

APA-1

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control: 610
Department or Agency: Alabama Board of Nursing Alabama
Rule No.: 610-X-14-.01
Rule Title: Definitions
Intended Action: Amend

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? Yes

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare? Yes

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public? No

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved? No

To what degree?: N/A

Is the increase in cost more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule? NA

Are all facets of the rule-making process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public? Yes

Does the proposed action relate to or affect in any manner any litigation which the agency is a party to concerning the subject matter of the proposed rule? No

Does the proposed rule have an economic impact? No

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Services Agency.

Signature of certifying officer

Natalie Baker
Natalie Baker

Date

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

REC'D & FILED

MAR 17, 2026

LEGISLATIVE SVC AGENCY

ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING ALABAMA

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Board of Nursing

RULE NO. & TITLE: 610-X-14-.01 Definitions

INTENDED ACTION: Amend

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION:

The Board of Nursing proposes amending the rule to clarify educational and regulatory requirements for Medication Assistants, Certified (MAC).

TIME, PLACE AND MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS:

Written or verbal comments will be accepted through 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, 2026 and may be directed to PO Box 303100, Montgomery, Alabama 36130, by telephone to 334-293-5200, or email to Natalie.Baker@abn.alabama.gov.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY:

Natalie R. Baker

Natalie Baker

Natalie Baker

(Signature of officer authorized
to promulgate and adopt
rules or his or her deputy)

Definitions.

~~(1) Abandonment: Acceptance of a patient assignment, thus establishing a~~
Approved Program: A medication assistant, certified patient relationship, and then ending the medication assistant, certified patient relationship without giving reasonable notice to supervisory personnel so that others can make arrangements for continuation of care (MAC) education program that meets all of the standards as specified in these rules.

~~(2) Accountability: The state of being answerable or responsible for action~~
Clinical and Theoretical Competence: The possession of knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to meet current standards of MAC practice and education as specified in 610-X-14-.02 Qualifications of Applicants for Permit.

~~(3) Application(s): Form(s) and process(es) for applicants seeking permits by examination, endorsement, reinstatement, or renewal.~~

~~(a) Incomplete application: Missing requirements.~~

~~(b) Complete application: Meets requirements.~~

~~(c) Void application: Any incomplete application voided due to failure by the applicant to satisfy all requirements within one year of submission~~
Clinical Learning Experience: Organized plan of learning experiences, under the oversight of an experienced clinical supervisor, that provides student opportunities to integrate knowledge and skills related to the administration of medications appropriate to the scope of practice for the MAC program.

~~(4) Dual Relationship: Any time~~
Clinical Supervisor: A licensed registered nurse or practical nurse, acting in a supervisory capacity of clinical learning experiences, who is accessible to assign or prescribe a course of action, provide guidance, and evaluation for MAC students.

~~(5) Curriculum: An organized plan of study that includes both theoretical and clinical learning experiences essential for preparing students to be eligible upon course or program completion to apply for a MAC~~
interacts with a patient outside the MAC-patient relationship
permit.

~~(5) Endorsement: The process of application for and method of permit approval for~~
(6) Student Learning Outcomes: A common set of competencies within an organized plan of study expected of

completers which are clear, measurable demonstrations of student learning.

(7) Program Outcomes: A common set of outcomes within an organized plan of study expected of completers which include program completion, job placement, and certification pass rates.

(8) Deficiency(ies): Failure of a medication assistant, certified ~~originally licensed/permit as a~~ program to meet one or more of the standards as stated in Chapter 610-X-14.

(9) MAC ~~in a jurisdiction other than Alabama.~~

~~(6) Fine: A monetary penalty imposed by the Board~~Instructor: Registered nurse, with at least an associate degree in nursing, who is employed full-time or part-time by the governing institution and has completed a board-approved MAC train-the-trainer course. Instructors are responsible for teaching and evaluating - student performances in MAC courses.

~~(7) Hospital~~(10) MAC Program Coordinator: Individual who is employed full-time by the governing institution, has completed the board-approved MAC coordinator training, and has primary accountability and responsibility for administration of the MAC program.

(11) Off-campus instructional site: A geographical location apart from an institution's main campus where instruction is delivered, either entirely or partially, utilizing its own or sharing instructors with the main campus.

(12) Healthcare facilities: A facility described in Code of Ala. 1975, Section 22-21-20(1), other than a ~~health~~healthcare maintenance organization, which has an organized medical staff, or which employs the services of a medical director who is a physician licensed to practice medicine in Alabama. The term ~~hospital~~healthcare facility shall not include the private offices of physicians or dentists, whether in individual, group, registered corporation, or registered association practice.

~~(8) Lapsed permit: Failure~~(13) Survey: A comprehensive, Board-authorized on-site evaluation or review of a written report, and/or documents, for a proposed or existing program that serves to assess the program's compliance with the Board's education standards.

(14) Governing Institution Administrator: Person with overall administrative authority for the campus/instructional sites where the MAC program is located.

~~(15) Certification Pass Rate: The percentage of completers of a MAC to renew a permit; does not require program taking the certification examination during a calendar year who achieve a passing score on the certification examination for reinstatement, unless the permit is in lapsed status for more than two (years) during the calendar year.~~

~~(9) Legally Authorized Prescriber: Healthcare professional who is authorized by law to prescribe medications or other treatment modalities.~~

~~(10) Letter of Admonishment: A letter from the Board that addresses the areas of concern over the reported conduct and notifies the Medication Assistant, Certified or applicant for a permit that the case has been closed without discipline.~~

~~(11) Letter of Closure: A letter from the Board that notifies the Medication Assistant, Certified or applicant for a permit that the case has been closed without discipline.~~

~~(12) May: Power, privilege, or right retained (16) Notice of Deficiency: An official notice by the Board.~~

~~(13) May not: Prohibition.~~

~~(14) Medication Assistant, Certified (MAC): A Medication Assistant, Certified through a Board approved program and the Medication Assistant Certification Exam (MACE) may perform limited medication administration tasks in a licensed healthcare facility other than a mental health residential community program or K-12 grade school program.~~

~~(15) Medication Assistant, Certified (MAC) Assignment: The assignment by a licensed nurse of medication administration duties to a MAC.~~

~~(16) Negligent: Failure to exercise the care required by the applicable standard of care which identifies areas of deficiency and provides the expected date of correction. The notice may require follow-up site visits and submission of additional documents, evaluations, and reports.~~

~~(17) Permit: Board approval to practice as a Medication Assistant, Certified (MAC). The MAC receives authorization to practice as a MAC from the Board through an approved permit.~~

~~(18) Primary Source Verification: Verification provided directly to the Board by the entity that is the original source of the document of educational credentials, certification, and/or permit~~

~~or an approved primary source organization recognized~~Notice of Correction: An official notice by the Board.

~~(19) Professional Boundary: Behavior notifying a MAC program of the correction of previous areas of deficiency and current approval status of the MAC in maintaining a therapeutic relationship with a patient for the patient's benefit, rather than behavior that shifts the focus to the MAC~~program.

~~(20) Reprimand: A formal censure by the Board.~~

~~(21) Responsibility: The charge to do something that is expected performance.~~

~~(22) Revocation: The withdrawal of the permit by Board action.~~

~~(23) Shall: Duty, requirement, or condition.~~

~~(24) Standard Precautions: Recommendations issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to minimize the risk of transmission of pathogens.~~

~~(25) Supervision, Direct: Responsible licensed nurse is physically present in the facility and readily accessible to designate or prescribe a course of action or to give procedural guidance, direction, and periodic evaluation. Direct supervision by a licensed nurse is required for medication assistants, certified.~~

~~(26) Suspension: The temporary withdrawal of the permit by Board action.~~

~~(27) Unencumbered permit: An active permit that has no current stipulations, conditions, or limitations.~~

~~(28) Verification: The process of verifying original or current permit in Alabama. The verification process shall be defined by the Board.~~

~~(29) Voluntary Surrender: The voluntary relinquishment of a permit that has the force and effect of revocation.~~

~~(30) Willful: Commission of an act or omission when the Medication Assistant, Certified or applicant knows or reasonably should know that the act or omission violates the Chapter 21 of Title 34 of the Code of Ala. 1975.~~

~~(31) Board-approved Medication Assistant Education Program: a program approved by the Board to administer educational preparation for MACs. The Board may develop guidelines for~~

~~programmatic maintenance of approval and administration or educational preparation for MACs.~~

Author: Alabama Board of Nursing

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-21-2.1.

History: New Rule: Published September 30, 2021; effective November 14, 2021. **Amended:** Published January 31, 2022;

effective March 17, 2022. Amended: Published _____; effective

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