The Medical Radiation Technologists Act

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL RADIATION TECHNOLOGISTS —
REGULATORY BYLAWS

Bylaws pursuant to The Medical Radiation Technologists Act, 2006.

Title

1 These bylaws may be referred to as The Medical Radiation Technologists Regulatory Bylaws.

Definitions

2 In these bylaws:

(a) “Act” means The Medical Radiation Technologists Act, 2006;

(b) “Discipline” means Radiological Technology, Nuclear Medicine, Magnetic Resonance Imaging or Radiation Therapy;

(c) “Magnetic Resonance Technologist” means a person who is trained and meets a certain standard of qualification and competency in the use of electromagnetism (static magnetic fields and radio frequencies) to produce high detail images of parts of the body on computer screens;

(d) “Nuclear Medicine Technologist” means a person who is trained and meets a certain standard of qualification and competency in the use of (low-level) radioactive substances which are injected, swallowed or inhaled to produce diagnostic images of how the body functions;

(e) “Radiological Technologist” means a person who is trained and meets a certain standard of qualification and competency in the use of x-rays to produce images of parts of the body on film or on computer screens;

(f) “Radiation Therapist” means a person who is trained and meets a certain standard of qualification and competency in the treatment of disease with radiation which involves the use of radiation to destroy diseased cells in the body.

Demand for special meeting

3(1) Council may call special meetings of the Association as required from time to time. For the purposes of clause 7(2)(b) of the Act, the number of members who may demand in writing that a meeting be held is the number equal to 10% of the total number of all practicing members.

(2) Notice of a special meeting shall be mailed to the members at least fifteen days prior to the date of the meeting and shall state the business to be considered at such meeting and no other business shall be considered.

REGISTRATION AS A MEMBER

Educational programs

4 An education program, approved by Council, at a medical radiation technology school accredited by the Council on Accreditation for Medical Radiation Technology Education in Canada, or a program deemed equivalent by Council, is prescribed for the purposes of clause 20(1)(c) of the Act.

Examinations

5(1) The Medical Radiation Technologist examinations administered by the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists, or an examination deemed equivalent by Council, is prescribed for the purposes of clause 20(1)(d) of the Act.

(2) A person who applies for registration as a Medical Radiation Technologist must write the examination at the first writing of the examination after he or she becomes eligible to write it, unless the council or the registrar gives special written permission to defer the writing of the examination.
(3) An internationally educated candidate in Medical Radiation Technology must pass the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologist examinations in a Discipline or an examination deemed equivalent by Council.

(4) To meet the examination requirements for registration, all applicants must complete the prescribed application forms and pay the prescribed examination fee as per the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists.

Categories of Membership

6 Membership in the Association consists of the following categories:

   (a) Full Practicing Membership;
   (b) Non-Practicing Membership;
   (c) Associate Membership;
   (d) Student Membership;
   (e) Life Membership.

General requirements for membership

7 (1) All applicants for membership of any kind shall submit a completed membership application form provided by the Association together with the appropriate fee required pursuant to the administrative bylaws, and;

   (2) In the case of an applicant whose first language is not English, evidence that the applicant meets the requirements for proficiency in English as recognized by Council; and,

   (3) Evidence satisfactory to Council of the applicant’s good character and, where applicable, good professional record, including a Criminal Record Check from the RCMP or local constabulary.

Full Practicing Membership

8 (1) Full practicing membership is available to a person who meets the requirements of subsection 20(1) of the Act and the general requirements for membership set out in section 7 of these bylaws.

   (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), an applicant for full practicing membership who is registered or licensed as a Medical Radiation Technologist or equivalent in another jurisdiction in Canada may be registered as a member if the applicant can produce evidence of such registration and is in good standing pursuant to the legislation of that jurisdiction as required by subsection 20(1.1) of the Act and the general requirements for membership set out in section 7 of these bylaws.

   (3) Full practicing membership entitles a person to the following privileges:

      (a) subject to obtaining a full practicing license in accordance with these bylaws, to practice medical radiation technology in Saskatchewan as a member;
      (b) to use the titles as prescribed in section 22 of the Act;
      (c) to vote and hold office in the Association;
      (d) to have a voice and a vote at the meetings of the Association;
      (e) to be appointed to committees of the Association;
      (f) to receive copies of the Associations’ documents appropriate for distribution; and
      (g) to receive the publications of the Association.

Non-Practicing Membership

9 A non-practicing member is a Medical Radiation Technologist who was previously licensed as a practicing member and;

   (a) who chooses not to practice as a Medical Radiation Technologist or who does not meet the requirements of Full Practicing Membership as herein defined;
(b) has paid the fees applicable to a non-practicing member as prescribed in the administrative bylaws;
(c) is in good standing with the Association;
(d) may have a voice and vote at all annual, mid-year and special meetings and in mail ballots and may, subject to any limitations in the Act or these Bylaws, be eligible to stand for and to be elected to any office and be appointed to any committee;
(e) shall receive the publications of the Association; and
(f) may use the titles as prescribed in section 22 of the Act.

Associate Membership

10 An associate member is a person who:

(a) has received certification in the basic diagnostic x-ray and laboratory procedures from an accredited training school or equivalent, approved by Council;
(b) is not presently qualified as a full practicing member or non-practicing member in at least one of the named Disciplines;
(c) has paid the fees applicable to an Associate Member as prescribed in the administrative bylaws;
(d) is in good standing with the Association; and
(e) shall receive the publications of the Association.

Student Membership

11 A student member is a person who:

(a) is enrolled in a educational program approved by Council;
(b) has paid the fees applicable to a student member prescribed in the administrative bylaws, or set by Council;
(c) is in good standing with the Association;
(d) may practice under the direct supervision of a full practicing member;
(e) may vote at all annual, mid-year and special meetings and in mail ballots subject to any limitations in the Act or these bylaws;
(f) shall receive the publications of the Association.

Life Membership

12 A life member is a person who:

(a) has made an outstanding contribution to the profession of Medical Radiation Technology or to the Association;
(b) has been so designated by the Association;
(c) may vote at all annual, mid-year or special meetings and in mail ballots and shall be eligible to stand for and be elected to any office and be appointed to any committee;
(d) shall receive the publications of the Association.

Council reviews

13 For the purposes of a review by Council of a decision of the Registrar in accordance with subsection 21(4) of the Act, an applicant who is refused registration shall, by written notice, apply to Council for a review within 30 days of receipt of the decision of the Registrar.
LICENSURE

License required

14 Every practicing member shall submit an application for a full practicing license or restricted practicing license to the Association in accordance with these bylaws, together with the license fee required pursuant to the administrative bylaws.

Full practicing license

15(1) An initial full practicing license is available to a full practicing member who:

(a) works the current practice hours as set out in the policies established by Council or;
(b) has graduated from an educational program described in section 4 within the preceding three years; or
(c) has transferred with full practicing license from another regulatory jurisdiction; and
(d) submits completed application forms required by Council; and
(e) has paid the fees prescribed in the administrative bylaws; and
(f) has met the requirements for registration outlined in these bylaws; and
(g) has been insured against liability for professional negligence as prescribed in subsection 21(1) of these bylaws.

(2) A renewal of a full practicing license is available to a full practicing member who:

(a) works the current practice hours as set out in the policies established by Council; and
(b) completes continuing education credits in accordance with the requirements of the Continuing Education program, as approved by Council from time to time; and
(c) completes the prescribed forms and submits them together with the annual licensing fee and any other fees prescribed by Council.

Restricted practicing license

16(1) A restricted license in a discipline as herein defined may be issued for up to a four-month period renewable for a maximum of up to one (1) year:

(a) to a person who has written, or is eligible to write the required examinations, but who has not received the results of the examinations; or
(b) to a person whose eligibility to practice is being assessed, provided that the person pays the registration and licensing fees to the Registrar as prescribed in the administration bylaws.

(2) The issuance of a restricted license in a discipline is conditional upon the applicant:

(a) completing the prescribed form and paying the registration and licensing fees to the Registrar as prescribed in the administration bylaws;
(b) providing documentation of successful completion of an educational program for Medical Radiation Technologists, (in a discipline), approved by Council; and
(c) providing documentation of acceptance to write the required examinations.

(3) The Association does not provide liability insurance while a candidate is practicing under a restricted license.

(4) To be eligible for renewal of the restricted license for a further four month period, the applicant must:

(a) provide satisfactory references from the current employer; and
(b) demonstrate that effort has been made to meet the requirements of Full Practicing Membership.
(5) A member with a restricted license must practice under the supervision of a full practicing member in the subject discipline, on site.

Expiration of licenses
17 Unless otherwise stated on the license or pursuant to these bylaws, all licenses expire on December 31st of the year following the date of their issue.

Titles of licenses
18(1) Only full practicing members and Restricted Practice Members, granted a license to practice, will be given right to title for their discipline(s) in which to practice.

(2) The titles of license shall be: Medical Radiation Technologist for the disciplines of Radiological, Nuclear Medicine, Magnetic Resonance, and Radiation Therapy. The following abbreviations will be used: MRT(R) for Radiological Technologist; MRT(NM) for Nuclear Medicine; MRT(MR) for Magnetic Resonance; MRT(T) for Radiation Therapy.

GENERAL

Continuing education
19(1) Each member is required to maintain a personal inventory of Continuing Education credits to be made available if an audit is requested by Council.

(2) Council shall determine the activities that are acceptable by the Association for CE credits and the number of credits to be assigned to each such activity as outlined in the CE policy guidelines.

(3) Members shall accumulate a minimum of 10 continuing education credits per year.

(4) Members not meeting Continuing Education requirement will be issued a condition on their full practicing license.

Practice hours
20(1) Each member is required to maintain the hours of practice set out by Council.

(2) Members not meeting hours of practice requirement will be issued a condition on their full practicing license.

Reinstatement as a full practicing member
21(1) To reinstate as a full practicing member, for each discipline the member must complete a re-entry program as set and approved by Council and submit the following:

(a) a letter to Council requesting reinstatement; and

(b) evidence the applicant desires Council to review in support of their reinstatement; and

(c) the prescribed reinstatement fee and any other fee determined by Council.

Liability insurance
22(1) Only full practicing members are eligible to receive professional liability protection from the Association. Council may obtain liability insurance coverage for the activities of the Association and its Members with such insurance carrier and in such amounts as it may from time to time determine necessary or appropriate. Where Council obtains such liability insurance coverage, it shall cause the Association to pay the premiums therefore as an expense of the Association. The Association may recover the expense of liability insurance coverage for its members as a fee payable by members to the Association in such amount as Council may, from time to time, determine.

(2) In all circumstances, the member shall continue to be responsible for ensuring any necessary confirmation of coverage, the adequacy of the amount and nature of the coverage insured, the limitations and terms applicable and the effective date.

Code of ethics
23 Every member shall comply with the Code of Professional Conduct listed as Schedule A.
Conflict of interest

24(1) A conflict of interest may involve:
(a) elected members of Council;
(b) members appointed to statutory, standing or ad hoc committees; and
(c) employees of the Association.

(2) A conflict of interest exists when a member has personal or organizational interests in a decision or outcome that may have or may be perceived to have personal benefit in a decision. A conflict of interest may include but is not limited to the following:
(a) where the member is involved in the investigation or discipline process of another member who may be related to that member;
(b) where the member, the member’s family, employees of the Association, partner or associate might personally or financially benefit from decisions or information gained from involvement on Council or committees;
(c) where the member is involved in determining or reviewing the registration or licensing eligibility of other members and the member is related to that member; and
(d) where the member is involved in negotiating wages or employment contracts for college staff that may be related to that member.

(3) Members serving on council committees shall declare a conflict of interest in matters under consideration or in decisions taken in which they have a conflict of interest.

(4)(a) it shall be at the discretion of the chair of Council or committee that the member is involved with, to determine if the member should be absent during any discussion and refrain from participating in a decision, or to determine if the member should step down temporarily from the committee.

(b) where a committee member who has a conflict of interest in respect of a complaint steps down, Council shall appoint a replacement to address the specific complaint with respect to which the conflict arises.

(5) it is the obligation of a member who has a conflict of interest to disclose the conflict but, if a member fails to disclose a conflict of interest, the conflict may be raised by anyone who has knowledge of it.

INVESTIGATION AND DISCIPLINE

Professional conduct committee

25(1) The members of the professional conduct committee shall comprise of three full practicing members, appointed by Council, one of whom shall be designated as Chairperson.

(2) The term of office for members of the professional conduct committee shall be for three (3) years. Members of the committee may serve for more than one term.

(3) The duties of this committee shall be as prescribed in the Act.

Discipline committee

26(1) The members of the discipline committee shall be:
(a) three members, two of whom must be full practicing members appointed by Council;
(b) one Public Representative to Council appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council;

(2) No member of the professional conduct committee or elected member of Council is eligible to be appointed as a member of the discipline committee, to serve at the same time.

(3) The duties of this committee shall be as prescribed in the Act.

(4) Decisions of the discipline committee are matters of public interest and as such shall be reported in the Associations publications and, where appropriate, to the members employer.
SCHEDULE A

CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Professional conduct requires that every member of the Association shall adopt the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT) Code of Ethics which has been developed by CAMRT members to articulate the behaviour expected of all medical radiation technologists and to serve as a means for reflection and self evaluation. Members of CAMRT recognize their obligation to identify, adopt and promote exemplary professional standards of practice, conduct and performance.

While performing professional activities, medical radiation technologists shall uphold the vision of the CAMRT by adhering to the following tenets of ethical conduct:

1. Treat patients and families with respect and dignity;
2. Assist patients and families to make informed decisions regarding care;
3. Facilitate the patient’s free and informed choices;
4. Provide the patient with an accurate description of all procedures and associated risks in a truthful and comprehensible manner;
5. Answer patient questions fully and honestly within the limits of their knowledge and authority/responsibility;
6. Participate in the formal consent process by ensuring patient willingness to participate in the procedure;
7. Respect the patient’s right to refuse or withdraw from treatment;
8. Take steps to ensure the physical privacy of the patient;
9. Maintain the confidentiality of information provided by or about the patient, as well as anything contained in the patient record, except as part of standard therapeutic information sharing within the health care team, or where required by law;
10. Promote patient centered care and safety;
11. Practice only those procedures for which the member is qualified, or has been properly delegated by the appropriate institutional authority, where the member has the requisite knowledge, skills and judgment to ensure competence;
12. Practice only those disciplines of medical radiation technology in which the member is certified by the Association and is currently competent;
13. Incorporate risk management principles into routine practice in order to minimize risk;
14. Conduct all procedures and examinations in keeping with current safety standards;
15. Make use of appropriate professional and institutional mechanisms to intervene when witness to unsafe, incompetent or unethical practice;
16. Provide care to all regardless of race, national or ethnic origin, colour, gender, sexual orientation, religious or political affiliation, age, type of illness, mental or physical ability;
17. Prioritize the use of resources according to need;
18. Utilize and distribute resources over which they have control in a fair and responsible manner;
19. Be accountable for their actions and conduct themselves with honesty and integrity in all of their professional interactions;
20. Avoid any activity that creates a conflict of interest or violates any local, provincial or federal laws and regulations;
(21) Avoid exploiting the vulnerability of patients by entering into dual or non-therapeutic relationships;

(22) Advocate for working environments that support safe, competent and ethical practice;

(23) Assume responsibility for errors committed and take immediate action to prevent or minimize associated harm;

(24) Recognize that while patients must seek diagnostic information from their physician, an impression expressed to another health care professional with regard to the appearance of a procedure or examination may assist in diagnosis or treatment;

(25) Educate patients, students and professional colleagues about practices and procedures pertinent to medical radiation technology;

(26) Reflect on practice to promote the development of informed, knowledgeable and safe practice;

(27) Monitor their performance to ensure continuing competence;

(28) Contribute to interdisciplinary collaboration and the development of partnerships which contribute to positive patient outcomes;

(29) Strive to be a role model for other members of the health care team by demonstrating responsibility, cooperation, accountability and competence in meeting the health care needs of the public;

(30) Participate in continuing professional development, research and the utilization of best practice methods;

(31) Participate in collaborative problem solving to promote knowledge transfer and exchange, support appropriate decision making and facilitate human resource succession planning; and

(32) Participate in the affairs of the Association in a responsible and professional way.

Certified to be a true copy of the regulatory bylaws approved by the Council of the Saskatchewan Association of Medical Radiation Technologists.

Dated this 21st day of March, 2011.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:
Chelsea Wilker,
Registrar.

APPROVED BY:
Honourable Don McMorris,
Minister of Health.
Date: April 13, 2011.