

**WEST VIRGINIA RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY
BOARD OF EXAMINERS
P.O. BOX 638
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COOL RIDGE, WV 25825
PHONE & FAX: (304) 787-4398**

NEWSLETTER 1998

Members of the WV Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners have authorized publication of a newsletter to licensees so that they may be better informed of the operations of the Board. This is the third of such publications. We anticipate that the newsletter will be published annually and mailed during January of each year. We encourage you to submit recommendations you may have about information you would like to see included in the newsletter. Submit your comments & recommendations to the address above.

HISTORY OF THE BOARD

Purpose: Chapter 30, Article 23, Section 1 of the West Virginia Code was passed by HB 483 on July 1, 1977. Our Rule and Regulations were promulgated July 1, 1978.

30-23-1 "The Legislature finds and declares that in the interest of public health the people of this state should be protected from excessive and improper exposure to ionizing radiation. It is the purpose of the article to establish minimum standards of education, training, and experience for radiologic technologists and to prescribe means for assuring that the standards are met".

Title 18 - Legislative Rules for Radiologic Technologists:

18-1-1 Scope: Except as otherwise specifically provided, these regulations apply to all persons in West Virginia who apply x-rays or assist in the application of x-rays to human beings for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes under the supervision of a licensed practitioner. These regulations establish the general rule for licensure of Radiologic Technologists in West Virginia.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

After much research and discussion, the Board submitted to the West Virginia Secretary of State's office, the proposed changes in their Rules and Regulations pertaining to fee increases, changing renewals from bi-annual to annual and requiring Continuing Education (CE). These changes were presented to the West Virginia Legislature for their consideration and passage. Upon passage and signature by the Governor, the changes took effect May 1, 1998.

Everyone is aware of the fee changes, however, there seems to be some questions concerning the CE requirements. This section of the law is mainly to require that non-ARRT technologist (grandfathered) be required to obtain CE credits the same as the ARRT requires of its members. The law requires that twenty-four (24) CE's credits be earned over a two year period. Although this law took effect May 1, 1998, there was a provision that required that twelve (12) hours of approved CE be obtained during calendar year 1999. The ARRT technologist will be required to submit a copy of their **active** ARRT card showing that they have met the CE requirements of the ARRT. The non-ARRT operators must submit documentation (certificates, letters, etc.) that they have obtained twelve (12) hours of CE's during the 1999 calendar year. The submission of documentation will be required by everyone making application for renewal of their license in the year 2000.

After the year 2000, this law reverts to the twenty-four (24) CE credits every twenty-four (24) months. This means that all persons will be required to submit their documentation upon renewal. Again, if you are ARRT, a copy of your pocket card showing that the CE requirements have been met will be all

that is needed for renewal every year. The non-ARRT will need to submit documentation of a total of twenty-four (24) CE credits earned between January 1, 1999 thru December 31, 2001. Once this three year time frame (1999-2001) has elapsed, this documentation will be required to be submitted every two (2) years, the same as required by the ARRT.

The Board members would like to know if the technologist would like to renew their license by birth-month or stay as it is now? Please submit you preference to Mary Casto, Administrative Secretary, upon renewal in 1999. If birth-month is chosen, the fees would be prorated (\$ 4.17/month) for the renewals in 2000. In other words, if your present renewal date is February and your birth month is November, you would pay the prorated amount of \$ 37.53 for your license in February. Then in November, you would have to renew and pay the full \$ 50.00 for one (1) year. If your birth-month is May, and you renewal is August, you would pay \$37.53 for your license in May. This license would be good for 1 year, since you paid for the May-August period with your previous renewal in 1999.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Beginning balance as of July 1, 1997	\$ 17,415.70
Income Received FY 1997-98	\$ 26,893.00
Total Revenue for FY 1997-98	\$ 44,308.70
Disbursements for FY 1997-98	\$ 37,093.83
Balance in account as of 6/30/98	\$ 7,214.87

FISCAL YEAR BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Meeting held on July 10, 1997

1. Discussion of the Public Hearing and decision to send copies of the proposed rules. Due to the severe financial crunch, the decision was made to mail these copies to facilities with x-ray equipment, and Program Directors of all the radiologic technologist schools in West Virginia. There was a request for this information to be distributed to their technologist. 588 copies of the rules were mailed.

Meeting held on July 10, 1997

1. Financial report indicated the decreasing amount of revenue in our account.
2. Purchasing Division requested that each agency use a WV Purchasing card. A card will be issued to the secretary to allow her to make certain purchases.
3. The Board voted to change the secretary's position to full-time and give her a 5% pay increase.

4. United Hospital Center's RT School was accredited by JRCERT and the Board for a five (5) year period.
5. Complaints received and referred to Disciplinary Committee.

LICENSE ISSUED

Permanent Licenses:	151
Renewal Licenses:	681
Temporary Permits:	73
Reciprocity License	2

Meeting held on April 28, 1998

1. The Board welcomed Susan Bellomy, R.T. to the Board. She was appointed by the Governor to replace Alice Belmont, R.T.
2. The Board voted to send all technologist licensed by the Board since 1978 a letter about the Legislative changes. Board members volunteered to help with all aspects of getting these 3,500 letters in the mail.
3. The passage of Senate Bill 358 requires every Board to have Lay Members. The Board's make-up would require two (2) people, and Grady Bowyer sent a letter to the Governor requesting that they be appointed.

BOARD MEMBERS

Grady M. Bowyer, R.T. - Chairman
Environmental Health
(304) 558-2981

Susan Bellomy, R.T. - Secretary
Radiologic Technologist
(304) 526-1107

W. Alva Deardorff, M.D.
Radiologist
(304) 766-7121

Gary Marano, M.D.
Radiologist
(304) 366-2600

Patrick J. Oliverio, M.D.
Radiologist
(304) 366-2600

Alice S. Belmont, R.T.
Radiologic Technologist
(304) 293-1849

Mark S. Wilcox, R.T.
Radiologic Technologist

The WV Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners is required to hold two meetings in a fiscal year (July 1- June 30). One of the meetings must be held in June for election of officers, and others can be held as needed. Please call the office for Board meeting dates or with any questions concerning the operations of the Board. Direct all inquires to:

Mary Casto, Administrative Secretary
(304) 787-4398

Meeting held on June 22, 1998

1. Mary Casto reviewed the financial year to date. The balance was \$ 4,201.00.
2. The Board voted to lease-purchase a new copier, purchase updated postage scales and filing cabinets, as funding becomes available.
3. As of June 10, 1998, 3500 letters were mailed to the licensees containing information on the fee increase, CE requirements, and the 1997 Newsletter. 610 were returned with no forwarding addresses.

Summary of Complaints / Investigations

1. Clinic using unlicensed personnel to operate Bone Densitometry. Board's attorney advised that this was in non-compliance. Physician will operate in future.

CASE DISMISSED

2. Clinic using unlicensed personnel to administer x-rays. Doctor stated he was not aware of the law and would perform all x-rays in the future.

CASE DISMISSED

3. Clinic using unlicensed personnel to administer x-rays. This complaint was also submitted to the Nursing Board, since a nurse was accused of operating the x-ray machine. The Nursing Board took action against the nurse, and the physician's lawyer stated that the doctor would perform all x-rays.

CASE DISMISSED