



MRT Fact Sheet on Recent Rule Changes

Shortly after taking over regulation of x-ray techs in August 2018, the Department of Health Services, Bureau of Special Licensing (“Department”) was required to submit a Five-Year Review of the MRTBE rules to the Governor’s Regulatory Review Council (“G.R.R.C.”). The Department used this opportunity to point out many issues with the rules that created a regulatory burden for licensees and applicants. The new rules illustrate the Department’s commitment to reducing barriers and regulatory burden for licensees and applicants, while still prioritizing the health and safety of all Arizonans.

Age Requirement

To apply for a medical radiologic technician license, the rules now specify an applicant must be 18 years of age.

Applying for a MRT License Is Easier

- With the new applications, applicants no longer have to provide a passport photo or have their applications notarized.
- Technologists applying for initial licenses in the following fields may submit an ARRT or NMTCB certification in lieu of a Department-approved educational program and exam:
 - Radiation
 - Nuclear Medicine
 - Radiation Therapy
 - Mammography Technologists

Additionally, Mammography Technologists with valid ARRT certification do not have to show proof of training and requirements in 21 CFR 900.12.

Reciprocity

Medical radiologic technologists with licenses in other states may now qualify for a reciprocal license. The applicant must meet the following requirements:

- Have been licensed or in another state for at least one year, with a scope of practice consistent with the scope of practice for which certification is being requested;
- Met the minimum education requirements and, if applicable, work experience and clinical supervision requirements, according to A.R.S. § 32-4302(A)(3);
- Not voluntarily surrendered a license or certification in any other state or country while under investigation for unprofessional conduct; and

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- Not have a complaint, allegation, or investigation pending before another regulatory entity in another state or country related to unprofessional conduct.
- Have documentation of the professional license or certification issued to the applicant by each state in which the applicant holds a professional license or certification.

Continuing Education

The Department shall adopt rules to prescribe the following minimum continuing education requirements for the renewal of the following certificates:

1. Practical technologist in podiatry, two hours every two years.
2. Practical technologist in radiology, six hours every two years.
3. Practical technologist in bone densitometry, two hours every two years.
4. Unlimited practical technologist in radiology, 24 hours every two years.
5. Nuclear medicine technologist, 24 hours every two years.
6. Radiologist assistant, 50 hours every two years.
7. Radiologic technologist, 24 hours every two years.
8. Radiation therapy technologist, 24 hours every two years.

Training Programs

The list of Department-approved training programs is available on the Department's website at <https://www.azdhs.gov/licensing/special/index.php#mrt-provider-info>.

An applicant may request Department approval of a curriculum of courses and learning activities as a training program by submitting an application packet available online at <https://azdhs.gov/licensing/special/index.php#mrt-provider-info>.

New Rules for Special Permits

Special permits may be issued by the Department to increase the availability of medical care in medically underserved and/or health professional shortage areas. The rule allows for applicants in medically underserved and/or health professional shortage areas to forgo some licensing requirements. As part of the application, a health care institution must provide justification for the issuance of a special permit and verify it has implemented a continuing education program for the applicant to protect the health and safety of individuals undergoing radiologic procedures.

Updates to Standards

Practice standards have been updated to the 2017 standards published by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists.