

RULE REVIEW ANALYSIS

Introduction: THIS RULE REVIEW IS SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION AS A PROPOSED REVIEW

Short Title: Pharmacy Technicians

Rule Number: Chapter 297

Statutory Authority: Government Code, §2001.039, added by Acts 1999, 76th Legislature, Chapter 1499, Article 1, Section 1.11.

Background: Review of these sections follow the Board's rule review plan.

1 **TITLE 22 EXAMINING BOARDS**
2 **PART 15 TEXAS STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY**
3 **CHAPTER 297 PHARMACY TECHNICIANS AND PHARMACY TECHNICIAN TRAINEES**
4

5 **§297.1 Purpose**
6

7 The purpose of this chapter is to provide a comprehensive, coherent regulatory scheme for the
8 registration and training of pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees in this state.
9 The provisions of this chapter, in conjunction with the Texas Pharmacy Act (Chapters 551 - 566
10 and 568 - 569, Texas Occupations Code, as amended), govern the method for the issuance of a
11 registration to a pharmacy technician and a pharmacy technician trainee in Texas.
12

13 **§297.2 Definitions**
14

15 The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings,
16 unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

17 (1) Act--The Texas Pharmacy Act, Chapters 551 - 566 and 568 - 569, Texas Occupations
18 Code, as amended.
19

20 (2) Board--The Texas State Board of Pharmacy.
21

22 (3) Pharmacy technician--An individual who is registered with the Board as a pharmacy
23 technician and whose responsibility in a pharmacy is to provide technical services that do not
24 require professional judgment regarding preparing and distributing drugs and who works under
25 the direct supervision of and is responsible to a pharmacist.
26

27 (4) Pharmacy technician trainee--An individual who is registered with the board as a pharmacy
28 technician trainee and is authorized to participate in a pharmacy's technician training program.
29

30 **§297.3 Registration Requirements**
31

32 (a) General.
33

34 (1) Individuals who are not registered with the Board may not be employed as or perform the
35 duties of a pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician trainee.
36

37 (2) Individuals who have previously applied and registered as a pharmacy technician,
38 regardless of the pharmacy technician's current registration status, may not register as a
39 pharmacy technician trainee.
40

41 (3) Individuals who apply and are qualified for both a pharmacy technician trainee registration
42 and a pharmacy technician registration concurrently will not be considered for a pharmacy
43 technician trainee registration.
44

45 (b) Registration for pharmacy technician trainees. An individual may register as a pharmacy
46 technician trainee only once and the registration may not be renewed.
47

48 (1) Each applicant for pharmacy technician trainee registration shall:
49

50 (A) have a high school or equivalent diploma (e.g., GED), or be working to achieve a high
51 school or equivalent diploma. For the purposes of this subparagraph, an applicant for
52 registration may be working to achieve a high school or equivalent diploma for no more than two
53 years;

54
55 (B) complete the Texas application for registration that includes the following information:

56
57 (i) name;

58
59 (ii) addresses, phone numbers, date of birth, and social security number; and

60
61 (iii) any other information requested on the application.
62

63 (C) meet all requirements necessary in order for the Board to access the criminal history
64 record information, including submitting fingerprint information and paying the required fees.
65

66 (2) Once an applicant has successfully completed all requirements of registration, and the
67 board has determined there are no grounds to refuse registration, the applicant will be notified
68 of registration as a pharmacy technician trainee and of his or her pharmacy technician trainee
69 registration number.

70
71 (3) Pharmacy technician trainee registrations expire two years from the date of registration or
72 upon issuance of registration as a registered pharmacy technician, whichever is earlier.
73

74 (c) Initial registration for pharmacy technicians.

75
76 (1) Each applicant for pharmacy technician registration shall:

77
78 (A) have a high school or equivalent diploma (e.g., GED), or be working to achieve a high
79 school or equivalent diploma. For the purpose of this clause, an applicant for registration may
80 be working to achieve a high school or equivalent diploma for no more than two years; and

81
82 (B) either have:

83
84 (i) taken and passed the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board's National Pharmacy
85 Technician Certification Examination or other examination approved by the board and have a
86 current certification certificate; or

87
88 (ii) been granted an exemption from certification by the board as specified in §297.7 of this
89 title (relating to Exemption from Pharmacy Technician Certification Requirements); and
90

91 (C) complete the Texas application for registration that includes the following information:

92
93 (i) name;

94
95 (ii) addresses, phone numbers, date of birth, and social security number; and

96
97 (iii) any other information requested on the application.
98

99 (D) meet all requirements necessary in order for the Board to access the criminal history
100 record information, including submitting fingerprint information and paying the required fees; and
101

102 (E) pay the registration fee specified in §297.4 of this title (relating to Fees).
103

104 (2) Once an applicant has successfully completed all requirements of registration, and the
105 board has determined there are no grounds to refuse registration, the applicant will be notified
106 of registration as a registered pharmacy technician and of his or her pharmacy technician
107 registration number. If the pharmacy technician applicant was registered as a pharmacy
108 technician trainee at the time the pharmacy technician registration issued, the pharmacy
109 technician trainee registration expires.
110

111 (d) Renewal.
112

113 (1) All applicants for renewal of a pharmacy technician registration shall:
114

115 (A) complete the Texas application for registration that includes the following information:
116

117 (i) name;
118

119 (ii) addresses, phone numbers, date of birth, and social security number;
120

121 (iii) meet all requirements necessary in order for the Board to access the criminal history
122 record information, including submitting fingerprint information and being responsible for all
123 associated costs; and
124

125 (iv) any other information requested on the application.
126

127 (B) pay the renewal fee specified in §297.4 of this title; and
128

129 (C) complete 20 contact hours of continuing education per renewal period as specified in
130 §297.8 of this title (relating to Continuing Education).
131

132 (2) A pharmacy technician registration expires on the last day of the assigned expiration
133 month.
134

135 (3) If the completed application and renewal fee are not received in the board's office on or
136 before the last day of the assigned expiration month, the person's pharmacy technician
137 registration shall expire. A person shall not practice as a pharmacy technician with an expired
138 registration.
139

140 (4) If a pharmacy technician registration has expired, the person may renew the registration by
141 paying to the board the renewal fee and a delinquent fee that is equal to the renewal fee as
142 specified in §297.4 of this title.
143

144 (5) If a pharmacy technician registration has expired for more than one year, the pharmacy
145 technician may not renew the registration and must complete the requirements for initial
146 registration as specified in subsection (c) of this section.
147

148 (6) After review, the board may determine that paragraph (5) of this subsection does not apply
149 if the registrant is the subject of a pending investigation or disciplinary action.

150
151 (e) An individual may use the title "Registered Pharmacy Technician" or "Ph.T.R." if the
152 individual is registered as a pharmacy technician in this state.

153
154 **§297.4 Fees**

155
156 (a) Pharmacy technician trainee. Prior to October 1, 2015, the fee for registration shall be \$55
157 for a two year registration for processing the application and issuance of the pharmacy
158 technician trainee registration as authorized by the Act, §568.005. Effective October 1, 2015,
159 the fee for registration shall be \$45 for a two year registration for processing the application and
160 issuance of the pharmacy technician trainee registration as authorized by the Act, §568.005. In
161 addition, the following fees shall be collected:

162
163 (1) \$2 surcharge to fund TexasOnline as authorized by Chapter 2054, Subchapter I,
164 Government Code; and

165
166 (2) \$5 surcharge to fund the Office of Patient Protection as authorized by Chapter 101,
167 Subchapter G, Occupations Code.

168
169 (b) Pharmacy technician.

170
171 (1) Biennial Registration. The board shall require biennial renewal of all pharmacy technician
172 registrations provided under Chapter 568 of the Act.

173
174 (2) Initial Registration Fee. Prior to October 1, 2015, the fee for initial registration shall be \$91
175 for a two year registration for processing the application and issuance of the pharmacy
176 technician registration as authorized by the Act, §568.005. Effective October 1, 2015, the fee for
177 registration shall be \$72 for a two year registration for processing the application and issuance
178 of the pharmacy technician registration as authorized by the Act, §568.005. In addition, the
179 following fees shall be collected:

180
181 (A) \$3 surcharge to fund TexasOnline as authorized by Chapter 2054, Subchapter I,
182 Government Code; and

183
184 (B) \$5 surcharge to fund the Office of Patient Protection as authorized by Chapter 101,
185 Subchapter G, Occupations Code.

186
187 (3) Renewal Fee. Prior to October 1, 2015, the fee for biennial renewal shall be \$91 for
188 processing the application and issuance of the pharmacy technician registration as authorized
189 by the Act, §568.005. Effective October 1, 2015, the fee for biennial renewal shall be \$72 for
190 processing the application and issuance of the pharmacy technician registration as authorized
191 by the Act, §568.005. In addition, the following fees shall be collected:

192
193 (A) \$3 surcharge to fund TexasOnline as authorized by Chapter 2054, Subchapter I,
194 Government Code; and

195
196 (B) \$2 surcharge to fund the Office of Patient Protection as authorized by Chapter 101,
197 Subchapter G, Occupations Code.

198
199 (c) Duplicate or Amended Certificates. The fee for issuance of a duplicate or amended
200 pharmacy technician trainee registration certificate or pharmacy technician registration renewal
201 certificate shall be \$20.

202
203 **§297.5 Pharmacy Technician Trainees**

204
205 (a) A person designated as a pharmacy technician trainee shall be registered with the board
206 prior to beginning training in a Texas licensed pharmacy.

207
208 (b) A person may be designated as a pharmacy technician trainee for no more than two years
209 and the requirements for registration as a pharmacy technician must be completed within the
210 two year period.

211
212 **§297.6 Pharmacy Technician and Pharmacy Technician Trainee Training**

213
214 (a) Pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees shall complete initial training as
215 outlined by the pharmacist-in-charge in a training manual. Such training:

216
217 (1) shall meet the requirements of subsections (d) or (e) of this section; and

218
219 (2) may not be transferred to another pharmacy unless:

220
221 (A) the pharmacies are under common ownership and control and have a common training
222 program; and

223
224 (B) the pharmacist-in-charge of each pharmacy in which the pharmacy technician or
225 pharmacy technician trainee works certifies that the pharmacy technician or pharmacy
226 technician trainee is competent to perform the duties assigned in that pharmacy.

227
228 (b) The pharmacist-in-charge shall assure the continuing competency of pharmacy technicians
229 and pharmacy technician trainees through in-service education and training to supplement initial
230 training.

231
232 (c) The pharmacist-in-charge shall document the completion of the training program and certify
233 the competency of pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees completing the
234 training. A written record of initial and in-service training of pharmacy technicians and pharmacy
235 technician trainees shall be maintained and contain the following information:

236
237 (1) name of the person receiving the training;

238
239 (2) date(s) of the training;

240
241 (3) general description of the topics covered;

242
243 (4) a statement that certifies that the pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician trainee is
244 competent to perform the duties assigned;

245
246 (5) name of the person supervising the training; and
247

248 (6) signature of the pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician trainee and the pharmacist-
249 in-charge or other pharmacist employed by the pharmacy and designated by the pharmacist-in-
250 charge as responsible for training of pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees.
251

252 (d) A person who has previously completed the training program outlined in subsection (e) of
253 this section, a licensed nurse, or physician assistant is not required to complete the entire
254 training program outlined in subsection (e) of this section if the person is able to show
255 competency through a documented assessment of competency. Such competency assessment
256 may be conducted by personnel designated by the pharmacist-in-charge, but the final
257 acceptance of competency must be approved by the pharmacist-in-charge.
258

259 (e) Pharmacy technician and pharmacy technician trainee training shall be outlined in a training
260 manual. Such training manual shall, at a minimum, contain the following:
261

262 (1) written procedures and guidelines for the use and supervision of pharmacy technicians and
263 pharmacy technician trainees. Such procedures and guidelines shall:
264

265 (A) specify the manner in which the pharmacist responsible for the supervision of pharmacy
266 technicians and pharmacy technician trainees will supervise such personnel and verify the
267 accuracy and completeness of all acts, tasks, and functions performed by such personnel; and
268

269 (B) specify duties which may and may not be performed by pharmacy technicians and
270 pharmacy technician trainees; and
271

272 (2) instruction in the following areas and any additional areas appropriate to the duties of
273 pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees in the pharmacy:
274

275 (A) Orientation;

276 (B) Job descriptions;

277 (C) Communication techniques;

278 (D) Laws and rules;

279 (E) Security and safety;

280 (F) Prescription drugs:

281 (i) Basic pharmaceutical nomenclature;

282 (ii) Dosage forms;

283 (G) Drug orders:

284 (i) Prescribers;

285 (ii) Directions for use;

286 (iii) Commonly-used abbreviations and symbols;

- 298
299 (iv) Number of dosage units;
300
301 (v) Strengths and systems of measurement;
302
303 (vi) Routes of administration;
304
305 (vii) Frequency of administration; and
306
307 (viii) Interpreting directions for use;
308
309 (H) Drug order preparation:
310
311 (i) Creating or updating patient medication records;
312
313 (ii) Entering drug order information into the computer or typing the label in a manual system;
314
315 (iii) Selecting the correct stock bottle;
316
317 (iv) Accurately counting or pouring the appropriate quantity of drug product;
318
319 (v) Selecting the proper container;
320
321 (vi) Affixing the prescription label;
322
323 (vii) Affixing auxiliary labels, if indicated; and
324
325 (viii) Preparing the finished product for inspection and final check by pharmacists;
326
327 (I) Other functions;
328
329 (J) Drug product prepackaging;
330
331 (K) Written policy and guidelines for use of and supervision of pharmacy technicians and
332 pharmacy technician trainees; and
333
334 (L) Confidential patient medication records.
335
336 (f) Pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees compounding non-sterile
337 pharmaceuticals shall meet the training and education requirements specified in the rules for the
338 class of pharmacy in which the pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician trainee is working.
339
340 (g) Pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees compounding sterile
341 pharmaceuticals shall meet the training and education requirements specified in the rules for
342 class of pharmacy in which the pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician trainee is working.
343
344 **§297.7 Exemption from Pharmacy Technician Certification Requirements**
345
346 (a) Purpose. The board encourages all pharmacy technician trainees to become certified by
347 taking and passing the National Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam or other examination

348 approved by the board. However, the board will consider petitions for exemption on a case by
349 case basis. This section outlines procedures to petition the board for an exemption to the
350 certification requirements established by §568.002 of the Act (relating to Pharmacy Technician
351 Registration Required).

352

353 (b) Long-term exempt pharmacy technicians. Long-term exempt pharmacy technicians are
354 pharmacy technicians who, on September 1, 2001, had been continuously employed as a
355 pharmacy technician in this state for at least 10 years and who received an exemption from the
356 board.

357

358 (c) Rural county exempt pharmacy technicians. Rural county exempt pharmacy technicians are
359 pharmacy technicians working in counties with a population of 50,000 or less and meet the
360 following requirements.

361

362 (1) Eligibility. An individual may petition the board for an exemption from the certification
363 requirements established by §568.002 of the Act (relating to Pharmacy Technician Registration
364 Required) if the individual works in a county with a population of 50,000 or less.

365

366 (2) Petition process.

367

368 (A) An individual shall petition the board for the exemption. The petition shall contain the
369 following:

370

371 (i) name of the individual;

372

373 (ii) name, address, and license number of the pharmacy where the individual is employed;

374

375 (iii) name of the county in which the pharmacy is located and the most recent official
376 population estimate for the county from the Texas State Data Center;

377

378 (iv) a notarized statement signed by the individual stating:

379

380 (I) the reason(s) the individual is asking for the exemption, including reason(s) the
381 individual has not taken and passed the National Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam or
382 other examination approved by the board; and

383

384 (II) that the information provided in the petition is true and correct; and

385

386 (v) a notarized statement signed by the pharmacist-in-charge of the pharmacy the individual
387 is currently working, stating that the:

388

389 (I) pharmacist-in-charge supports the individual's petition for exemption;

390

391 (II) individual has completed the pharmacy technician training program at the pharmacy;
392 and

393

394 (III) pharmacist-in-charge has personally worked with and observed that the individual is
395 competent to perform the duties of a pharmacy technician.

396

397 (B) Each petition shall be considered on an individual basis. In determining whether to grant
398 the exemption, the board shall consider the information contained in the petition and additional
399 information including the following:

- 400 (i) the accuracy and completeness of the petition;
- 401
- 402 (ii) reason(s) the individual is asking for the exemption;
- 403
- 404 (iii) the population of the county;
- 405
- 406 (iv) the number of pharmacies located in the county and adjacent counties and the number
407 of pharmacy technicians working in these pharmacies;
- 408
- 409 (v) unemployment rate in the county and adjacent counties; and
- 410
- 411 (vi) the following information concerning the pharmacy where the individual is currently
412 working:
- 413
- 414 (I) the degree of compliance on previous compliance inspections; and
- 415
- 416 (II) history of disciplinary action by the board or other regulatory agencies against the
417 licenses held by the pharmacy or pharmacists working at the pharmacy.
- 418
- 419

420 (C) After review of the petition, the individual and the pharmacist-in-charge of the pharmacy
421 where the individual is working shall be notified in writing of approval or denial of the petition.
422

423 (D) If the petition is approved, the individual shall register with the board as a pharmacy
424 technician.
425

426 (3) Limitations.

427

428 (A) The exemption granted under this section may only be used at the pharmacy noted in the
429 petition and may not be transferred to another pharmacy. If the pharmacy technician ceases
430 employment at the pharmacy or changes employment, the exemption is canceled.
431

432 (B) If the population of the county exceeds 50,000, the board shall cancel the exemption. The
433 pharmacy technician and the pharmacist-in-charge of the pharmacy shall be notified when an
434 exemption is canceled.
435

436 (C) If the exemption granted under subparagraphs (A) or (B) of this paragraph is cancelled,
437 the pharmacy technician's registration is void and the registration certificate must be
438 surrendered to the Board.
439

440 **§297.8 Continuing Education Requirements**

441

442 (a) Pharmacy Technician Trainees. Pharmacy technician trainees are not required to complete
443 continuing education.
444

445 (b) Pharmacy Technicians.
446

447 (1) All pharmacy technicians shall be exempt from the continuing education requirements
448 during their initial registration period.

449
450 (2) All pharmacy technicians must complete and report 20 contact hours of approved
451 continuing education obtained during the previous renewal period in pharmacy related subjects
452 in order to renew their registration as a pharmacy technician. No more than 5 of the 20 hours
453 may be earned at the pharmacy technician's workplace through in-service education and
454 training under the direct supervision of the pharmacist(s).

455
456 (3) A pharmacy technician may satisfy the continuing education requirements by:

457
458 (A) successfully completing the number of continuing education hours necessary to renew a
459 registration as specified in paragraph (2) of this subsection;

460
461 (B) successfully completing during the preceding license period, one credit hour for each year
462 of the renewal period, in pharmacy related college course(s); or

463
464 (C) taking and passing the Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam (PTCE) during the
465 preceding renewal period, which shall be equivalent to the number of continuing education
466 hours necessary to renew a registration as specified in paragraph (2) of this subsection.

467
468 (4) To renew a registration, a pharmacy technician must report on the renewal application
469 completion of at least twenty contact hours of continuing education. The following is applicable
470 to the reporting of continuing education contact hours.

471
472 (A) For renewals received after January 1, 2015, at least one contact hour of the 20 contact
473 hours specified in paragraph (2) of this subsection shall be related to Texas pharmacy laws or
474 rules.

475
476 (B) Any continuing education requirements which are imposed upon a pharmacy technician
477 as a part of a board order or agreed board order shall be in addition to the requirements of this
478 section.

479
480 (5) Pharmacy technicians are required to maintain records of completion of continuing
481 education for three years from the date of reporting the hours on a renewal application. The
482 records must contain at least the following information:

483
484 (A) name of participant;

485
486 (B) title and date of program;

487
488 (C) program sponsor or provider (the organization);

489
490 (D) number of hours awarded; and

491
492 (E) dated signature of sponsor representative.

493
494 (6) The board shall audit the records of pharmacy technicians for verification of reported
495 continuing education credit. The following is applicable for such audits.

496

497 (A) Upon written request, a pharmacy technician shall provide to the board copies of the
498 record required to be maintained in paragraph (5) of this subsection or certificates of completion
499 for all continuing education contact hours reported during a specified registration period. Failure
500 to provide all requested records by the specified deadline constitutes prima facie evidence of a
501 violation of this rule.

502
503 (B) Credit for continuing education contact hours shall only be allowed for programs for which
504 the pharmacy technician submits copies of records reflecting that the hours were completed
505 during the specified registration period(s). Any other reported hours shall be disallowed.

506
507 (C) A pharmacy technician who submits false or fraudulent records to the board shall be
508 subject to disciplinary action by the board.

509
510 (7) The following is applicable if a pharmacy technician fails to report completion of the
511 required continuing education.

512
513 (A) The registration of a pharmacy technician who fails to report completion of the required
514 number of continuing education contact hours shall not be renewed and the pharmacy
515 technician shall not be issued a renewal certificate for the license period until such time as the
516 pharmacy technician successfully completes the required continuing education and reports the
517 completion to the board.

518
519 (B) A person shall not practice as a pharmacy technician without a current renewal certificate.

520
521 (8) A pharmacy technician who has had a physical disability, illness, or other extenuating
522 circumstances which prohibits the pharmacy technician from obtaining continuing education
523 credit during the preceding license period may be granted an extension of time to complete the
524 continued education requirement. The following is applicable for this extension:

525
526 (A) The pharmacy technician shall submit a petition to the board with his/her registration
527 renewal application which contains:

528
529 (i) the name, address, and registration number of the pharmacy technician;

530
531 (ii) a statement of the reason for the request for extension;

532
533 (iii) if the reason for the request for extension is health related, a statement from the
534 attending physician(s) treating the pharmacy technician which includes the nature of the
535 physical disability or illness and the dates the pharmacy technician was incapacitated; and

536
537 (iv) if the reason for the request for the extension is for other extenuating circumstances, a
538 detailed explanation of the extenuating circumstances and if because of military deployment,
539 documentation of the dates of the deployment.

540
541 (B) After review and approval of the petition, a pharmacy technician may be granted an
542 extension of time to comply with the continuing education requirement which shall not exceed
543 one license renewal period.

544
545 (C) An extension of time to complete continuing education credit does not relieve a pharmacy
546 technician from the continuing education requirement during the current license period.

547
548 (D) If a petition for extension to the reporting period for continuing education is denied, the
549 pharmacy technician shall:
550
551 (i) have 60 days to complete and report completion of the required continuing education
552 requirements; and
553
554 (ii) be subject to the requirements of paragraph (6) of this subsection relating to failure to
555 report completion of the required continuing education if the required continuing education is not
556 completed and reported within the required 60-day time period.
557
558 (9) The following are considered approved programs for pharmacy technicians.
559
560 (A) Any program presented by an Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)
561 approved provider subject to the following conditions.
562
563 (i) Pharmacy technicians may receive credit for the completion of the same ACPE course
564 only once during a renewal period.
565
566 (ii) Pharmacy technicians who present approved ACPE continuing education programs may
567 receive credit for the time expended during the actual presentation of the program. Pharmacy
568 technicians may receive credit for the same presentation only once during a license period.
569
570 (iii) Proof of completion of an ACPE course shall contain the following information:
571
572 (I) name of the participant;
573
574 (II) title and completion date of the program;
575
576 (III) name of the approved provider sponsoring or cosponsoring the program;
577
578 (IV) number of contact hours awarded;
579
580 (V) the assigned ACPE universal program number and a "T" designation indicating that the
581 CE is targeted to pharmacy technicians; and
582
583 (VI) either:
584
585 (-a-) a dated certifying signature of the approved provider and the official ACPE logo; or
586
587 (-b-) the Continuing Pharmacy Education Monitor logo.
588
589 (B) Pharmacy related college courses which are part of a pharmacy technician training
590 program or part of a professional degree program offered by a college of pharmacy.
591
592 (i) Pharmacy technicians may receive credit for the completion of the same course only
593 once during a license period. A course is equivalent to one credit hour for each year of the
594 renewal period. One credit hour is equal to 15 contact hours.
595

596 (ii) Pharmacy technicians who teach these courses may receive credit towards their
597 continuing education, but such credit may be received only once for teaching the same course
598 during a license period.
599

600 (C) Basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) courses which lead to CPR certification by the
601 American Red Cross or the American Heart Association or its equivalent shall be recognized as
602 approved programs. Pharmacy technicians may receive credit for one contact hour towards
603 their continuing education requirement for completion of a CPR course only once during a
604 renewal period. Proof of completion of a CPR course shall be the certificate issued by the
605 American Red Cross or the American Heart Association or its equivalent.
606

607 (D) Advanced cardiovascular life support courses (ACLS) or pediatric advanced life support
608 (PALS) courses which lead to initial ACLS or PALS certification by the American Heart
609 Association or its equivalent shall be recognized as approved programs. Pharmacy technicians
610 may receive credit for twelve contact hours towards their continuing education requirement for
611 completion of an ACLS or PALS course only once during a renewal period. Proof of completion
612 of an ACLS or PALS course shall be the certificate issued by the American Heart Association or
613 its equivalent.
614

615 (E) Advanced cardiovascular life support courses (ACLS) or pediatric advanced life support
616 (PALS) courses which lead to ACLS or PALS recertification by the American Heart Association
617 or its equivalent shall be recognized as approved programs. Pharmacy may receive credit for
618 four contact hours towards their continuing education requirement for completion of an ACLS or
619 PALS recertification course only once during a renewal period. Proof of completion of an ACLS
620 or PALS recertification course shall be the certificate issued by the American Heart Association
621 or its equivalent.
622

623 (F) Attendance at Texas State Board of Pharmacy Board Meetings shall be recognized for
624 continuing education credit as follows.
625

626 (i) Pharmacy technicians shall receive credit for three contact hours towards their continuing
627 education requirement for attending a full, public board business meeting in its entirety.
628

629 (ii) A maximum of six contact hours are allowed for attendance at a board meeting during a
630 renewal period.
631

632 (iii) Proof of attendance for a complete board meeting shall be a certificate issued by the
633 Texas State Board of Pharmacy.
634

635 (G) Participation in a Texas State Board of Pharmacy appointed Task Force shall be
636 recognized for continuing education credit as follows.
637

638 (i) Pharmacy technicians shall receive credit for three contact hours towards their continuing
639 education requirement for participating in a Texas State Board of Pharmacy appointed Task
640 Force.
641

642 (ii) Proof of participation for a Task Force shall be a certificate issued by the Texas State
643 Board of Pharmacy.
644

645 (H) Attendance at programs presented by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy or courses
646 offered by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy as follows:

647
648 (i) Pharmacy technicians shall receive credit for the number of hours for the program or
649 course as stated by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy.

650
651 (ii) Proof of attendance at a program presented by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy or
652 completion of a course offered by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy shall be a certificate
653 issued by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy.

654
655 (I) Pharmacy technicians shall receive credit toward their continuing education requirements
656 for programs or courses approved by other state boards of pharmacy as follows:

657
658 (i) Pharmacy technicians shall receive credit for the number of hours for the program or
659 course as specified by the other state board of pharmacy.

660
661 (ii) Proof of attendance at a program or course approved by another state board of
662 pharmacy shall be a certificate or other documentation that indicates:

663
664 (I) name of the participant;

665
666 (II) title and completion date of the program;

667
668 (III) name of the approved provider sponsoring or cosponsoring the program;

669
670 (IV) number of contact hours awarded;

671
672 (V) a dated certifying signature of the provider; and

673
674 (VI) documentation that the program is approved by the other state board of pharmacy.

675
676 (J) Completion of an Institute for Safe Medication Practices' (ISMP) Medication Safety Self-
677 Assessment for hospital pharmacies or for community/ambulatory pharmacies shall be
678 recognized for continuing education credit as follows.

679
680 (i) Pharmacy technicians shall receive credit for three contact hours towards their continuing
681 education requirement for completion of an ISMP Medication Safety Self-Assessment.

682
683 (ii) Proof of completion of an ISMP Medication Safety Self-Assessment shall be:

684
685 (I) a continuing education certificate provided by an ACPE approved provider for
686 completion of an assessment; or

687
688 (II) a document from ISMP showing completion of an assessment.

689
690 (K) Programs approved by the American Medical Association (AMA) as Category 1
691 Continuing Medical Education (CME) and accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing
692 Medical Education subject to the following conditions.

693

694 (i) Pharmacy technicians may receive credit for the completion of the same CME course
695 only once during a license period.

696
697 (ii) Pharmacy technicians who present approved CME programs may receive credit for the
698 time expended during the actual presentation of the program. Pharmacy technicians may
699 receive credit for the same presentation only once during a license period.

700
701 (iii) Proof of completion of a CME course shall contain the following information:

702
703 (I) name of the participant;

704
705 (II) title and completion date of the program;

706
707 (III) name of the approved provider sponsoring or cosponsoring the program;

708
709 (IV) number of contact hours awarded; and

710
711 (V) a dated certifying signature of the approved provider.

712
713 (L) In-service education provided under the direct supervision of a pharmacist shall be
714 recognized as continuing education as follows:

715
716 (i) Pharmacy technicians shall receive credit for the number of hours provided by
717 pharmacist(s) at the pharmacy technician's place of employment.

718
719 (ii) Proof of completion of in-service education shall contain the following information:

720
721 (I) name of the participant;

722
723 (II) title or description of the program;

724
725 (III) completion date of the program;

726
727 (IV) name of the pharmacist supervising the in-service education;

728
729 (V) number of hours; and

730
731 (VI) a dated signature of the pharmacist providing the in-service education.

732
733 (10) Pharmacy technicians who are certified by the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board
734 and maintain this certification shall be considered as having met the continuing education
735 requirements of this section and shall not be subject to audit by the board provided one hour of
736 continuing education is related to Texas pharmacy law or rules.

737
738 **§297.9 Notifications**

739
740 (a) Change of Address and/or Name.

741

742 (1) Change of address. A pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician trainee shall notify the
743 board electronically or in writing within 10 days of a change of address, giving the old and new
744 address and registration number.

745
746 (2) Change of name.

747
748 (A) A pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician trainee shall notify the board in writing
749 within 10 days of a change of name by:

750
751 (i) sending a copy of the official document reflecting the name change (e.g., marriage
752 certificate, divorce decree, etc.); and

753
754 (ii) paying a fee of \$20.

755
756 (B) An amended registration and/or certificate reflecting the new name of the pharmacy
757 technician or pharmacy technician trainee will be issued by the board.

758
759 (b) Change of Employment. A pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician trainee shall report
760 electronically or in writing to the board within 10 days of a change of employment giving the
761 name and license number of the old and new pharmacy and registration number.

762
763 **§297.10 Registration for Military Service Members, Military Veterans, and Military**
764 **Spouses**

765
766 (a) Definitions. The following words and terms, when used in this section, shall have the
767 following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

768
769 (1) Active duty--Current full-time military service in the armed forces of the United States or
770 active duty military service as a member of the Texas military forces, or similar military service
771 of another state.

772
773 (2) Armed forces of the United States--The army, navy, air force, coast guard, or marine corps
774 of the United States or a reserve unit of one of those branches of the armed forces.

775
776 (3) Military service member--A person who is on active duty.

777
778 (4) Military spouse--A person who is married to a military service member.

779
780 (5) Military veteran--A person who has served on active duty and who was discharged or
781 released from active duty.

782
783 (b) Alternative registration procedure. For the purpose of §55.004, Occupations Code, an
784 applicant for a pharmacy technician registration who is a military service member, military
785 veteran, or military spouse may complete the following alternative procedures for registering as
786 a pharmacy technician.

787
788 (1) An applicant who holds a current registration as a pharmacy technician issued by another
789 state but does not have a current PTCB certificate shall meet the requirements for registration
790 as a pharmacy technician trainee as specified in §297.3 of this chapter (relating to Registration
791 Requirements).

792
793 (2) An applicant who held a pharmacy technician registration in Texas that expired within the
794 five years preceding the application date who meets the following requirements may be granted
795 a pharmacy technician registration. The applicant:

796
797 (A) shall complete the Texas application for registration that includes the following:

798
799 (i) name;

800
801 (ii) addresses, phone numbers, date of birth, and social security number; and

802
803 (iii) any other information requested on the application;

804
805 (B) shall provide documentation to include:

806
807 (i) military identification indicating that the applicant is a military service member, military
808 veteran, or military dependent, if a military spouse; and

809
810 (ii) marriage certificate, if the applicant is a military spouse; applicant's spouse is on active
811 duty status;

812
813 (C) be exempt from the application fees paid to the board set forth in §297.4(a) and (b)(2) of
814 this chapter;

815
816 (D) shall meet all necessary requirements in order for the board to access the criminal history
817 records information, including submitting fingerprint information and such criminal history check
818 does not reveal any charge or conviction for a crime that §281.64 of this title (relating to
819 Sanctions for Criminal Offenses) indicates a sanction of denial, revocation, or suspension; and

820
821 (E) is not required to have a current PTCB certificate.

822
823 (c) Expedited registration procedure. For the purpose of §55.005, Occupations Code, an
824 applicant for a pharmacy technician registration who is a military service member, military
825 veteran or military spouse and who holds a current registration as a pharmacy technician issued
826 by another state or who held a pharmacy technician registration in Texas that expired within the
827 five years preceding the application date may complete the following expedited procedures for
828 registering as a pharmacy technician.

829
830 (1) The applicant shall:

831
832 (A) have a high school or equivalent diploma (e.g., GED), or be working to achieve a high
833 school or equivalent diploma. For the purpose of this clause, an applicant for registration may
834 be working to achieve a high school or equivalent diploma for no more than two years; and

835
836 (B) have taken and passed the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board's National Pharmacy
837 Technician Certification Examination or other examination approved by the board and have a
838 current certification certificate; and

839
840 (C) complete the Texas application for registration that includes the following information:

841

842 (i) name;
843
844 (ii) addresses, phone numbers, date of birth, and social security number; and
845
846 (iii) any other information requested on the application.
847
848 (D) meet all requirements necessary in order for the Board to access the criminal history
849 record information, including submitting fingerprint information and paying the required fees;
850
851 (E) shall be exempt from the registration fee as specified in §297.4(b)(2) of this chapter
852 (relating to Fees).
853
854 (2) Once an applicant has successfully completed all requirements of registration, and the
855 board has determined there are no grounds to refuse registration, the applicant will be notified
856 of registration as a registered pharmacy technician and of his or her pharmacy technician
857 registration number.
858
859 (3) All applicants for renewal of an expedited pharmacy technician registration issued to a
860 military service member, military veteran, or military spouse shall comply with the renewal
861 procedures as specified in §297.3 of this chapter (relating to Registration Requirements).
862
863 (d) License renewal. As specified in §55.003, Occupations Code, a military service member who
864 holds a pharmacy technician registration is entitled to two years of additional time to complete
865 any requirements related to the renewal of the military service member's registration as follows:
866
867 (1) A military service member who fails to renew their pharmacy technician registration in a
868 timely manner because the individual was serving as a military service member shall submit to
869 the board:
870
871 (A) name, address, and registration number of the pharmacy technician;
872
873 (B) military identification indicating that the individual is a military service member; and
874
875 (C) a statement requesting up to two years of additional time to complete the renewal.
876
877 (2) A military service member specified in paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be exempt
878 from fees specified in §297.3(d)(4) of this chapter (relating to Registration Requirements).
879
880 (3) A military service member specified in paragraph (1) of this subsection is entitled to two
881 additional years of time to complete the continuing education requirements specified in §297.8
882 of this title (relating to Continuing Education Requirements).
883
884 **§297.11 Temporary Emergency Registration**
885
886 (a) Definitions. The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the
887 following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.
888
889 (1) Emergency situation--An emergency caused by a natural or manmade disaster or any other
890 exceptional situation that causes an extraordinary demand for pharmacist services.
891

892 (2) State--One of the 50 United States of America, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.
893

894 (b) Emergency Temporary Pharmacy Technician Registration. In an emergency situation, the
895 board may grant a pharmacy technician who holds a current registration in another state an
896 emergency temporary pharmacy technician registration to practice in Texas. The following is
897 applicable for the emergency temporary pharmacy technician registration.
898

899 (1) An applicant for an emergency temporary pharmacy technician registration under this
900 section must hold a current pharmacy technician registration in another state and that
901 registration and other registrations held by the applicant in any other state may not be
902 suspended, revoked, canceled, surrendered, or otherwise restricted for any reason.
903

904 (2) To qualify for an emergency temporary pharmacy technician registration, the applicant
905 must submit an application including the following information:
906

907 (A) name, address, and phone number of the applicant; and
908

909 (B) any other information the required by the board.
910

911 (3) An emergency temporary pharmacy technician registration shall be valid for a period as
912 determined by the board not to exceed six months. The executive director of the board, in
913 his/her discretion, may renew the registration for an additional six months, if the emergency
914 situation still exists.
915

916 (c) Exception. This section is not applicable to pharmacy technicians enrolled in a volunteer
917 health registry maintained by the Texas Department of State Health Services.