form and submit it along with all documentation and fees required by the form and this rule to the Board Administrative Office. It is the intent of this rule that all steps necessary to accomplish the filing of the required documentation be completed prior to filing an application and that all documentation be filed simultaneously.

(b) For Limited Certification

1. An applicant shall cause to be submitted from the radiological educational course director to the Board Administrative Office certification of successful completion of the basic course and any specialty area(s) course(s) required by rule 0880-5-.05(2) which shall include certification from the supervising physician(s) of successful completion of the required clock hours of clinical training for each separate area of specialty certification applied for.
2. An applicant shall submit the Application and Certification Fee as provided in Rule 0880-5-.02(1). and the State Regulatory Fee as provided in Rule 0880-5-.02(3). Limited certification requires only these fees unless limited certification is extended into other areas at a later time.
3. Applicants applying pursuant to Rule 0880-5-.04(3) need only submit the following:
 - (i) The application form; and
 - (ii) A certificate of fitness or endorsement from the States in which the applicant holds certification; and
 - (iii) A copy of all documents necessary to show the educational and procedural requirements for certification in all states in which the applicant holds certification, and
 - (iv) A clear, recognizable, recently taken bust photograph which shows the full head, face forward from at least the top of the shoulder up; and
 - (v) The Application and Certification Fee as provided in Rule 0880-5-.02(1) and the State Regulatory Fee as provided in 0880-5-.02(3).

(c) For Full Certification

(Rule 0880-5-.07, continued)

1. An applicant shall submit with the application a copy of his or her A.R.R.T. identification card which must be current and in good standing.
 2. An applicant shall pay the application and certification fee and the state regulatory fee provided by rule 0880-5-.02(1) and (3).
 3. An applicant shall submit a clear, recognizable, recently taken bust photograph which shows the full head, face forward from at least the top of the shoulder up.
- (2) Upon approval for issuance of certification, the Board shall issue a certificate which contains either the specific radiological limitations as reflected by the application materials received or "full certification" as that term is defined in Rule 0880-5-.01 (2).
- (3) Upgrading Limited Certification - Persons holding limited certifications may upgrade their certification by submitting a written request along with their original certificate to the Board Administrative Office and complying with the following:
- (a) Having the director of a Board approved specialty area(s) radiological education course(s) submit directly to the Board Administrative Office documentation indicating the additional clock hours and type of education received as required by rule 0880-5-.05(2)(b) and (c) along with certification from the supervising physician(s) of successful completion of the clock hours of clinical training for each separate area in which certification is sought.
 - (b) Have submitted proof of successful completion of all examinations required by Rule 0880-5-.06.
 - (c) The original certification will be amended indicating all appropriate certification areas and returned to the applicant.
- (4) Application review and decisions shall be governed by Rule 0880-2-.07 (1) through (5).

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-3-1011, 4-5-202, 4-5-204, 63-6-101, and 63-6-224. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rule filed December 7, 1993; effective February 20, 1994. Amendment filed May 7, 1997; effective July 21, 1997. Amendment filed May 28, 2003; effective August 11, 2003. Amendment filed May 27, 2008; effective August 10, 2008.

0880-5-.08 MAINTAINING CERTIFICATION, RENEWAL, RETIREMENT AND REINSTATEMENT.

- (1) All certificate holders must renew their certificates to be able to legally continue in practice. Renewal is governed by the following:
- (a) The due date for renewal is its expiration date which is the last day of the month in which a certificate holder's birthday falls pursuant to the Division of Health Related Boards "biennial birthdate renewal system" contained in rule 1200-10-1-.10.
 - (b) Methods of Renewal - Renewal may be accomplished by one of the following methods:
 1. Internet Renewals - Individuals may apply for renewal and pay the necessary fees via the Internet. The application to renew can be accessed at:

www.tennesseeanytime.org
 2. Paper Renewals - Certificate holders who have not renewed their authorization online via the Internet will have a renewal application form mailed to them at the

(Rule 0880-5-.08, continued)

last address provided by them to the Board prior to the expiration date of their current certificate. Failure to receive such notification does not relieve the individual of the responsibility of timely meeting all requirements for renewal. To be eligible for renewal a certificate holder must submit to the Division of Health Related Boards on or before the certificate's expiration date the following:

- (i) A completed and signed renewal application form.
 - (ii) The renewal and state regulatory fees as provided in Rule 0880-5-.02.
- (c) Any renewal application received after the expiration date but before the last day of the month following the expiration date must be accompanied by the Late Renewal Fee provided in Rule 0880-5-.02.
 - (d) Any individual who fails to comply with the renewal rules and/or notifications sent to them concerning failure to timely renew shall have their certificates processed pursuant to rule 1200-10-1-.10.
 - (e) Anyone submitting a signed renewal form, electronically or otherwise, which is found to be fraudulent or untrue may be subject to disciplinary action.
 - (f) Any certificate holder who receives notice of failure to timely renew pursuant to rule 1200-10-1-.10, and who, on or before the last day of the month following the month in which the certificate expires, executes and files in the Board's administrative office an affidavit of retirement pursuant to paragraph (2) of this rule may have their certificate retired effective on their certificate's expiration date.
- (2) Certificate Retirement
- (a) Certificate holders who wish to retain their certification but not actively practice will not be required to comply with the certification renewal process by doing the following:
 - 1. Obtain from, complete and submit to the Board Administrative Office an affidavit of retirement form.
 - 2. Submit any documentation which may be required by the form to the Board Administrative Office.
 - (b) Upon successful application for retirement of certification with completion and receipt of all proper documentation to the Board's satisfaction, the Board shall register the certificate as retired. Any person who has a retired certificate may not practice in Tennessee.
- (3) Reactivation - Any certificate holder whose certificate has been retired or processed pursuant to rule 1200-10-1-.10 for failure to timely renew may re-enter active practice by doing the following:
- (a) Submit a written request for a Reactivation Application to the Board Administrative Office; and
 - (b) Fully complete and submit the Board's Reactivation Application along with payment of:
 - 1. For those reactivating a retired certificate the certification renewal fee.

(Rule 0880-5-.08, continued)

2. For those who are reactivating a certificate processed pursuant to rule 1200-10-1-.10 for failure to timely renew all past due renewal fees and the late renewal fee.
 - (c) To reactivate an expired certification submit, along with the Board's Reactivation Application, documentation of successful completion of the continuing education requirements provided in rule 0880-5-.09 for all the calendar years (January 1 – December 31) that the certification was expired that precede the calendar year during which the reactivation is requested; or
 - (d) To reactivate a retired certification submit, along with the Board's Reactivation Application, documentation of successful completion of twenty (20) hours of continuing education, as provided in rule 0880-5-.09, during the two (2) calendar years (January 1 – December 31) that precede the calendar year during which the reactivation is requested.
 - (e) If requested, after review by the Board, a designated Board member, or the Board's consultant appear before either the Board, or a duly constituted panel of the Board, or another Board member, or the Board Designee for an interview regarding continued competence in the event of certification retirement, administrative revocation or other practice inactivity in excess of two (2) years and meet such other requirements the Board feels necessary to establish current levels of competency.
- (4) Renewal issuance and reactivation decisions pursuant to this rule may be made administratively subject to review by the Board, any Board member or the Board Designee.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-3-1011, 4-5-202, 4-5-204, 63-6-101, and 63-6-224. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rule filed December 7, 1993; effective February 20, 1994. Amendment filed May 7, 1997; effective July 21, 1997. Amendment filed August 31, 2000; effective November 14, 2000. Amendment filed September 5, 2002; effective November 19, 2002. Amendment filed November 23, 2005; effective February 6, 2006.

0880-5-.09 CONTINUING EDUCATION.

- (1) Continuing Education - Hours Required
 - (a) Each person certified by the Board must biennially attend and complete twenty (20) hours of radiological related continuing education in courses approved by the Board.
 - (b) Two (2) of the required twenty (20) biennial continuing education hours must be pertaining to appropriate statutes, rules and regulations, and other subjects that would be directly related to compliance with, and/or penalties for non-compliance with the statutes, rules and regulations. This course must include content pertaining to the A.R.R.T.'s Standards of Ethics if the certificate holder is fully certified.
 - (c) The Board approves courses for only the number of hours contained in the course. The approved hours of any individual course will not be counted more than once in a two (2) year period toward the required hourly total regardless of the number of times the course is attended or completed by any individual certificate holder.
- (2) Continuing Education - Proof of Compliance
 - (a) The due date for proof of attendance and completion of the required continuing education hours each certificate holders biennial renewal due date.

(Rule 0880-5-.09, continued)

- (b) Each person must, on a Board provided form, check a box and/or enter signature which indicates attendance and completion of the required continuing education hours and that such hours were obtained during the preceding two (2) calendar years.
 - (c) Each person must retain proof of attendance and completion of all continuing education courses. This documentation must be retained for a period of four (4) years from the end of the calendar year in which the course is completed. This documentation must be produced for inspection and verification, if requested in writing by the Board during its verification process.
- (3) Continuing Education - Course Approval
- (a) Courses to be offered for credit toward the required continuing education hours must, unless otherwise provided, receive prior approval from the Board.
 - (b) Prior approval of a course may be obtained by submitting the following information to the Board Administrative Office at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled date of the course.
 - 1. a course description or outline.
 - 2. names of all lecturers.
 - 3. brief resume of all lecturers.
 - 4. number of hours of educational credit requested.
 - 5. date of course.
 - 6. copies of materials to be utilized in the course.
 - 7. how verification of attendance is to be documented.
 - (c) Continuing education courses may be presented in any of the following formats:
 - 1. Lecture.
 - 2. Audiovisual - with successful completion of a written post experience examination to evaluate material retention.
 - 3. Correspondence - with successful completion of a written post experience examination to evaluate material retention.
 - 4. Any combination of the above.
 - (d) The following courses need not receive prior approval and shall constitute Board approved continuing education courses:
 - 1. Courses sponsored or approved by any of the following organizations:
 - (i) Tennessee Society of Radiologic Technologists
 - (ii) Tennessee Radiological Society
 - (iii) Tennessee Medical Association

(Rule 0880-5-.09, continued)

- (iv) American Medical Association
 - (v) American Society of Radiologic Technologists
 - (vi) American Registry of Radiologic Technologists.
 - (vii) American College of Radiology
2. Educational courses sponsored by an accredited school of medicine or radiological health. If such course is taken for or assigned quarter or semester credit hours, three (3) quarter hours or equivalent semester hours shall be equivalent to fifteen (15) continuing education hours. No credits will be counted for courses failed.
- (e) Individual Board members and the Board's designee are vested with the authority to approve continuing education courses submitted in compliance with this rule. All such approvals must be presented to the full Board for ratification.
- (4) Violations
- (a) Any person who falsely attests to attendance and completion of the required hours of continuing education may be subject to decertification.
 - (b) Any person who fails to obtain the required continuing education hours may be subject to decertification.
 - (c) Education hours obtained as a result of compliance with the terms of an informal settlement or Board Orders in any disciplinary action shall not be counted toward the continuing education hours required to be obtained by Rule 0880-5-.09(1)(a).

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-204, 63-6-101, 63-6-224, and Public Chapter 956 of the Public Acts of 2000. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rule filed December 7, 1993; effective February 20, 1994. Amendment filed August 31, 2000; effective November 14, 2000. Amendment filed November 23, 2005; effective February 6, 2006. Amendment filed May 27, 2008; effective August 10, 2008.

0880-5-.10 SCOPE OF PRACTICE.

- (1) Each person certified by the Board must practice only in the certified specialty areas contained on the certificate as issued or upgraded and only for the types of radiographs specified in these rules. Practicing radiography beyond the scope of certification is grounds for decertification.
- (2) Board issued certificates shall be posted in a location visible to all patients receiving radiographic examinations.
- (3) Certificates issued by the Board are subject to being disciplined for the same causes, to the same extent and pursuant to the same procedures as issued medical licenses.
- (4) A.R.R.T. certificate holders are fully certified and, except as provided in subparagraph (a), may perform any and all radiographic procedures or functions in a physician's office that are within the American Society of Radiologic Technologists' (A.S.R.T.) scope of practice for radiographers.

(Rule 0880-5-.10, continued)

- (a) Performing bone densitometry is not considered to be within the Board's scope of practice for fully certified A.R.R.T. certificate holders.
- (b) A.R.R.T. certificate holders who wish to perform bone densitometry and who receive initial certification as an x-ray operator in Tennessee after July 1, 2006 are required to:
 1. obtain the A.R.R.T.'s certification in bone densitometry (BD) by successfully completing the A.R.R.T.'s Bone Densitometry Clinical Experience Requirements; or
 2. obtain limited certification in bone densitometry, pursuant to Rule 0880-5-.11.
- (5) Under no circumstances may a person with limited certification perform any procedure utilizing contrast media or any invasive radiological procedure.
- (6) Under no circumstances may a person with limited certification perform any procedure utilizing CT (Computer-assisted Tomography) or Fluoroscopy (including C-Arm units).
- (7) Certification pursuant to these rules does not authorize the certificate holder to perform MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) or Ultrasound procedures, both of which are beyond the scope and capabilities of limited licensed operators.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-204, 63-6-101, 63-6-224, and Public Chapter 956 of the Public Acts of 2000. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rule filed December 7, 1993; effective February 20, 1994. Amendment filed August 31, 2000; effective November 14, 2000. Amendment filed May 28, 2003; effective August 11, 2003. Amendment filed March 22, 2006; effective June 5, 2006.

0880-5-.11 BONE DENSITOMETRY. All persons unless otherwise exempted who operate bone densitometry equipment in Tennessee must comply with the following:

- (1) Fees - The same fees contained in rule 0880-5-.02 shall apply to individuals under this rule.
- (2) Exemptions - The same persons exempted pursuant to rule 0880-5-.03 are exempted from the provisions of this rule.
- (3) Qualifications for Certification -
 - (a) To be eligible for a limited radiological certification in bone densitometry a person must meet the following minimum qualifications:
 1. Be at least eighteen (18) years of age; and
 2. Possess a high school diploma or a GED certificate; and
 3. Be of good moral character; and
 4. Be free from physical or mental impairment which would interfere with the performance of duties or otherwise constitute a hazard to the health and safety of patients; and
 5. Cause to have submitted verification of attendance and successful completion of a Board-approved radiological certification training course; and
 6. Have successfully completed the Board-approved examination pursuant to subparagraph (4) (f) of this rule; and

(Rule 0880-5-.11, continued)

7. Cause to be submitted to the Board's administrative office directly from the vendor identified in the Board's licensure application materials, the result of a criminal background check; and
 8. Have made application for certification pursuant to Rule 0880-5-.07 and paid all fees.
- (b) Any person who holds a radiological certificate issued by another state obtained pursuant to standards and procedures substantially equivalent to the standards set by these rules may receive a certification at the Board's discretion.
 - (c) Any person who now holds a limited certification issued by the Board may receive limited certification upgrade in bone densitometry without compliance with the provisions of paragraphs (4) (b) through (d) of this rule.
 - (d) Any person who has successfully completed the course described in rule 0880-5-.05 (2)(a) and has not applied for any limited certification from the Board may receive limited certification in bone densitometry without compliance with the provisions of paragraphs (4) (b) through (d) of this rule.
- (4) Educational Course, Approval and Curriculum for Certification -
- (a) Course approval under this rule shall be governed by rule 0880-5-.05 (1) and (3).
 - (b) The Basic Course - Defined as the core, theory of foundation education basic to operation of bone densitometry equipment. This basic course shall include, but not be limited to: radiation protection & safety; principles of exposure of bone densitometry scanning machines; patient care; and anatomy of long bones and spine, including construction of bone, destruction of bone, and measurement of bone mass.
 - (c) Course approval shall be based upon the level of radiological education obtainable through the program courses. This course shall consist of twenty-four (24) clock hours.
 - (d) Completion of this basic course will not qualify anyone for limited certification in any body area other than bone densitometry.
 - (e) All applicants must have machine specific training according to the following:
 1. The applicant must receive training on the same type machine that (s)he will be operating.
 2. This machine-specific training may be done by the Manufacturer (or authorized Representative) or by a person holding a Certificate in Bone Densitometry and who has received machine-specific training by the Manufacturer on the appropriate machine.
 3. The machine-specific training shall include, but not be limited to: Identification of machine components; Operation of machine; Exposure doses for various scans from the machine; Positioning for each scan procedure; Adjusting for errors; Image Acquisitions; Reference Databases; Quality Control Procedures.
 4. All training must result in a Statement of Training being signed by the Manufacturer (or authorized Representative) or by a person holding a Certificate in Bone Densitometry and who has received machine-specific training by the

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Manufacturer on the appropriate machine. The Statement of Training shall be issued to the trainee, and sent to the Board's Administrative Office.

- (f) Examination
 - 1. All applicants must provide proof of having successfully completed the A.R.R.T.'s Limited Bone Densitometry Equipment Operators Examination.
 - 2. An applicant will be deemed to have successfully completed the A.R.R.T.'s Limited Bone Densitometry Equipment Operators Examination upon correctly answering sixty-five percent (65%) of all questions contained on the examination.
- (g) Clinical bone scanning must be supervised by a licensed physician.
- (h) The clinical training obtained pursuant to this rule cannot be utilized as clinical training hours in qualification for limited certification in any other body areas.
- (i) The following rules apply to certifications applied for and issued pursuant to this rule and are enforceable as if fully set out herein:
 - 1. Rule 0880-5-.06 (3) and (4); and
 - 2. Rule 0880-5-.07; and
 - 3. Rule 0880-5-.08; and
 - 4. Rule 0880-5-.09; and
 - 5. Rule 0880-5-.10; and
 - 6. Rule 0880-5-.12.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-204, 63-6-101, 63-6-214, 63-6-224, and Public Chapter 956 of the Public Acts of 2000. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 31, 2000; effective November 14, 2000. Amendment filed November 1, 2002; effective January 15, 2003. Amendment filed May 28, 2003; effective August 11, 2003. Amendment filed March 14, 2006; effective May 28, 2006. Amendment filed March 22, 2006; effective June 5, 2006. Amendment filed March 22, 2007; effective June 5, 2007.

0880-5-.12 SUPERVISION.

- (1) Before being authorized to perform any x-ray procedure or operate any x-ray equipment in a physician's office, the physician shall place a copy of the person's renewal certificate in the person's personnel file to prove the person being authorized has the appropriate certification required for either or both the procedure being performed and/or the equipment being used and that such certification is current.
- (2) The employing physician(s), or a physician designated by the employing physician(s) as a substitute supervisor, shall exercise close supervision and assume full control and responsibility for the services provided by any person certified under this chapter of rules employed in the physician(s)' practice. That supervision, control and responsibility, except when it involves contrast imaging or involves sedation, does not require the physical presence of the physician(s) at all times at the site where the services are being provided. However, it does require that the physician(s) have his/her primary medical practice physically located within the boundaries of the state of Tennessee and that he/she be capable of being physically present at the site where the services are being provided within a

(Rule 0880-5-.12, continued)

reasonable time depending upon the type of x-ray being performed and the severity of the medical complications that may arise from that type of x-ray.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-204, 63-6-101, and 63-6-224. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 23, 2001; effective November 6, 2001. Repeal and new rule filed November 23, 2005; effective February 6, 2006.