



MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE

For Every Patient. For Every Provider. For Every Mississippian.

Radiologist Assistant (RA) Licensure Guide

*Based on Regulations Governing the Practice of Radiologist Assistants
Adopted November 17, 2005. Amended July 20, 2006.*

A. Scope of Practice

- a. These regulations pertain to radiologist assistants performing any x-ray procedure or operating any x-ray equipment in a physician's office, hospital, or clinical setting.
- b. After demonstrating competency, the radiologist assistant, when ordered to do so by the supervising radiologist, may:
- c. Perform selected procedures under the direct supervision of a radiologist including static and dynamic fluoroscopic procedures.
- d. Assess and evaluate the physiologic and psychological responsiveness of patients undergoing radiologic procedures.
- e. Evaluate image quality, make initial image observations, and communicate observations to the supervising radiologist.
- f. Administer intravenous contrast media or other prescribed medications.
- g. **The radiologist assistant may not interpret images, make diagnoses, or prescribe medications or therapies.**

B. Key Definitions

- a. **A.R.R.T.:** American Registry of Radiologic Technologists.
- b. **Radiologist:** A physician licensed by MSBML who is certified or eligible to be certified by the American Board of Radiology or the American Osteopathic Board of Radiology.
- c. **Direct Supervision:** The radiologist must be present in the office suite and immediately available to furnish assistance and direction throughout the performance of all procedures. Does not mean the supervising radiologist must be present in the room.

C. Qualifications for Licensure

- a. Applicants must meet all of the following:
- b. Graduate of a radiologist assistant education program accredited by the A.R.R.T., or graduate of an RPA school holding an RA certification from the ARRT.
- c. Passed the radiologist assistant examination provided by the A.R.R.T.
- d. Current and unencumbered registration as a radiologic technologist with the Mississippi State Department of Health.
- e. Current certification in advanced cardiac life support (ACLS).
- f. At least twenty-one (21) years of age and of good moral character.
- g. Submit a completed application with a recent photograph (wallet-size/passport type).

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- h. Pay the appropriate fee as determined by the Board.
- i. Present a certified copy of birth certificate.
- j. Provide proof of legal change of name if applicable.
- k. Provide information on registration or licensure in all other states.
- l. Two (2) favorable references from physicians licensed in the United States.

D. Supervision Requirements

- a. The employing radiologist(s) shall exercise supervision and assume full control and responsibility for services provided. Services must be performed at the radiologist's primary medical practice or any healthcare facility where the supervising radiologist holds staff privileges.

E. Duty to Notify Board of Change of Address

- a. Any change of practice location must be reported to the Board in writing. Failure to notify within 30 days could result in disciplinary action.

F. Continuing Education

- a. Biennially complete at least twenty-four (24) hours of radiological related continuing education courses sponsored or approved by: Mississippi Society of Radiologic Technologists, Mississippi Radiological Society, Mississippi Medical Association or Mississippi Osteopathic Medical Association, AMA or AOA, American Society of Radiologic Technologists, A.R.R.T., or American College of Radiology or American Osteopathic College of Radiology.

G. Identification Requirements

- a. Radiologist assistants shall at all times when on duty wear a name tag identifying themselves as radiologist assistants. They may not advertise as independent practitioners.

H. Physician Liability

- a. Prior to supervising a radiologist assistant, the physician's and/or radiologist assistant's insurance carrier must forward to the Board a Certificate of Insurance.

I. License Renewal

- a. Licenses are renewed annually. The Board mails renewal applications by May 1; applicants must return them by June 30. Renewal fee is optional for those over age seventy (70). Lapsed licenses may be reinstated with a \$25.00 fine plus \$5.00 per delinquent month.