



## **Notice of Proposed Changes in The Regulations of the Alaska Board of Pharmacy**

### **Proposed Regulations - FAQ**

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*December 2022*

#### **1. What is the purpose of the proposed regulations? What will this regulation do?**

##### **12 AAC 52.235. Pharmacy technician with national certification**

- The proposed regulations support the implementation of Sec. 6, Ch. 29 SLA 2022 (HB 145), which authorizes pharmacy technicians with national certification to administer an immunization and related emergency medication.
- Pharmacies across Alaska are experiencing shortages of staff, which may limit access to timely immunizations and emergency medications. This regulation supports the expansion of these services to Alaska residents, especially in rural areas, and this is an attempt to remedy this.
- This regulation improves patient access to immunizations and related emergency medications by expanding pharmacy personnel qualified and authorized to provide these services.

##### **12 AAC 52.325. Continuing education requirements for pharmacy technicians**

- The proposed regulations support the implementation of Sec. 6, Ch. 29 SLA 2022 (HB 145) by specifying that nationally certified technicians must complete at least one hour of continuing education related to immunizations or vaccines as part of the 10 contact hours of continuing education requirements if engaged in this practice.
- This regulation supports patient safety by ensuring pharmacy technicians with national certification have completed the proper training prior to engaging in the administration of vaccines.
- Pharmacy technicians with national certification will be able to provide immunization services with safety and competency, which supports patient access to care and alleviates workflow constraints experienced by pharmacies.

##### **12 AAC 52.992. Administration of vaccines and related emergency medications**

- It adds in pharmacy technicians with national certification as a license type authorized to engage in the administration of vaccines under the supervision of a pharmacist.
- It clarifies and adds specific topic areas that pharmacists and interns must complete training in prior to engaging in the administration of vaccines.
- It requires pharmacy technicians with national certification to offer the patient or their agent the current vaccine information statement for each vaccine administered.

- It supports patient care and ensures pharmacist and pharmacist intern competency by requiring specific training in the areas of vaccine administration for pediatric, adolescent, and adult populations.
- Supports patient care and improves pharmacist and intern knowledge in the areas of immunization.

**2. What are the costs to comply with the proposed regulations?**

None known.

**3. When will the regulations be effective?**

After the public comment deadline, comments received are compiled and given to the Board for consideration. The Board may adopt the regulation as written/publicly noticed, may amend and adopt them, choose to take no action, or may withdraw the proposed regulations in part or in its whole. After Board action, the adopted regulations goes to Department of Law (DOL) for final review/approval. DOL either approves or disapproves regulations. Once approved by DOL, it goes to the Lt. Governor for filing. Regulation takes effect on the 30th day after they have been filed by the Lt. Governor.

Do you have a question that is not answered here? Please email [RegulationsAndPublicComment@alaska.gov](mailto:RegulationsAndPublicComment@alaska.gov) so it can be added.