

Provisions of Public Act 05-280
Perfusionist License

Sec. 69. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2005*) As used in sections 69 to 71, inclusive, of this act and subsection (c) of section 19a-14 of the general statutes, as amended by this act:

(1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health.

(2) "Department" means the Department of Public Health.

(3) "Extracorporeal circulation" means the diversion of a patient's blood through a heart-lung machine or a similar device that assumes the functions of the patient's heart, lungs, kidney, liver or other organs.

(4) "Perfusion" means the functions necessary for the support, treatment, measurement or supplementation of the cardiovascular, circulatory or respiratory system or other organs, or a combination of such activities, and to ensure the safe management of physiologic functions by monitoring and analyzing the parameters of the systems under an order and under the supervision of a licensed physician, including, but not limited to:

(A) The use of extracorporeal circulation, long-term cardiopulmonary support techniques including extracorporeal carbon-dioxide removal and extracorporeal membrane oxygenation and associated therapeutic and diagnostic technologies;

(B) Counterpulsation, ventricular assistance, autotransfusion, blood conservation techniques, myocardial and organ preservation, extracorporeal life support and isolated limb perfusion;

(C) The use of techniques involving blood management, advanced life support and other related functions; and

(D) In the performance of the following activities:

(i) The administration of pharmacological and therapeutic agents, or blood products or anesthetic agents through the extracorporeal circuit or through an intravenous line as ordered by a physician;

(ii) The performance and use of anticoagulation monitoring and analysis; physiologic monitoring and analysis; blood gas and chemistry monitoring and analysis; hematologic monitoring and analysis; hypothermia; hyperthermia; hemoconcentration and hemodilution; or modified extracorporeal circulatory hemodialysis; or

(iii) The observation of signs and symptoms related to perfusion services, the determination of whether the signs and symptoms exhibit abnormal characteristics, and the implementation of appropriate reporting, perfusion protocols, or changes in or the initiation of emergency procedures.

(5) "Perfusionist" means a person who is licensed to practice perfusion pursuant to the provisions of sections 48 to 50, inclusive, of this act.

(6) "Direct supervision" means a supervising physician is physically present in the location where the perfusionist trainee is performing routine perfusion functions.

Sec. 70. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2005*) (a) No person shall practice perfusion in this state unless the person holds a valid license from the department to practice perfusion in this state. No person shall use the title "perfusionist" or make use of any title, words, letters or abbreviations that may reasonably be confused with licensure as a perfusionist unless such person holds a valid license from the department to practice perfusion in this state.

(b) Each person seeking licensure to practice perfusion in this state shall make application on forms prescribed by the department, pay an application fee of two hundred fifty dollars and present to the department satisfactory evidence that such person (1) successfully completed a perfusion education program with standards established by the Accreditation Committee for Perfusion Education and approved by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs; (2) completed a minimum of fifty cases after graduating from a perfusion education program accredited or approved pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection; and (3) after completing the requirements set forth in subdivision (2) of this subsection, successfully completed the certification examination offered by the American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion, or its successor. The commissioner shall grant a license as a perfusionist to any applicant who meets the requirements of this subsection.

(c) From the period beginning October 1, 2005, and ending December 31, 2006, an applicant for licensure as a perfusionist may, in lieu of the requirements set forth in subsection (b) of this section, submit to the department satisfactory evidence that the applicant has (1) actively engaged in the practice of perfusion in this state since October 1, 2005, or earlier, and (2) been operating a cardiopulmonary bypass system during cardiac surgical procedures in a licensed health care facility as part of the applicant's primary job duties since October 1, 2005. The commissioner shall grant a license as a perfusionist to any applicant who meets the requirements of this subsection.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to the activities and services of a person who (1) has successfully completed a perfusion education program that meets the criteria of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section from gaining experience in the practice of perfusion, provided such activities (A) are necessary to satisfy the requirements of subdivision (2) of said subsection (b), (B) are performed under direct supervision, and (C) such person is designated as an intern or trainee or other such title indicating the training status appropriate to such person's level of training, or (2) is enrolled in an accredited perfusion education program and performing such work as is incidental to the course of study.

Sec. 74. Subsection (e) of section 19a-88 of the general statutes is amended by adding subdivision (5) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

(NEW) (5) Each person holding a license issued pursuant to section 70 of this act shall, annually, during the month of such person's birth, apply for renewal of such license to the Department of Public Health, upon payment of a fee of two hundred fifty dollars, giving such person's name in full, such person's residence and business address and such other information as the department requests.

REGULATIONS OF CONNECTICUT STATE AGENCIES CONCERNING EVALUATION OF CANDIDATES WITH PREVIOUS LICENSURE

19a-14-1 Application for licensure after license has become void. A person previously licensed in Connecticut whose license has become void pursuant to section 19a-88 of the Connecticut General Statutes, may apply for licensure under the terms of these regulations. In determining the qualifications of such a candidate, pursuant to section 19a-14 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Department of Health Services shall refer the application to the appropriate Board or Commission for review, evaluation, and recommendations. If no Board or Commission exists for the profession in question, the Department of Health Services may make the review and evaluation.

19a-14-2 Review and evaluation of applications. When reviewing and evaluating applications pursuant to section 19a-14-1 of these regulations, the Board, Commission or Department shall consider at least the following: (1) credentials presented for initial licensure; (2) length of practice as a licensed professional; (3) time elapsed since leaving active practice; (4) whether the candidate had been the subject of complaints, investigations or disciplinary actions as a licensed professional; and (5) any continuing education undertaken by the candidate. The Board, Commission or Department must determine whether or not these factors, taken together, meet current licensure requirements.

19a-14-3 Recommendations regarding acceptability. After completion of the review prescribed in section 19a-14-2 of these regulations, the Board or Commission shall make recommendations to the Department regarding the acceptability for licensure of the candidate. At its discretion, the Department may, after considering all licensure requirements and the recommendations of the Board or Commission, grant licensure to the candidate.

19a-14-4 License shall not be issued until or unless complaint resolved. No license shall be issued if there is a complaint awaiting adjudication against the applicant in another state or with the Department of Health Services until such a time as it is resolved in favor of the candidate.

19a-14-5 Suspended or revoked license. An applicant whose license has been suspended or revoked pursuant to section 19a-17 of the Connecticut General Statutes cannot reapply for licensure under the terms of these regulations.

Statement of Purpose: To allow persons previously licensed in Connecticut to have their work experience as a licensed person be considered when applying for a new license in Connecticut in the same profession.