

New Jersey. Department of Environmental Protection. Division of Environmental Quality. Bureau of Radiation Protection.

Proposed rules and regulations of the Commission on Radiation Protection.

1971

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of the Commission on Radiation Protection,

X-ray Technician Board of Examiners

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The following Rules and Regulations promulgated by the
Radiation Protection Commission under authority of Chapter 291 -
Laws of 1968 (N.J.S.A. 45:25-5) effective July 1, 1971.

Chapter 1 - General Requirements

Section 1 - Purpose and Responsibility

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of these Rules and Regulations is to prohibit
and/or prevent harmful effects of excessive and improper exposure
to ionizing radiation as set forth in N.J.S.A. 45:25-1 (et. seq.).

1.2 Responsibility

Any person owning, using or handling sources of x-ray radiation,
directly or indirectly, shall be responsible for compliance with
provisions of these Rules and Regulations.

Section 2 - Definitions

2.1 The following terms are used in these Rules and Regulations
shall mean and include:

(a) Section 2, "Definitions", cited in Radiation Protection
Code that are applicable to these Rules and Regulations.

(b) Course of study in X-ray technology, course of study in
Chest X-ray technology, course of study in Radiation Therapy
technology, or course of study in Dental X-ray technology shall
mean such courses cited in 45:25-6 or by these Rules and Regulations.

(c) "Student" shall mean any person who is enrolled for any
course coming under Title 45:25-1 (et. seq.) or these Rules and
Regulations.

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(d) "X-ray technology" shall mean the use of x rays or x-ray producing equipment on human beings for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes under the supervision of a licensed practitioner.

(e) "X-ray Technician" shall mean a person, other than a licensed practitioner, who uses x rays on human beings and whose application of radiation on human beings is not limited.

(f) "X-ray Therapy Technician" shall mean a person, other than a licensed practitioner, who uses x rays on human beings as an x-ray technician and whose application of radiation on human beings is limited to therapeutic purposes.

(g) "Chest X-ray Technician" shall mean a person, other than a licensed practitioner, who practices x-ray technology and whose application of x rays on human beings is limited to the Thoracic area for routine diagnostic purposes. For the purposes of this definition "routine" shall mean PA, AP, Oblique and Lateral views of the chest and shall exclude Bronchograms, Angiograms, Cardiac Catheterization procedures, Tomography and the like.

(h) "Dental X-ray Technician" shall mean a person, other than a licensed practitioner, who practices x-ray technology and whose application of x rays on human beings is limited to intra-oral radiography for diagnostic purposes.

(i) "Direct supervision" for the purposes of these Rules and Regulations means persons qualified by Section 3.1 shall be in the department or any other area where x-ray examinations or X-ray Therapy are being provided.

2.2 Unethical conduct shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) engaging in the practice of x-ray technology while in an intoxicated condition or under the influence of narcotic or any drugs which impair consciousness, judgment or behavior.

(b) immoral conduct while engaged in the practice of x-ray technology or immoral behavior indicating an unfitness to practice x-ray technology.

(c) willful falsification of records, or destruction or theft of property or records relating to the practice of x-ray technology.

(d) failure to exercise due regard for the safety of life or health of the patient.

(e) unauthorized disclosure of information relating to a patient or his records.

(f) discrimination in the practice of x-ray technology against any person on account of race, religion, creed, color or national origin.

Section 3 - Use of X ray by Students

3.1 Students enrolled in and attending a school or college of medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, podiatry, chiropractic, x-ray technology or courses sponsored by those named and approved by the New Jersey X-ray Technician Board of Examiners may apply radiation to a human being, while under the direct supervision of a licensed physician, osteopath, dentist, podiatrist, chiropractor, or certified x-ray technician, provided the school or college has been approved by the Board as maintaining a satisfactory standard.

3.2 Students may apply radiation to a human being, for necessary diagnostic purposes only, and only at the clinical facilities of such school or college for the purpose of clinical experience in the use of x-ray equipment. They shall not be assigned to excessive night or weekend experience, nor otherwise be required to apply radiation, except under adequate supervision and then only when

they derive sufficient educational benefit from such service.

Students assigned to night or weekend experience shall be under direct supervision as stated in 3.1 above and shall be given compensatory time off not in conflict with scheduled class sessions.

3.3 Students enrolled in an approved school of x-ray technology in New Jersey shall not be required to be in attendance at the school for more than 40 hours per week. This shall mean that any combination of classroom work and/or clinical experience shall total not more than 40 hours per week.

Section 4 - Practice of X-ray Technology and X-ray Therapy Technology

4.1 The practice of x-ray technology shall include, but not be limited to, measuring and positioning patients, selecting and setting up exposure factors on x-ray equipment and making x-ray exposures. It shall not be only the developing of x-ray film, preparing developing solutions, assisting patients into proper attire or onto the x-ray table or similar duties usually performed by a darkroom technician, attendant or aide.

4.2 The practice of x-ray therapy technology shall include setting up the treatment position, delivering the required daily dose prescribed by the physician, certifying the record of the technical details of the treatment, selecting the required filter and treatment distance, making beam directional shells and moulds, using diagnostic x-ray equipment for tumor localization, assisting the physicist in calibration procedure, and assisting in treatment planning procedures. It shall not include taking x-ray films for diagnostic purposes. X-ray Therapy shall be defined to include Cobalt Teletherapy and all other forms of Gamma, Beta or X-ray Teletherapy, as well as X-ray Therapy.

Section 5 - Supervision by a Licensed Practitioner

5.1 Supervision of a certified x-ray technician by a licensed practitioner shall require that such licensed practitioner, acting within the limits specified in the laws under which the practitioner is licensed, shall determine that an x-ray exposure of a patient should be made and the part or parts of that patient's body which should be exposed, before a certified x-ray technician may apply x rays to a human being. Such supervision shall also require that only a licensed practitioner shall receive exposed and processed x-ray film for the purpose of diagnostic interpretation. Supervision by a licensed practitioner shall not require that a licensed practitioner oversee the certified x-ray technician in the scheduling of radiographic examinations, in the measuring and positioning of patients, in the operation of x-ray equipment, or in the production and processing of radiographs.

5.2 Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to students whose use of x rays is governed under a previous section of this part.

Section 6 - Students

6.1 Candidates for admission shall satisfy the following minimum requirements:

- (a) be at least 16 years of age; and
- (b) be of good moral character; and
- (c) have successfully completed a four-year course of study in a secondary school approved by the State Board of Education or passed an approved equivalency test.

6.2 All candidates for admission shall be required to submit a formal application. Candidates' high school and other credentials

shall be obtained prior to selection. For accepted students these shall be kept on file at the sponsoring institution.

6.3 A sponsoring institution shall report in writing to the department the name and address of each new student enrolled within 30 days and each student who has successfully completed the course of study within 30 days.

6.4 A sponsoring institution shall so limit the number of students enrolled that the ratio of students to full-time certified x-ray technicians, certified x-ray therapy technicians, or certified chest x-ray technicians engaged in clinical instruction, to diagnostic or therapeutic units and to workload at the clinical facilities shall be suitable.

6.5 All students shall be provided with a personal radiation monitoring service, such as dosimeter or badge, during their period of attendance. Student exposure to radiation shall be within the occupational limits prescribed by Section 7 of the New Jersey Radiation Protection Code. Students shall routinely be informed of their most recent exposure readings and an attempt shall be made to find the cause and prevent recurrence of exposure which is deemed to be unnecessary. Students shall not be permitted to be in the primary beam to hold patients during exposure, remain unnecessarily or unprotected in the x-ray room outside the control booth during exposure, or engage in any other practices likely to result in a continuous and/or excessive exposure to radiation.

6.6 A sponsoring institution shall issue to each student who satisfactorily completes the course of study a formal certificate.

6.7 A sponsoring institution shall issue to each candidate prior to admission a course catalog, bulletin, or other written statement which shall be dated, describe the curriculum as a whole and the

detailed course offered, list the faculty members with information regarding their qualifications, and inform each candidate of the amount and terms for payment of any tuition or other fees or expenses to be incurred. The policies relating to refund of fees, hours of attendance, vacation, holidays, absence, probation, uniforms, laundry, meals, stipends, rooms, transportation, and all requirements for satisfactory completion of the course of study shall be set forth clearly.

6.8 All students shall have on them at all times while undergoing classroom or clinical training readily identifiable uniform marking or coloration or identification name plates indicative that they are students and not certified x-ray technicians. Inasmuch as schools differ, a variety of identification of students as same will be allowed, provided, however, that each school adopt and use a standard method of student identification approved by the Board of Examiners and registered at the time of application for school approval.

Section 7 - Curriculum and Instruction

7.1 The content of the curriculum shall provide for the acquisition of such knowledge, skills, and attitudes as are required to qualify in the licensing examination and to assure competency for employment as an X-ray Technician, Chest X-ray Technician, or Dental X-ray Technician and Therapy X-ray Technician.

7.2 The department shall issue and make available to all interested persons sets of "Curriculum Standards" for courses of study in X-ray Technology, X-ray Therapy Technology, Dental X-ray Technology, and Chest X-ray Technology, to be used as guides in registration. The "Curriculum Standards" shall include:

(a) the minimum number of theory clock-hours of classroom work which shall be devoted to each of the subjects required;

(b) a description of major subject divisions, with recommended clock-hours of classroom work for each; and

(c) a listing of elective subjects which may be made available to students.

7.3 The sponsoring institution shall prepare in satisfactory written form and make use of a detailed curriculum, a course outline for each required subject, and adequate lesson plans for classroom instruction. These materials shall be on file at the sponsoring institution and shall be accessible to any authorized officer, employee or representative of the department.

7.4 The sponsoring institution shall schedule classroom sessions in advance and give students sufficient notice thereof.