

To: Medical Radiation Technologists / Interested Parties

From: Paul H. Brown, Supervisor
Technologist Accreditation Program

Subject: Informational Notice: Part 401 Proposed Rule Changes

Date: March 18, 2013

Part 401 Proposed Revisions

The Agency is proposing amendments to Part 401: Accrediting Persons in the Practice of Medical Radiation Technology, which is now appearing in the March 15, 2013 edition of the Illinois Register for public comment. http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/index/register/register_volume37_issue11.pdf

In summary the proposed changes will:

In Section 401.20, advanced practice nurse, authorized user, CT, PET, physician assistant, portable x-ray service provider, SPECT and a new proposed accreditation category, the Nuclear Medicine Advanced Associate (NMAA) are now defined. Four more organizations have now achieved RCEEM (recognized continuing education evaluation mechanism) status with the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) and have now been added. The limited radiographer definition has been expanded to prohibit any of these individuals from performing any radiographic exams for a portable x-ray service provider.

In the exemption section, 401.30, the Agency is proposing to exempt the following individuals from the Agency's radiography accreditation requirement and allow: a physician assistant or advanced practice nurse, under the direct or personal supervision of a licensed practitioner, to perform interventional fluoroscopic procedures; an accredited nuclear medicine technologist to perform CT radiographic exams as part of a PET/CT or SPECT/CT combination exam; and an accredited nuclear medicine technologist or radiation therapist who is also certified in CT by the ARRT to perform CT radiographic exams.

The requirement for a letter of agreement/delegation for both the radiologist assistant and the new nuclear medicine advanced associate is now specified by rule as part of the application process.

A new accreditation category for the Nuclear Medicine Advanced Associate (NMAA) has been added and the required examination and the continuing education requirement for renewal specified.

In Section 401.170: Civil Penalties, the Agency is proposing to assess civil penalties for violations of its accreditation requirements on the operator of the radiation installation (registrant/facility) only, and not the individual. Since the amount assessed against the operator has always been double that assessed against the individual(s) the actual amount of the civil penalty has not increased.

Each of these proposed changes to the rule were reviewed, discussed and approved by the Agency's Radiologic Technologist Accreditation Advisory Board.

Comments to this proposed rulemaking may be submitted in writing for a period of 45 days following the publication of this notice in the Illinois Register, and will be fully considered by the Agency. Comments should be submitted to:

Traci Burton
Paralegal Assistant
Illinois Emergency Management Agency
1035 Outer Park Dr
Springfield, IL 62704

As always, if there are any questions or if you wish to discuss this matter further, please feel free to contact me at 217-785-9978 or at paul.h.brown@illinois.gov.