

## **201 KAR 46:081. Limited X-Ray machine operator.**

RELATES TO: KRS 311B.020, 311B.150, 311B.100(2), 311B.110, 311B.120, 311B.180, 311B.190

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 311B.050, 311B.100(2), 311B.110

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 311B.050 requires the Board of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy to promulgate administrative regulations to establish the procedures for the issuance and renewal of a license. KRS 311B.100(2) and KRS 311B.110(6) require the board to promulgate administrative regulations to establish the qualifications for a limited x-ray machine operator. This administrative regulation establishes the requirements for the licensure of a limited x-ray machine operator.

Section 1. Applicability. (1) This administrative regulation shall apply to individuals who perform limited diagnostic radiography while under the direct supervision or indirect supervision of a licensed practitioner of the healing arts.

(2) Limited diagnostic radiography shall include routine chest and thorax, cranium, extremity, podiatric, vertebral column radiography, and bone densitometry procedures.

Section 2. Limited Licensee Employment Prohibition. An individual who holds a limited license shall not be employed as an operator of a source of radiation at a facility where contrast studies, fluoroscopy, mammography, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, bedside radiography, nuclear medicine, positron emission tomography, or radiation therapy procedures are performed.

Section 3. Pathway to the Limited X-ray Machine Operator License. An applicant shall complete an approved postsecondary educational program that meets the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) Limited X-Ray Machine Operator Curriculum requirements. An individual shall complete a formal education program for limited x-ray machine operators approved by the board.

Section 4. Application for Temporary Limited X-ray Machine Operator License. (1) An applicant who has completed a formal educational program shall submit:

- (a) A completed and signed application Form KBMIRT Form 5;
- (b) A non-refundable, non-transferrable temporary limited x-ray machine operator application and license fee as mandated in 201 KAR 46:020, Section 5;
- (c) The satisfactory results of a criminal background check completed within the past six (6) months in state of residence and employment and any other state of residence and employment within the past five (5) years; and
- (d) A copy of a government-issued photo ID.

(2) The temporary limited x-ray machine operator license shall be effective for up to one (1) year only and shall not be renewable.

(3) Upon completion of the limited x-ray machine operator training program, individuals shall:

- (a) Apply for the limited scope radiography exam; and
- (b) Submit the non-refundable, non-transferrable limited x-ray machine operator examination fee as mandated in 201 KAR 46:020, Section 9.

(4) If a temporary licensee has not successfully passed the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) administered limited scope radiography exam prior to the expiration date of the temporary license, the licensee shall cease to perform radiographic procedures.

The licensee remains eligible to sit for the exam, however, the individual shall not perform radiographic procedures. Upon successful completion of the exam, the individual shall submit:

- (a) A limited x-ray machine operator license application using KBMIRT Form 4; and
- (b) An initial application and license fee as mandated in 201 KAR 46:020, Section 1.

(5) If a temporary licensee has successfully passed the ARRT administered limited scope radiography exam prior to the expiration date of the temporary license, the licensee shall be issued a limited x-ray machine operator license which shall expire on the last day of the licensee's birth month. If the limited x-ray machine operator license is first issued to an individual less than six (6) months before the individual's birth month, the license issued to the individual shall not expire on that date, but instead it shall expire at the last day of the individual's birth month in the following calendar year.

Section 5. The issued license shall identify the licensee as a limited x-ray machine operator. The license shall also identify the category as general, bone densitometry, or podiatry.

Section 6. Curricular Standards for Formal Educational Program. This administrative regulation applies to institutions offering a postsecondary program for limited x-ray machine operators. Programs shall:

- (1) Meet the curricular standards established by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT);
- (2) Include a minimum of 240 classroom hours of didactic instruction and 360 clinical hours of education which shall include supervised practice and demonstration of clinical competency;
- (3) Supply data requested for a complete evaluation of its administration, organization, faculty, physical facilities, student policies, and curriculum;
- (4) Provide a structured curriculum with clearly written course descriptions, lesson plans, and objectives;
- (5) Provide an adequate faculty, which shall be qualified through academic preparation or experience to teach the subjects assigned;
- (6) Have a program director who is a licensed radiographer with a minimum of three (3) years of clinical or teaching experience or a combination of clinical and teaching experience;
- (7) Provide a licensee-to-student ratio consistent with professional educational guidelines in the appropriate field of practice;
- (8) Provide appropriate facilities, sufficient volume, and a variety of diagnostic exams to properly conduct the educational program;
- (9) Prohibit students from applying radiation to human beings for diagnostic purposes until they have obtained practical experience and have had their performance evaluated as satisfactory by the program faculty;
- (10) Provide direct or indirect supervision by a licensed practitioner of the healing arts or a licensee as required by the student's level of competency;
- (11) Prohibit students from administering radiation to a human being unless under direct or indirect supervision as required by the student's level of competency;
- (12) Maintain records of each student's attendance, grades, clinical competency, and subjects completed;
- (13) Designate a radiation safety officer; and
- (14) Permit site inspections by the board's representative.

Section 7. Approved Radiographic Procedures for the Limited X-ray Machine Operator. An individual who holds a limited license is limited to performing the procedures authorized for his or her license as described in subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section. (1) An individual

holding a general limited x-ray machine operator license shall perform only the following:

- (a) Radiography of the thorax, lungs and ribs;
  - (b) Radiography of the skull and facial structures;
  - (c) Radiography of the upper and lower extremities, including the pectoral girdle and the hips and pelvis; and
  - (d) Radiography of the cervical, thoracic, and lumbar spines.
- (2) An individual holding a limited podiatry x-ray machine operator license shall perform radiographic procedures on the foot and ankle only.
- (3) An individual holding a limited bone densitometry x-ray machine operator license shall perform bone densitometry radiographic procedures only.
- (4) A limited x-ray machine operator shall comply with the Limited X-ray Machine Operator Practice Standards as incorporated by reference in 201 KAR 46:035, Section 4.

Section 8. Continuing Education Requirements. Licensees shall complete and document twelve (12) hours of continuing education biennially as required by 201 KAR 46:060. A minimum of six (6) hours shall be related to radiation safety or medical imaging.

Section 9. Continuing Education Audit Process. (1) The board shall select a sample of licensees to audit for continuing education compliance.

- (2) The board shall send each licensee selected for audit a notification of audit.
- (3) Each licensee shall maintain his or her personal files such as certificates or records of credit from approved continuing education programs from the current biennium and immediate prior biennium.
- (4) A licensee selected for audit shall complete KBMIRT Form 8, as incorporated by reference in 201 KAR 46:060, and provide the board with a copy of his or her certificates or records of completion.
- (5) Failure to comply with an audit may result in non-renewal, suspension or revocation of license.

Section 10. Renewal of License. A licensee shall renew annually prior to the expiration of his or her current license, which is the last day of the licensee's birth month, by:

- (1) Completing KBMIRT Form 6; and
- (2) Submitting the Renewal License Fee in accordance with 201 KAR 46:020, Section 2.

Section 11. Reinstatement of Lapsed License. A licensee who has allowed the license to lapse for up to twelve (12) months is eligible to be reinstated upon submission of KBMIRT Form 6, documentation of twelve (12) hours of continuing education, and the payment of reinstatement and renewal fees pursuant to 201 KAR 46:020, Sections 2 and 7. A licensee whose license has lapsed for more than twelve (12) months shall:

- (1) Successfully pass the ARRT limited scope radiography examination;
- (2) Submit a completed and signed application KBMIRT Form 4;
- (3) Submit a non-refundable initial application and license fee and reinstatement fee as mandated in 201 KAR 46:020, Sections 1 and 7;
- (4) Submit satisfactory results of a criminal background check completed within the past six (6) months in state of residence and employment and any other state of residence and employment within the past five (5) years; and
- (5) Submit a copy of a government-issued photo ID.

Section 12. Incorporation by Reference. (1) The following material is incorporated by refer-

ence:

(a) KBMIRT Form 4, "Limited X-ray Machine Operator License Application", 03/2019;

(b) KBMIRT Form 5, "Limited X-ray Machine Operator Temporary License Application", 03/2019;

(c) KBMIRT Form 6, "Limited X-ray Machine Operator Renewal Application", 09/2018.

(2) This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable copyright law, at the Board of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy, 42 Fountain Place, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (34 Ky.R. 145; 610; 771; eff. 10-17-2007; Recodified from 902 KAR 105:081, 11-20-2013; 41 Ky.R. 2309; 42 Ky.R. 1498 eff. 11-18-2015; TAm eff. 11-30-2017; 44 Ky.R. 1390, 1819; eff. 2-15-2018; TAm eff. 9-28-2018; 45 Ky.R. 2976; eff. 7-5-2019.)