

**APPROVED REGULATION OF
THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

LCB File No. R009-19

Filed December 29, 2020

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [~~omitted material~~] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §1, NRS 622.530, 630.130 and 630.279; §2, NRS 630.130 and 630.279.

A REGULATION relating to licensure by endorsement; prescribing the requirements for licensure by endorsement as a practitioner of respiratory care; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires certain regulatory bodies to adopt regulations providing for the issuance of a license by endorsement to engage in an occupation or profession in this State to any natural person who: (1) holds a corresponding valid and unrestricted license to engage in that occupation or profession in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States; (2) possesses qualifications that are substantially similar to the qualifications required for issuance of a license to engage in that occupation or profession in this State; and (3) meets certain other requirements. (NRS 622.530) Under existing law, the Board of Medical Examiners has the authority to adopt regulations governing the licensure of practitioners of respiratory care. (NRS 630.279)

Section 1 of this regulation establishes standards for the licensure by endorsement of a person as a practitioner of respiratory care. **Section 1** also establishes a timeline for the Board to request additional information related to the application, approve an application and issue a license by endorsement, and establishes grounds for the Board to deny an application for licensure by endorsement. **Section 2** of this regulation makes a conforming change.

Section 1. Chapter 630 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. An application for licensure by endorsement as a practitioner of respiratory care must be made on a form supplied by the Board. The application must include:

(a) The date of birth and the birthplace of the applicant, his or her sex and the various places of his or her residence after reaching 18 years of age;

(b) The education of the applicant, including, without limitation, all high schools, postsecondary institutions and professional institutions attended, the length of time in attendance at each high school or institution and whether he or she is a graduate of those schools and institutions;

(c) Whether the applicant has ever applied for a license or certificate as a practitioner of respiratory care in the District of Columbia or in another state or territory of the United States and, if so, when and where and the results of his or her application;

(d) The professional training and experience of the applicant;

(e) Whether the applicant has been disciplined by the corresponding regulatory authority of the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States in which the applicant currently holds or has held a license to engage in the practice of respiratory care;

(f) Whether the applicant has been held civilly or criminally liable in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States for misconduct relating to his or her license to engage in the practice of respiratory care;

(g) Whether the applicant has had a license to engage in the practice of respiratory care suspended or revoked in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States;

(h) Whether the applicant has pending any disciplinary action concerning his or her license to engage in the practice of respiratory care in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States;

(i) Whether the applicant has ever been convicted of a felony or an offense involving moral turpitude;

(j) Whether the applicant has ever been investigated for, charged with or convicted of the use, illegal sale or distribution of controlled substances; and

(k) A public address where the applicant may be contacted by the Board.

2. An applicant must submit to the Board:

(a) Proof that he or she holds a corresponding valid and unrestricted license to engage in the practice of respiratory care in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States;

(b) Proof that he or she has engaged in the practice of respiratory care for a period of at least 12 months immediately preceding the date on which the application is submitted;

(c) Proof of completion of an educational program as a practitioner of respiratory care that is approved by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs or its successor organization or the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care or its successor organization, or another educational program as approved by the Board;

(d) Proof of passage of the examinations required by NRS 630.277 and NAC 630.500 and 630.515;

(e) Such further evidence and other documents or proof of qualifications as required by the Board;

(f) The statement prescribed by the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services of the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to NRS 425.520;

(g) An affidavit stating that the information contained in the application and any accompanying material is true and complete; and

(h) A complete set of his or her fingerprints and written permission authorizing the Board to forward the fingerprints to the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for its report or proof that the applicant has previously passed a comparable criminal background check.

3. Each application must be signed by the applicant and sworn to before a notary public or other officer authorized to administer oaths.

4. The application must be accompanied by the applicable fees for the application for licensure and biennial registration.

5. An applicant shall pay the reasonable costs of any examination required for licensure.

6. Not later than 21 business days after receiving an application for a license by endorsement pursuant to this section, the Board will provide written notice to the applicant of any additional information required by the Board to consider the application. Unless the Board denies the application for good cause, the Board will approve the application and issue a license by endorsement to engage in the practice of respiratory care to the applicant not later than:

(a) Sixty days after receiving the application; or

(b) Fifteen days after the Board receives the report from the Federal Bureau of Investigation or proof that the applicant has previously passed a comparable criminal background check, as required by paragraph (h) of subsection 2 of this section, whichever occurs later.

7. A license by endorsement to engage in the practice of respiratory care in this State issued pursuant to this section may be issued at a meeting of the Board or between its meetings by the presiding member of the Board and the executive director of the Board. Such an action shall be deemed to be an action of the Board.

8. In addition to the grounds set forth in NAC 630.510 and 630.540, the Board may deny an application for licensure by endorsement pursuant to this section if:

(a) An applicant willfully fails to comply with the provisions of paragraph (h) of subsection 2 of this section; or

(b) The report from the Federal Bureau of Investigation indicates that the applicant has been convicted of a crime that would be grounds for taking disciplinary action against the applicant as a licensee and the Board has not previously taken disciplinary action against the licensee based on that conviction.

Sec. 2. NAC 630.540 is hereby amended to read as follows:

630.540 A practitioner of respiratory care is subject to discipline or denial of licensure by the Board if, after notice and hearing in accordance with this chapter, the Board finds that the practitioner of respiratory care:

1. Willfully and intentionally made a false or fraudulent statement or submitted a forged or false document in applying for a license or renewing a license.

2. Performed respiratory care services other than as permitted by law.
3. Committed malpractice in the performance of respiratory care services, which may be evidenced by claims settled against a practitioner of respiratory care.
4. Disobeyed any order of the Board or an investigative committee of the Board or violated a provision of this chapter.
5. Is not competent to provide respiratory care services.
6. Lost his or her certification by the National Board for Respiratory Care or its successor organization.
7. Failed to notify the Board of loss of certification by the National Board for Respiratory Care or its successor organization.
8. Falsified records of health care.
9. Rendered respiratory care to a patient while under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance or in any impaired mental or physical condition.
10. Practiced respiratory care after his or her license has expired or been suspended.
11. Has been convicted of a felony, any offense involving moral turpitude or any offense relating to the practice of respiratory care or the ability to practice respiratory care.
12. Has had a license to practice respiratory care revoked, suspended, modified or limited by any other jurisdiction or has surrendered such license or discontinued the practice of respiratory care while under investigation by any licensing authority, a medical facility, a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, an insurance company, an agency of the Federal Government or any employer.

13. Engaged in any sexual activity with a patient who is currently being treated by the practitioner of respiratory care.
14. Engaged in disruptive behavior with physicians, hospital personnel, patients, members of the family of a patient or any other person if the behavior interferes with patient care or has an adverse impact on the quality of care rendered to a patient.
15. Engaged in conduct that violates the trust of a patient and exploits the relationship between the practitioner of respiratory care and the patient for financial or other personal gain.
16. Engaged in conduct which brings the respiratory care profession into disrepute, including, without limitation, conduct which violates any provision of a national code of ethics adopted by the Board by regulation.
17. Engaged in sexual contact with a surrogate of a patient or other key person related to a patient, including, without limitation, a spouse, parent or legal guardian, that exploits the relationship between the practitioner of respiratory care and the patient in a sexual manner.
18. Made or filed a report that the practitioner of respiratory care knows to be false, failed to file a record or report as required by law or willfully obstructed or induced another to obstruct such filing.
19. Altered the medical records of a patient.
20. Failed to report any person that the practitioner of respiratory care knows, or has reason to know, is in violation of the provisions of chapter 630 of NRS or NAC 630.500 to 630.560, inclusive, *and section 1 of this regulation* relating to the practice of respiratory care.
21. Has been convicted of a violation of any federal or state law regulating the prescription, possession, distribution or use of a controlled substance.

22. Held himself or herself out or permitted another to represent him or her as a licensed physician.

23. Violated any provision that would subject a practitioner of medicine to discipline pursuant to NRS 630.301 to 630.3065, inclusive, or NAC 630.230.