

CHAPTER 659
PHYSICIAN SUPERVISION OF A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
PURSUANT TO IOWA CODE CHAPTER 148C

[Prior to 2/4/26, see Medicine Board[653] Ch 21]

Chapter rescission date pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.7: 12/17/30

481—659.1(148,272C) Ineligibility determinants. A physician with an active permanent, special, or temporary Iowa license who is actively engaged in the practice of medicine in Iowa may supervise a physician assistant. A physician is ineligible to supervise a physician assistant for any of the following reasons:

659.1(1) The physician does not hold an active, permanent, special or temporary Iowa medical license.

659.1(2) The physician is subject to a disciplinary order of the board that restricts or rescinds the physician's authority to supervise a physician assistant. The physician may supervise a physician assistant to the extent that the order allows.

[ARC 9703C, IAB 11/12/25, effective 12/17/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 2/4/26]

481—659.2(148,272C) Exemptions from this chapter. This chapter does not apply to the following:

659.2(1) A physician working in a federal facility or under federal authority when the provisions of this chapter conflict with federal regulations.

659.2(2) A physician who supervises a physician assistant providing medical care created by an emergency or a state or local disaster pursuant to Iowa Code section 148C.4.

[ARC 9703C, IAB 11/12/25, effective 12/17/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 2/4/26]

481—659.3(148) Board notification. A physician who supervises a physician assistant shall notify the board of the supervisory relationship within 60 days of the provision of initial supervision and at the time of the physician's license renewal.

[ARC 9703C, IAB 11/12/25, effective 12/17/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 2/4/26]

481—659.4(148,272C) Requirements for supervising. More information regarding requirements for supervising can be found in rules 481—780.4(148C) through 481—780.6(148C).

[ARC 9703C, IAB 11/12/25, effective 12/17/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 2/4/26]

481—659.5(148,272C) Grounds for discipline. A physician may be subject to disciplinary action for supervising a physician assistant in violation of these rules, 481—Chapter 661, or 481—Chapter 780, which relate to duties and responsibilities for physician supervision of physician assistants. Grounds for discipline also include:

659.5(1) The physician supervises a physician assistant when the physician does not have sufficient training or experience to supervise a physician assistant in the area of medical practice in which a physician assistant is to be utilized.

659.5(2) The physician fails to ensure that the physician assistant is adequately supervised, including being available in person or by telecommunication to respond to the physician assistant.

659.5(3) The physician fails to adequately direct and supervise a physician assistant or fails to comply with the minimum standards of supervision in accordance with this chapter, 481—Chapters 780 through 784, and Iowa Code chapters 148 and 148C.

[ARC 9703C, IAB 11/12/25, effective 12/17/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 2/4/26]

481—659.6(148,272C) Disciplinary sanction. The board may restrict or rescind a physician's authority to supervise a physician assistant as part of a disciplinary sanction following a contested case proceeding if the reason for the disciplinary action impacts the ability of the physician to supervise a physician assistant. The board shall notify the board of physician assistants when it takes a disciplinary action against a physician's license that affects the physician's authority to supervise a physician assistant.

[ARC 9703C, IAB 11/12/25, effective 12/17/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 2/4/26]

481—659.7(148,272C) Communication with physician assistant supervisees. The physician shall notify all physician assistant supervisees within one workday upon receiving disciplinary action from the board or any other change in status that affects the physician's eligibility to supervise a physician assistant.

[ARC 9703C, IAB 11/12/25, effective 12/17/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 2/4/26]

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 148C and section 272C.3.

[Filed 1/4/89, Notice 11/16/88—published 1/25/89, effective 3/1/89]^{1,2,3}

[Filed 8/31/89, Notice 5/31/89—published 9/20/89, effective 10/25/89]

[Filed 2/23/96, Notice 1/3/96—published 3/13/96, effective 4/17/96]⁴

[Filed emergency 10/4/96—published 10/23/96, effective 10/4/96]

[Filed 9/29/00, Notice 8/23/00—published 10/18/00, effective 11/22/00]

[Filed 12/4/03, Notice 8/20/03—published 12/24/03, effective 1/28/04]⁵

[Filed emergency 3/9/04—published 3/31/04, effective 3/9/04]

[Filed ARC 0870C (Notice ARC 0692C, IAB 4/17/13), IAB 7/24/13, effective 8/28/13]

[Filed ARC 2532C (Notice ARC 2372C, IAB 1/20/16), IAB 5/11/16, effective 6/15/16]⁶

[Filed ARC 3264C (Notice ARC 3069C, IAB 5/24/17), IAB 8/16/17, effective 9/20/17]

[Filed ARC 4213C (Notice ARC 3992C, IAB 9/12/18), IAB 1/2/19, effective 2/6/19]

[Filed ARC 5252C (Notice ARC 5133C, IAB 8/12/20), IAB 11/4/20, effective 12/9/20]

[Filed ARC 5600C (Notice ARC 5370C, IAB 12/30/20), IAB 5/5/21, effective 6/9/21]

[Filed ARC 9703C (Amended Notice ARC 9379C, IAB 6/25/25; Notice ARC 9296C, IAB 5/28/25),
IAB 11/12/25, effective 12/17/25]

[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 2/4/26]

- ¹ Effective date of 3/1/89 delayed 70 days by Administrative Rules Review Committee at its February 13, 1989, meeting.
- ² Effective date of 3/1/89 delayed until adjournment of the 1990 Session of the General Assembly at its May 9, 1989, meeting.
- ³ Delay until adjournment of the 1990 G.A. lifted by the Administrative Rules Review Committee at its August 3, 1989, meeting which allowed the rules to become effective August 4, 1989.
- ⁴ Effective date of 4/17/96 delayed 70 days by the Administrative Rules Review Committee at its meeting held April 16, 1996. Effective date delayed until adjournment of the 1997 General Assembly by the Administrative Rules Review Committee at its meeting held June 11, 1996.
- ⁵ Effective date of 1/28/04 delayed 70 days by the Administrative Rules Review Committee at its January 6, 2004, meeting; at its meeting held March 8, 2004, the Committee lifted the delay, effective March 9, 2004.
- ⁶ Amendments to ch 21 in ARC 2532C, which included the renumbering of 21.4 to 21.7 as 21.5 to 21.8 (Item 1), the adoption of new 21.4 (Item 2), and the amendment to the implementation sentence (Item 3), rescinded by 2017 Iowa Acts, House File 591, section 2, paragraph "a," on 4/12/17 and, pursuant to paragraph "b," prior language restored IAC Supplement 5/10/17.