
For Publication: Notice of Public Comment Period for Amended Rules

From Christine Lewis <Christine.Lewis@arkansas.gov>

Date Mon 2/9/2026 9:55 AM

To legalads@arkansasonline.com <legalads@arkansasonline.com>

Cc Ashley Davis, PhD., RN <Ashley.Davis@arkansas.gov>; Matt Gilmore <Matt.Gilmore@arkansas.gov>; David Dawson, JD <David.Dawson@arkansas.gov>

 1 attachment (236 KB)

Notice Via Dem Gaz.17CARpt120,121,122,123,124,126,127,130,131.pdf;

Please run the attached Notice of Amended Rules as shown in Memorandum for three (3) consecutive days beginning Wednesday, February 11, 2026, and confirm receipt and scheduled publication by emailing Christine.Lewis@arkansas.gov.

Thank you for your assistance.



Christine Lewis

Executive Assistant

Nursing Board | ADH

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t: 501-686-2704

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Arkansas Department of Health

Arkansas State Board of Nursing

1123 S. University Ave., #800 • Little Rock, AR 72204
(501) 686-2700 • Fax (501) 686-2714

MEMORANDUM

TO: Legal Notices
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

VIA EMAIL: legalads@arkansasonline.com

FROM: Christine Lewis, Executive Assistant to the Director

DATE: February 9, 2026

RE: Legal Notice

Please run the following ad for three (3) consecutive days, beginning Wednesday, February 11, 2026.

NOTICE OF AMENDED RULES ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING

On Wednesday, February 11, 2026, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing (ASBN) will begin the thirty-day public comment period regarding the proposed revisions to the following:

ASBN Rules:

- 17 CAR pt. 120 General Provisions
- 17 CAR pt. 121 Licensure: Registered Nurse, Licensed Practical Nurse, and Licensed Psychiatric Technician Nurse
- 17 CAR pt. 122 Registered Nurse Practitioner
- 17 CAR pt. 123 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse
- 17 CAR pt. 124 Delegation
- 17 CAR pt. 126 Rules of Procedure
- 17 CAR pt. 127 Certified Medication Assistant or Medication Assistant-Certified
- 17 CAR pt. 130 Full Independent Practice Credentialing Committee
- 17 CAR pt. 131 Dialysis Patient Care Technicians

Copies of the proposed *Rules* are available at the ASBN office or you may view them at <https://healthy.arkansas.gov/boards-commissions/boards/nursing-arkansas-state-board/laws-rules/>. Written comments should be submitted to the Director, Arkansas State Board of Nursing, 1123 South University Ave.; Suite 800, Little Rock, AR 72204; no later than **Friday, March 13, 2026**.

Please email me at Christine.Lewis@arkansas.gov to confirm that you received this notice and that it will begin running on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, for three (3) consecutive days. Thanks for your kind assistance.

ARKANSAS REGISTER

Proposed Rule Cover Sheet



Secretary of State
Cole Jester

500 Woodlane Street, Suite 026
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1094
(501) 682-5070
www.sos.arkansas.gov



Name of Department _____

Agency or Division Name _____

Other Subdivision or Department, If Applicable _____

Previous Agency Name, If Applicable _____

Contact Person _____

Contact E-mail _____

Contact Phone _____

Name of Rule _____

Newspaper Name _____

Date of Publishing _____

Final Date for Public Comment _____

Location and Time of Public Meeting _____



Rule Revision 17 CAR Part 131. Dialysis Patient Care Technicians.

Throughout Part 131

PURPOSE

To establish new rules to assist the implementation of the newly created Registered Dialysis Patient Care Technician Act pursuant to Act 198 of 2025.

BACKGROUND

Act 198 of 2025 created the Registered Dialysis Patient Care Technician Act. It will be codified as part of the Nurse Practice Act and the registry will be maintained by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing. The rules provide further instruction for the implementation and governance of the Act. These rules were patterned after the board's rules 17 CAR Part 127 for Certified Medication Assistants\Medication Assistant-Certified, who are the regulated healthcare professionals most similar to Dialysis Patient Care Technicians.

KEY POINTS

Dialysis Patient Care Technicians will be registered individuals, therefore the terms "register" or "registry" are used here instead of the terms "certificate" or "certify" contained in Part 127.

DISCUSSION

Definition terms, scope of work, registration requirements, registration process, identification, grounds for discipline, skill requirements and education requirements match those outlined in Act 198 of 2025.

Rule Revision 17 CAR Part 131. Dialysis Patient Care Technicians.

Subpart 114

PURPOSE

To clarify that the Act and rules do not apply to dialysis patient care technicians working directly with a physician.

BACKGROUND

Act 198 of 2025 specifically states that the Act does not apply to dialysis patient care technicians working directly with a physician licensed by the Arkansas State Medical Board. This is because Physicians have been authorized to delegate certain tasks to these individuals pursuant to the Medical Practice Act.

KEY POINTS

This language complies with Act 198 of 2025.

DISCUSSION

This language complies with Act 198 of 2025.

NO FINANCIAL IMPACT ANTICIPATED

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the Code of Arkansas Rules.

Proposed Rulemaking

Title 17

Title 17. Professions, Occupations, and Businesses

Chapter XXII. Arkansas State Board of Nursing, Department of Health Part 131. Dialysis Patient Care Technicians

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Promulgated by: Arkansas State Board of Nursing, Department of Health

17 CAR § 131-101. Definitions.

As used in this part:

- (1) "AV fistula" (AVF) means the surgical connection of an artery and vein causing blood to flow between the vessels.
- (2) "AV graft" (AVG) means the connection of a vein and artery that utilizes a hollow synthetic tube.
- (3) "Central venous catheter" (CVC) means the insertion of a soft plastic, y-shaped tube that is placed into a large vein usually in the neck, upper chest or groin.
- (4) "Dialysis patient care technician" (D-PCT) means a person who:
 - _____ (A) meets the requirement in 17 CAR §131-102; and
 - _____ (B) who works under the supervision of a registered nurse or physician in a dialysis center.
- (5) "Hemodialysis" means a method of dialysis in which blood from a patient's body is circulated through an external device or machine and then returned to the patient's bloodstream for the purpose of removing substances from the patient's body; and
- (6) "Patient contact hours" means contact hours awarded for successfully completing a continuing education activity by an approved provider.

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17 CAR § 131-102. Qualifications for registration.

(a) In order to register as a dialysis patient care technician, an applicant shall submit written evidence, verified by oath, to the Arkansas State Board of Nursing that the applicant:

- (1) Has a high school diploma or a general educational development (GED) certificate;
- (2) Is currently employed as a dialysis patient care technician; and
- (3) Has completed or is enrolled in a training course that follows national recommendations for dialysis patient care technicians which is conducted primarily in a work setting.

(b) To remain on the Dialysis Patient Care Technician Registry the individual shall:

- _____ (1) Obtain national certification within eighteen months of becoming employed as a Dialysis Patient Care Technician; and
- _____ (2) Maintain current certification.

17 CAR § 131-103. Initial registration.

(a) Applications for the Dialysis Patient Care Technician Registry shall be completed and filed with the Arkansas State Board of Nursing.

(b) The associated nonrefundable fee shall accompany the application.

(c) The applicant shall report any felony and misdemeanor convictions.

17 CAR § 131-104. Scope of work.

_____ (a) A dialysis patient care technician may provide delegated patient care to include hemodialysis under the supervision of a registered nurse.

_____ (b) Delegated patient care is based on the dialysis patient care technician's documented:

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(1) Knowledge;

(2) Training; and

(3) Skill.

(c) Patient care may include:

(1) Access through a CVC, AVG, or AVF;

(2) Administration of saline through a CVC, AVG or AVF;

(3) Administration of heparin through a CVC, AVG or AVF via intravenous push or bolus;

(4) Removal of catheter dressings; and

(5) Initiating, providing, and terminating dialysis treatment.

17 CAR § 131-105. Endorsement.

(a) The Arkansas State Board of Nursing may allow registration as a dialysis patient care technician by endorsement to an applicant who has been licensed, certified, or registered as a dialysis patient care technician under the laws of another state or territory, regardless of title, if:

(1) In the opinion of the board, the applicant meets the qualifications of a dialysis patient care technician in this state as required in 17 CAR § 131-102; and

(2) The board approves placement on the Dialysis Patient Care Technician Registry.

(b) Applications shall be completed and filed with the board.

(c) The associated nonrefundable fee shall accompany the application.

(d) The applicant shall report all felony and misdemeanor convictions to the board.

(e) Endorsement verifications will be accepted from the state of original certification only.

17 CAR § 131-107. Renewals.

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- (a) Each person registered under the provisions of "Registered" Dialysis Patient Care Technician Act, Arkansas Code § 17-87-901 et seq., shall renew the registration every two years.
- (b) Sixty (60) days prior to the expiration date, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing shall mail a renewal notification to the last known address of each dialysis patient care technician who is currently on the Dialysis Patient Care Technician Registry.
- (c) An applicant for renewal of a dialysis patient care technician registration shall submit to the Board:
 - (1) A completed renewal form;
 - (2) Proof of current national certification; and
 - (3) Payment of the nonrefundable renewal fee.

17 CAR § 131-108. Expired or lapsed registration.

- (a) The registration is expired if not renewed by the expiration date.
- (b) Failure to receive the renewal notice at the last address of record in the Arkansas State Board of Nursing office shall not relieve the dialysis patient care technician of the responsibility for renewing the registration by the expiration date.
- (c) Any dialysis patient care technician whose registration is expired shall:
 - _____ (1) File a renewal application; and
 - _____ (2) Pay the current renewal fee and the late fee.
- (d) The registration is lapsed when the national certification upon which the registration was granted expires.
- (e) The national certifying body shall require between thirty (30) and forty (40) contact hours for recertification.

17 CAR § 131-109. Identification.

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- (a) Any person who is registered by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing Shall use the legal title or abbreviation as set forth in the "Registered" Dialysis Patient Care Technician Act, Arkansas Code § 17-87-901 et seq.
- (b) No other person shall assume any other name, title or abbreviation or any words, letters, signs or devices that would cause a reasonable person to believe the user is registered as a dialysis patient care technician.
- (c) Any person registered as a dialysis patient care technician shall wear a name badge with the name and appropriate legal title or abbreviation during times when such person is providing patient care.
- (d) The name badge shall be prominently displayed and clearly legible such that the person receiving care may readily identify the type of personnel providing care.

17 CAR § 131-110. Name, address or phone number change.

- (a) A dialysis patient care technician whose name is legally changed shall submit to the board:
 - (1) A name change request;
 - (2) A copy of the marriage license or court action; and
 - (3) The required fee.
- (b) The dialysis patient care technician shall immediately notify the board in writing of a change in:
 - (1) Mailing address;
 - (2) Residential address;
 - (3) Email address; or
 - (4) Telephone number.

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17 CAR § 131-111. Registry.

The Dialysis Patient Care Technician Registry shall list the following information on each dialysis patient care technician:

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- (1) Full name;
- (2) Registry number with issue and expiration date;
- (3) Disciplinary actions;
- (4) Certificate showing completion of a nationally recognized training program;
- (5) Certificate of certifying examination; and
- (6) All felony or misdemeanor convictions reported to the Arkansas State Board of Nursing.

17 CAR § 131-112. Registration of uniformed service members, veterans, and spouses.

(a) Automatic registration.

The Arkansas State Board of Nursing will give preference in the order of processing to applications for placement on the registry filed by the following individuals:

- (1) A uniformed service member stationed in the State of Arkansas;
- (2) A uniformed service veteran who resided in or establishes residency in the State of Arkansas; or
- (3) The spouse of a:
 - (A) Person under subdivision (a)(1) or (a)(2) of this section;
 - (B) A uniformed service member who is assigned a tour of duty that excludes the uniformed service member's spouse from accompanying the uniformed service member and the spouse relocates to Arkansas; or
 - (c) A uniformed service member who is killed or succumbs to his or her injuries or illness in the line of duty if the spouse establishes residency in Arkansas.

(b) Extension of registration expiration date.

- (1) Upon written request and submission of appropriate documentation, a deployed uniformed service member or spouse shall be allowed an extension of the expiration date without penalty or assessment of a late fee for renewing the registration.

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(2) The extension shall be effective for one hundred eighty (180) days after the service member or spouse returns from active deployment.

(c) Consideration of military training and experience. When considering an application for registration, the board shall:

(1) Consider whether or not the applicant's military education, training, national certification, service-issued credential, and experience in the practice as a dialysis patient care technician is substantially similar to the experience or education required for registration; and

(2) Accept the applicant's military education, training, national certification, service-issued credential, and experience in the practice as a dialysis patient care technician in lieu of experience or education required for registration, if the board determines that the military training and experience is a satisfactory substitute for the experience or education required for registration.

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17 CAR § 131-113. Grounds for discipline.

(a) The Arkansas State Board of Nursing shall have sole authority to deny, suspend, revoke, or limit any dialysis patient care technician's registration issued by the board or applied for in accordance with the provisions of this part, or to otherwise discipline a dialysis patient care technician upon proof that the person:

(1) Is disqualified from employment under Arkansas Code § 20-33-213;

(2) Secured registration through fraud or deceit;

(3) Is guilty of unprofessional conduct, unethical conduct, gross ignorance, or inefficiency in the conduct of his or her practice as outlined in 17 CAR § 126-102;

(4) Used a false name or an alias in his or her application; or

(5) Violated any provisions of the "Registered" Dialysis Patient Care Technician Act, Arkansas Code § 17-87-901 et seq.

17 CAR § 131-114. Exceptions.

This part does not apply to a dialysis patient care technician who is working directly with a physician licensed by the Arkansas State Medical Board.

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