

AN ACT relating to physician assistants.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. KRS 311.854 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) A physician shall not supervise a physician assistant without approval of the board. Failure to obtain board approval as a supervising physician or failure to comply with the requirements of KRS 311.840 to 311.862 or related administrative regulations shall be considered unprofessional conduct and shall be subject to disciplinary action by the board that may include revocation, suspension, restriction, or placing on probation the supervising physician's right to supervise a physician assistant.
- (2) To be approved by the board as a supervising physician, a physician shall:
 - (a) Be currently licensed and in good standing with the board;
 - (b) Maintain a practice primarily within this Commonwealth. The board in its discretion may modify or waive this requirement;
 - (c) Submit a completed application and the required fee to the board. The application shall include but is not limited to:
 1. A description of the nature of the physician's practice;
 2. A statement of assurance by the supervising physician that the scope of medical services and procedures described in the application or in any supplemental information shall not exceed the normal scope of practice of the supervising physician;
 3. A description of the means by which the physician shall maintain communication with the physician assistant when they are not in the same physical location;
 4. The name, address, and area of practice of one (1) or more physicians who agree in writing to accept responsibility for supervising the physician assistant in the absence of the supervising physician; and

5. A description of the scope of medical services and procedures to be performed by the physician assistant for which the physician assistant has been trained in an approved program.
- (3) Prior to a physician assistant performing any service or procedure beyond those described in the initial application submitted to the board under subsection (2)(c) of this section, the supervising physician shall supplement that application with information that includes but is not limited to:
 - (a) A description of the additional service or procedure;
 - (b) A description of the physician assistant's education, training, experience, and institutional credentialing;
 - (c) A description of the level of supervision to be provided for the additional service or procedure; and
 - (d) The location or locations where the additional service or procedure will be provided.

The initial and supplemental applications required under this section may be submitted to the board at the same time.

- (4) A physician who has been supervising a physician assistant prior to July 15, 2002, may continue supervision and the physician assistant may continue to perform all medical services and procedures that were provided by the physician assistant prior to July 15, 2002. The supervising physician shall submit the initial application and any supplemental application as required in this section by October 15, 2002.
- (5) A physician may enter into supervision agreements with ***no more than***~~[a maximum of]~~ four (4) physician assistants ***and***~~but~~ shall not supervise more than ***four (4)***~~[two (2)]~~ physician assistants at any one (1) time. Application for board approval to be a supervising physician shall be obtained individually for each physician assistant.
- (6) The board may impose restrictions on the scope of practice of a physician assistant or on the methods of supervision by the supervising physician upon consideration of

recommendations of the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee established in KRS 311.842 after providing the applicant with reasonable notice of its intended action and after providing a reasonable opportunity to be heard.