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TITLE 856 INDIANA BOARD OF PHARMACY

Proposed Rule LSA Document #02-172

DIGEST

Amends 856 IAC 1-35-1 and 856 IAC 1-35-4 concerning pharmacy technicians, including the determination of whether a pharmacy technician is qualified, and provides technicians the opportunity to pass a certification exam in lieu of taking the training program. Repeals 856 IAC 1-35-6. Effective 30 days after filing with the secretary of state.

856 IAC 1-35-1 **856 IAC 1-35-4** **856 IAC 1-35-6**

SECTION 1. 856 IAC 1-35-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

856 IAC 1-35-1 Purpose and scope

Authority: IC 25-26-13-4
Affected: IC 25-26-13

Sec. 1. (a) The board is responsible for establishing standards for the competent practice of pharmacy.

(b) The use of pharmacy technicians to assist the pharmacist with nondiscretionary functions associated with the practice of pharmacy enables the pharmacist to provide pharmaceutical care to the patient.

(c) Evolved pharmacy practice demands additional time for pharmacists to counsel individual patients regarding the proper use of drugs.

(d) Only pharmacists (licensed under IC 25-26-13-11), pharmacy interns and externs (as defined in IC 25-26-13-2 and registered under IC 25-26-13-10), and pharmacy technicians as described in this section shall be permitted to participate in the activities associated with a drug order or prescription preparation.

(e) A pharmacist shall not permit a pharmacy technician to participate in the activities associated with a drug order or prescription preparation unless the pharmacy technician meets the qualifications of this section.

(f) The pharmacist is responsible for the work performed by the pharmacy technician under the pharmacist's supervision. (*Indiana Board of Pharmacy; 856 IAC 1-35-1; filed Aug 17, 1995, 8:30 a.m.: 19 IR 39; readopted filed Nov 13, 2001, 3:55 p.m.: 25 IR 1330*)

SECTION 2. 856 IAC 1-35-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

856 IAC 1-35-4 Qualifications

Authority: IC 25-26-13-4
Affected: IC 25-26-13-18

Sec. 4. To be eligible to perform the functions and duties of a pharmacy technician, an individual must possess the following qualifications, which shall be ascertained and documented in a reasonably retrievable manner by the pharmacist that qualifies the pharmacy permit:

(1) The individual has not been convicted of a crime that has a direct bearing on the individual's ability to work with legend drugs or controlled substances.

(2) The individual must be a high school graduate or have successfully completed a General Education Development program **or have been judged to be competent by the qualifying pharmacist.**

(3) The individual must have successfully completed or be enrolled in **and successfully complete within twelve (12) months of being hired as a technician** one (1) of the following board-approved programs:

(A) A ~~board approved~~ comprehensive curricular-based education and training program conducted by a pharmacy or educational organization.

(B) A technician training program utilized by the employer that includes specific training in the duties required to assist the pharmacist in the technical functions associated with the practice of pharmacy. The contents of the training program shall include, at a minimum, the following:

(i) Understanding of the duties and responsibilities of the technician and the pharmacist, including the standards of patient confidentiality and ethics governing pharmacy practice.

(ii) Tasks and technical skills, policies, and procedures related to the technician's position.

(iii) Working knowledge of pharmaceutical-medical terminology, abbreviations, and symbols commonly used in prescriptions and drug orders.

(iv) Working knowledge of the general storage, packaging, and labeling requirements of drugs, prescriptions, or drug orders.

(v) Ability to perform the arithmetic calculations required for the usual dosage determinations.

(vi) Working knowledge and understanding of the essential functions related to drug purchasing and inventory control.

(vii) The record keeping functions associated with prescriptions or drug orders.

(4) In lieu of the requirements in subdivision (3), the successful completion of a board-approved certification examination may satisfy the requirements of this section.

~~(5)~~ **(5)** A record of the pharmacy technician training and education must be maintained in the pharmacy where the technician is employed and shall include the following:

~~(i)~~ **(A)** The name of the pharmacy technician.

(B) The starting date of employment as a pharmacy technician.

(C) The starting date of the technician training program.

~~(ii)~~ **(D)** The date of completion of the training program, **or proof of passing the board-approved examination if subdivision (4) applies.**

~~(iii)~~ **(E)** A copy of the training manual, if on-the-job training is used by the employer, or certificate of successful completion of another approved program, or other training program completed prior to employment.

(Indiana Board of Pharmacy; 856 IAC 1-35-4; filed Aug 17, 1995, 8:30 a.m.: 19 IR 40; readopted filed Nov 13, 2001, 3:55 p.m.: 25 IR 1330)

SECTION 3. 856 IAC 1-35-6 IS REPEALED.

Notice of Public Hearing

Under IC 4-22-2-24, notice is hereby given that on October 15, 2002 at 9:30 a.m., at the Indiana Government Center-South, 402 West Washington Street, Conference Center Rooms 1 and 2, Indianapolis, Indiana the Indiana Board of Pharmacy will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments concerning pharmacy technicians. Copies of these rules are now on file at the Indiana Government Center-South, 402 West Washington Street, Room W041 and Legislative Services Agency, One North Capitol, Suite 325, Indianapolis, Indiana and are open for public inspection.

Lisa R. Hayes
Executive Director
Health Professions Bureau