

**APPROVED REGULATION OF THE
STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY**

LCB File No. R198-22

Filed August 22, 2023

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

AUTHORITY: §§ 1 and 2, NRS 454.213, 639.070 and 639.137.

A REGULATION relating to pharmacy; revising the required qualifications of a pharmacist or intern pharmacist who administers immunizations; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law authorizes the State Board of Pharmacy to adopt regulations necessary for the protection of the public and the practice of pharmacy. (NRS 639.070) Existing regulations authorize a pharmacist or intern pharmacist who possesses certain training to administer certain immunizations pursuant to a written protocol issued by a physician. Existing regulations require a pharmacist or intern pharmacist who administers immunizations to be certified in life-saving techniques by the American Heart Association or its equivalent. (NAC 639.2973, 639.2974) **Sections 1 and 2** of this regulation additionally authorize a pharmacist or intern pharmacist to obtain such certification from the American Red Cross. **Sections 1 and 2** also require any such certification by an equivalent organization to be approved by the Board.

Section 1. NAC 639.2973 is hereby amended to read as follows:

639.2973 1. Before a pharmacist may administer an immunization pursuant to a written protocol or before an intern pharmacist acting under the direct and immediate supervision of a pharmacist may administer such immunizations, the pharmacist or intern pharmacist must be trained and certified to administer immunizations by completing a course approved by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education or its successor organization that includes:

- (a) Certification in life-saving techniques pursuant to the American Heart Association's Basic ~~Cardiac~~ Life Support for Health Care Providers, *the American Red Cross's Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers* or ~~fits~~ an equivalent ~~is~~ *program approved by the Board*;
- (b) Education and practical training, including, without limitation, written study materials regarding techniques for administering immunizations;
- (c) Evaluation of the knowledge and technique of the pharmacist or intern pharmacist in administering immunizations;
- (d) Instruction consistent with the current training guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and
- (e) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a minimum of 20 hours of instruction and practical training concerning:
- (1) The standards for pediatric, adolescent and adult immunization practices recommended and approved by the United States Public Health Service Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices;
 - (2) Basic immunology, and vaccine and immunization protection;
 - (3) Diseases that are preventable through vaccination and immunization;
 - (4) Recommended immunization schedules;
 - (5) Vaccine and immunization storage and management;
 - (6) Informed consent;
 - (7) Physiology and techniques for administration of immunizations;
 - (8) Preimmunization and postimmunization assessment and counseling;
 - (9) Immunization reporting and records management; and
 - (10) Identification, response, documentation and reporting of adverse events.

2. In lieu of complying with the requirements of paragraph (e) of subsection 1, a pharmacist or an intern pharmacist who administers immunizations consisting exclusively of live attenuated influenza vaccine through the nasal passages of a person may complete a program of less than 20 hours of instruction which is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education or its successor organization and includes instruction relating to:

- (a) The epidemiology of influenza;
- (b) The pathophysiology, clinical presentation, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of influenza;
- (c) The administration, storage and handling of influenza vaccines; and
- (d) The counseling of patients who will be immunized with the vaccine.

3. Before a pharmaceutical technician acting under the direct and immediate supervision of a pharmacist may administer an immunization pursuant to a written protocol, the pharmaceutical technician must complete at least 1 hour of training relating to vaccines, immunization and the administration of immunizations provided by:

- (a) Immunize Nevada or its successor organization;
- (b) An entity approved by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education or its successor organization;
- (c) The owner or managing pharmacist of the pharmacy at which the pharmaceutical technician is employed; or
- (d) Another entity approved by the Board.

Sec. 2. NAC 639.2974 is hereby amended to read as follows:

639.2974 1. A pharmacist who administers immunizations or an intern pharmacist acting under the direct and immediate supervision of a pharmacist who administers immunizations shall:

(a) Maintain certification in basic ~~cardiac~~ life support from ~~the~~ :

(1) The American Heart Association or its successor organization;

(2) The American Red Cross or its successor organization; or

(3) An equivalent organization approved by the Board; and

(b) On or before October 31 of each year, complete:

(1) At least 2 hours of continuing education in a course or courses that address the life cycle of diseases, drugs and administration of immunizations; or

(2) A course provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding epidemiology and prevention of diseases which are preventable through immunization.

2. On or before October 31 of each year, a pharmaceutical technician acting under the direct and immediate supervision of a pharmacist who administers immunizations shall complete at least 1 hour of continuing education relating to vaccines, immunization and the administration of immunizations provided by an entity listed in subsection 3 of NAC 639.2973.