

Dear CLT Board Colleagues,

The Education Law establishes a new histotechnology profession in January 2024. Below is a draft of proposed regulations that establish the new histotechnologist profession. My goal is to have regulations adopted by the Regents in December. My comments are in RED. Proposed regulations are in black.

AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to sections 207, 210, 212, 6501, 6504, 6507, 6508, 8601, 8603, 8605, 8606, 8606a, and 8608 of the Education Law:

New Subpart 79-17 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is added, effective....

Subpart 79-17 Histotechnologist

Section 79-17.1 Professional study alternatives to professional study for histotechnologist licensure.

To meet the professional education or alternative to professional education requirement for licensure as a histotechnologist, the applicant shall present evidence satisfactory to the department of:

- (a) successful completion of a bachelor's or higher degree program in histotechnology registered by the department or determined by the department to be the substantial equivalent, or a bachelor's degree histotechnology program accredited by a national accrediting organization acceptable to the department; or,
- (b) successful completion of a bachelor's degree program in a natural science or a laboratory science and a minimum number of credit hours acceptable to the department, and appropriate clinical education in a histotechnologist program accredited by a national accrediting organization acceptable to the department or a program registered by the department or determined by the department to be the substantial equivalent; or
- (c) current histotechnologist certification by a national certification organization acceptable to the department; or,
- (d) histotechnologist licensure in a jurisdiction acceptable to the department; or,
- (e) a bachelor's degree in a natural science or in a clinical laboratory science and coursework acceptable to the department and:
 - (i) two years' experience in a clinical laboratory while licensed as a histotechnician in New York or another jurisdiction acceptable to the department; or
 - (ii) two years' experience in a clinical laboratory while certified as a histotechnician by a national certification organization, acceptable to the department.

This new provision (below) is based on language in existing Clinical Laboratory Technology regulations. Should the second paragraph be revised or deleted? I don't know what the "converted score of at least 75" means.

79-17.2 Licensing examination.

To meet the examination requirement for licensure as a histotechnologist, the candidate shall pass a general examination for histotechnologists that is determined by the department to measure the applicant's knowledge, judgment, and skills concerning practice as a histotechnologist, as defined in section 8601(2)(c) of the Education Law, and to be offered by an organization that has satisfactory administrative and psychometric procedures in place to offer the examination.

The department shall accept scores on the examination satisfactory to the State Board for Clinical Laboratory Technology, as meeting the requirement for passing the licensing examination. The applicant shall pass the examination with a converted score of at least 75, as determined by the State Board for Clinical Laboratory Technology.

This new provision (below) is based on language in existing Clinical Laboratory Technology regulations. An important change is highlighted in yellow. I added it because in other states, histotechnologists must practice under the supervision of a pathologist. What are your thoughts?

79-17.3 Limited permits.

(a) As authorized by section 8608 of the Education Law, upon recommendation of the State Board for Clinical Laboratory Technology, the department may issue a limited permit to practice as a histotechnologist to an applicant for licensure who meets the requirements of this section.

(b) The applicant for a limited permit to practice as a histotechnologist shall:

(1) file an application for a histotechnologist license and a limited permit with the department and pay the initial licensure and registration fee, as prescribed in section 8605() of the Education Law, and a limited permit fee of \$50.

(2) have met all requirements for licensure as a histotechnologist, except the examination requirement; and,
(3) submit adequate documentation that the applicant will be under the general supervision of the director of a clinical laboratory in accordance with section 571 of the public health law, and in accordance with the requirements of this paragraph.

(i) Such documentation shall identify the director of the clinical laboratory who has responsibility for providing general supervision of the applicant's work while under the limited permit and include a signed statement by the director of the clinical laboratory certifying that he or she will provide general supervision of the applicant's experience. If a director cannot carry out his or her duties, or is replaced by a new or interim director, the limited permit holder shall submit to the department on a form prescribed by the department the name of the new director who has assumed supervisory responsibility of the permit holder.

(ii) For purposes of this section, under the general supervision of the director of a clinical laboratory shall mean that the permit holder shall be supervised by a director of a clinical laboratory with a valid certificate of qualification in histopathology who shall:

(a) serve the laboratory full-time, or on a regular part-time basis;

(b) ensure the supervision of the technical performance of the permit holder, and be readily available for consultation with the permit holder, as needed; and,

(c) be responsible for the performance of laboratory procedures and related services carried out by the limited permit holder, either by directly overseeing such testing, or by delegating this responsibility to authorized qualified supervisors who are on site within the laboratory.

(c) The limited permit issued pursuant to this section shall be valid for a period of not more than twenty-four months from the date of issuance and shall not be renewable.