



Technical Bulletin



Topic: Assembly Bill 347 – Surgical Technologists

Section/Program/Contact: Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance/M. Jeanne Hesterlee, RN

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TO: Hospital providers, Ambulatory Surgery Center providers and the Public

The purpose of this bulletin is to notify the affected health care providers and the public of recently adopted statutes. Assembly Bill (AB) 347 establishes certain requirements relating to surgical technologists. This law becomes effective January 1, 2018. There will be no new regulations adopted as a result of the law.

Except as otherwise provided in law, AB 347 requires a health facility that utilizes surgical technologist to carry out the following provisions:

- A health care facility may not employ or otherwise allow a person to engage in the practice of surgical technology at the health care facility unless the person has:
 - Successfully completed a program for surgical technologists that is accredited by a national accrediting organization and is certified as a Certified Surgical Technologist by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting or a successor organization;
 - Successfully completed a training program for surgical technologists administered by the United States Public Health Service, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard; or
 - Engaged in the practice of surgical technology in a health care facility before January 1, 2018.
- A health care facility may employ or otherwise allow a person who has successfully completed a program for surgical technologists that is accredited by a national accrediting organization but who is not certified as a Certified Surgical Technologist, as noted above, to engage in the practice of surgical technology at the health care facility for 180 days after the date on which the person successfully completed the program.
- A health care facility may employ a person who does not possess the qualifications outlined above to engage in the practice of surgical technology at the health care facility if, after conducting a thorough and diligent search, the health care facility is unable to employ a sufficient number of surgical technologists who possess such qualifications. A health care facility may continue to employ such a person after the health care facility determines it is able to employ a sufficient number of surgical technologists who possess such qualifications.

Except as otherwise provided in law, a health care facility that employs or otherwise allows a person to engage in the practice of surgical technology at the health care facility shall:

- Ensure that each such person, including, without limitation, a person who does not possess the qualifications outlined in the bill, successfully completes not less than 15 hours annually of continuing education concerning the practice of surgical technology; and
- Maintain records showing that the health care facility is in compliance with the requirements outlined in the bill.

Please refer to the entire text of the bill for complete information including the definition of “practice of surgical technology” and “surgical technologist” and for exceptions provided in the bill (law) to the requirements outlined in this bulletin.

To find the bill please click on the link below:

https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/79th2017/Bills/AB/AB347_EN.pdf

 Signed:  Date: 11/1/17

Amy Roukie, MBA, Administrator
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