

Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board



Newsletter



Fall 2016

A regulatory agency of the State of Tennessee

Vol. 6, No. 1

Division of Health Licensure and Regulation • Health Related Boards • Metro Center Complex, 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, TN 37243
Phone: (615) 532-5128 - Toll Free: (800) 778-4123 ext. 5325128 - Fax: (615) 253-8724 - <http://tn.gov/health>
Governor Bill Haslam Commissioner John Dreyzehner

BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2017

All Board Meetings are held in
The Iris Conference Room
665 Mainstream Drive Metro Center
Nashville, TN, 37243

Personnel and Education Committee Meetings

Committee meetings will convene at 1:00 P.M.

CST/CDT on the following dates:

2017

January 26, 2017

April 19, 2017

July 20, 2017

October 18, 2017

Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board Meetings

Board meetings will convene at 9:00 A.M.

CST/CDT on the following dates:

2017

January 27, 2017

April 20, 2017

July 21, 2017

October 19, 2017



OUR LOCATION

DO NOT FORGET

All application information (initial, renewal or supporting documents) must be mailed to the following address:

**Tennessee Department of Health
Division of Health, Licensure and Regulation
Office of Health Related Boards
ATTN: Medical Laboratory Board
Metro Center Complex 2ND Floor
665 Mainstream Drive,
Nashville, Tenn. 37243**

ALL documents relating to licensure events must be directed to the TN MEDICAL LABORATORY BOARD to be processed in a timely manner.

ATTENTION: Tennessee is a primary source licensure state and ALL qualifying documents must come from the originating entity (source): college registrar's office, certifying agency, etc. Copies of these documents will not be utilized for licensure purposes.

Tennessee Open Meeting Act

The **Tennessee Open Meetings Act** passed by the General Assembly in 1974 requires that meetings of state, city and county government bodies be open to the public and that any such governmental body give adequate notice of such meeting. Open meeting notices can be accessed utilizing this link:

<http://tn.gov/health/calendar>

Medical Laboratory Board Legislative Update - 2016

Public Chapter 154

As enacted allows the Commissioner of Health or his designee to have electronic access to medical records in order to facilitate investigations when responding to an immediate threat to public health. Today the Commissioner of Health already has this authority but must go to the facility to review the medical records. This act took effect on April 16, 2015.

Public Chapter 502

This act allows the Joint Government Operations Committee (the legislative committee that reviews all rules) to stay a rule up to 75 days instead of 60 days. Present law authorizes the Joint Government Operations Committee to consider the following factors when reviewing rules: authority, clarity, consistency, justification, necessity and reference. This act adds arbitrariness and capriciousness as two new considerations.

Public Chapter 711

As enacted adds provisions regarding those qualified to be a medical laboratory director or a medical laboratory supervisor. Individual must hold a restricted license (director or supervisor) pertaining only to a hospital licensed under this title having thirty (30) beds or less if the person is a physician licensed under title 63 (chapter 6 or 9) and is otherwise qualified as determined by the board.

Supervisor licensed under this title if the individual possesses at least a 3-year undergraduate degree in any medical science, plus one (1) year of training in medical laboratory science and is otherwise qualified as a medical laboratory supervisor licenses in accordance with this section.

Policy Laboratory Reports Patient Test Management

Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-29-121(b) provides: "(t)he results of a test shall be reported to the physician, optometrist, dentist, chiropractic physician, designated entity or other health care professional who requested it."

The statute indicates the only persons to whom a laboratory may lawfully send the results of any test it performs, except other laboratories as authorized by Tennessee Code Annotated Sections 68-29-129(5).

Pursuant to CLIA (Clinical Laboratory Improvements Acts) regulations §493.1291 and 45CFR§164-524, patients may now be allowed access to their personal health information, including access to their laboratory test reports.

Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-29-121(b) should not be interpreted to preclude a medical laboratory from also providing test results directly the patient.

This revised policy statement was adopted on July 16, 2015.

ACCESSING THE BOARD'S WEB SITE

- Log on to <http://tn.gov/health/article/medlab-about>

This web site will take you directly to the home page for the medical laboratory board. There are many resources on our web site including, but not limited to: rules, statutes, applications, policy statements, lists of board-approved educational schools/programs, and licensed facilities. License renewal and licensure verification may also be utilized on this web site. Please save this website in your "favorites" for important informational career updates.

BOARD DISCIPLINARY ACTION REPORT AVAILABLE ON-LINE

Tennessee Department of Health issues a monthly media release listing all disciplinary actions taken by the health related boards during the prior month.

These actions may include: non-payment of student loans, non-payment of child support, continuing education violations and any disciplinary actions adjudicated by the Board.

<http://tn.gov/health/article/boards-disciplinary-actions>

RULES UPDATE

The Rules and Regulations Governing Medical Laboratory Personnel

Re-write of Rules 1200-06-01

Currently In Review Process

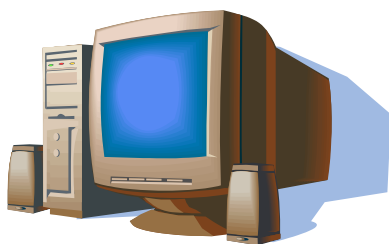
LIVE STREAMING BOARD MEETING

Board meetings can now be viewed on the internet!!!

The link for viewing can be found at the top of open meetings notice or at the top of the meeting agenda.

Live streaming is NOT available for the Personnel & Education Committee meeting.

Note: The link changes with each scheduled meeting and can be found on the Board's Open Meeting Notice.



LICENSE RENEWAL/REACTIVATION

If your license has expired, or has been retired, and you want to bring the license into current status, you may be subject a reinstatement fee, continuing education requirements or both. Please call the administrative office to the Board for additional information. (615) 532-5128.



CONTINUING EDUCATION

All persons who possess an **active** license to practice laboratory medicine in Tennessee are subject to continuing education requirements. The audit is a computerized random selection of five-percent (5%) of all individuals holding a current/active license.

Beginning January 1, 2006 the Board promulgated rules that require each licensee to successfully complete twenty-four (24) hours of approved continuing education pertaining to laboratory medicine (technical or management) for the two (2) calendar years that PRECEED the license renewal year. (January 01-December 31) per Rule 1200-06-01-12, Rules Governing Medical Laboratory Personnel.

These documents must be dated WITHIN the designated audit period/cycle and must be legible with name of: licensee, course, date taken and hours of continuing education, all on documents.

You must respond to the audit; failure to respond could have a severe impact on your license and your ability to practice laboratory medicine in Tennessee.

NOTE:

IF YOU HAVE RETIRED FROM THE PRACTICE OF LABORATORY MEDICINE IN TENNESSEE BUT HAVE NOT RETIRED YOUR PROFESSIONAL LICENSE YOU ARE STILL SUBJECT TO THIS UDIIT.

On Line Renewals

The Division of Health Regulation and Licensing launched a new computer system on April 01, 2015.

PLEASE NOTE: All licenses cannot be renewed on line until 70 days prior to the expiration date on the document.



ASCP vs. ASCP_I

The Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board recognizes numerous national agency administered examinations in lieu of taking a state sponsored examination which was last administered in 1997.

One of the national examinations offered to Tennessee applicants is the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) *international version*, offering individuals a certification for practicing laboratory medicine both inside and outside the United States and territories.

During the quarterly meeting held in October 2016, members decided to accept the international version of their exam. This decision was based on an upgrade of the international examination to equalize examination contents with those of the regular ASCP examination.

This information will be available via board policy.

NEW EMPLOYEE

CENTRAL OFFICE-NASHVILLE

The administrative office to the Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board welcomes three new employees.

In the administrative office we welcome Ms. Nina Smith medical technologist working as a consultant with assignments to review and complete personnel applicant files for possible licensure. Ms. Smith has been with central office since December 2015 and can assist our customers with information concerning personnel licensure, renewals, continuing education, retirements and upgrades from one category to another concerning medical laboratory medicine.

NEW EMPLOYEES-REGIONAL OFFICES

MIDDLE TN REGIONAL OFFICE

Middle Tennessee welcomes Mr. Greer Hinson, M.T. as an addition to the staff. Mr. Hinson will be assisting Richard Carroll, M.T. in performing both state licensure and CLIA certification surveys.

WEST TN REGIONAL OFFICE

West Tennessee Regional office staff welcomes Debbie Haggard, M.T. to work with Karon Hathcoat, M.T. performing state licensure and CLIA certification inspection surveys.

Both regional surveyors will function at the consultant level in the performance of their duties.

Remember state inspectors perform both state and federal surveys.



BOARD MEMBER ACTIVITY

2017 BOARD OFFICERS

Board members elected officers for the 2017 calendar year during the October 2016 meeting.

Board Chair: Patti Walton, M.T.

Vice Chair: Stephanie Dolsen, M.T.

Committee Chair: Kathleen Kenwright, M.T.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Hospital Administrator: Gaye G. Jolly, M.T.

Citizen Representative: Michael Wright

BOARD REAPPOINTMENTS

Technologist Supervisor: Stephanie Dolsen, M.T.

Technologist Generalist: Michael C. Johnson, M.T.

Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board Members

Stephanie Dolsen, MT
Knoxville, TN
Medical Technologist/Laboratory
Supervisor
Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board

Cheryl Arnott, CT
Nolensville, TN
S.A.-Cytotechnologist
Chairman, Tennessee Medical Laboratory
Board

Kathleen Kenwright, MT
Cordova, TN
Medical Technologist-Educator
Chairman, Personnel and Education
Committee

Michael C. Johnson, MT
Portland TN
Medical Technologist Generalist

Royce E. Joyner, MD
Memphis, TN
Pathologist-Educator

Patti J. Walton, MT
Franklin, TN
Vice-Chair Board
Hospital /Laboratory Manager
Administrator Director

Carla M. Davis, MD
Nashville, TN
Pathologist

Jason Scott Nolan, MD
Cookeville, TN
Pathologist, Non-Educator

Terryo M. Cox, MT
Murfreesboro, TN
Medical Technologist General

Mark A. Calarco, DO
Brentwood, TN
Independent Laboratory
Management/Administration

Gaye G. Jolly
Knoxville, TN
Hospital Administrator

Michael J. Wright
Bartlett, TN
Citizen Representative

VACANT
NON-PATHOLOGIST
PHYSICIAN

Board Staff

Lynda England, BS MT (ASCP)
Director

Nina V. Smith, BA MT (ASCP)
Medical Technologist Consultant 1

Roberta Tolliver
Licensing Tech

K. Denise Burton
Administrative Assistant

Surveyors

West Tennessee Regional Office

Karon Hathcoat, MT
Medical Technologist Consultant 2

Debbie Haggard
Medical Technologist Consultant 1

Middle Tennessee Regional Office

Richard Carroll, MT
Medical Technologist Consultant 2

Greer Hinson
Medical Technologist Consultant 1

East Tennessee Regional Office

Julia Daniels, MT
Medical Technologist Consultant 2

Taylor Carpenter
Medical Technologist Consultant 1