

657—13.11(155A) General requirements for telepharmacy technician. A telepharmacy technician shall maintain current national certification and registration in good standing with the board as a certified pharmacy technician.

13.11(1) Practice experience. Before practicing in a telepharmacy site, a telepharmacy technician shall have completed a minimum of 2,000 hours of practice experience as a certified pharmacy technician, at least 1,000 hours of which shall be practicing in an Iowa-licensed pharmacy and 160 hours of which shall be practicing in a managing pharmacy, at another pharmacy which uses the same audiovisual technology system, or at the telepharmacy site under the direct supervision of an onsite pharmacist.

13.11(2) Training. In addition to training required of all pharmacy technicians, a telepharmacy technician shall complete the following minimum training requirements before practicing in a telepharmacy site. Records of telepharmacy technician training shall be documented and maintained by the telepharmacy site.

- a. Review and understanding of the policies and procedures of the managing pharmacy.
- b. Review and understanding of the policies and procedures of the telepharmacy site.
- c. Review and understanding of these rules for telepharmacy practice.
- d. Review and understanding of pharmacy technician rules, 657—Chapter 3.
- e. Understanding of the operation of the audiovisual technologies to be utilized at both pharmacies.
- f. Training at the telepharmacy site under the direct supervision of an on-site verifying pharmacist. Training shall include operation and use of the audiovisual technology and other means of communication between the telepharmacy site and the managing pharmacy and all daily operations from unlocking and opening the telepharmacy site to closing and locking the telepharmacy site at the end of the business day. If the telepharmacy site is protected by one or more alarm systems, training shall include how to disarm and engage the alarm system or systems.

13.11(3) Continuing education. Beginning with the first full two-year continuing education period for renewal of the technician's national pharmacy technician certification after beginning practice as a telepharmacy technician, and for each subsequent renewal of national certification for as long as the technician continues to practice as a telepharmacy technician, the technician shall complete two hours of continuing education in each of the following activities. These continuing education requirements shall not be in addition to the total continuing education credits required to maintain national certification.

- a. Patient safety/medication errors.
- b. Pharmacy law.

13.11(4) Identification. The telepharmacy technician shall, at all times when the technician is practicing at the telepharmacy site and the telepharmacy site is open for business, wear a name badge or tag identifying the technician. The badge or tag shall include, at a minimum, the technician's first name and title. The name badge or tag shall be so designed and worn that the technician's name and title are clearly visible to the public at all times.

13.11(5) Adequate audiovisual connection. The telepharmacy technician shall ensure adequate audiovisual connection with the managing pharmacy during all periods when the telepharmacy site is open for business, including ensuring confidentiality of communications in compliance with state and federal confidentiality laws.

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