
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL
No. 2105 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY GINGRICH, MILLARD, COHEN AND SWANGER,
MARCH 17, 2014

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, MARCH 17, 2014

AN ACT

1 Providing for certification of central service technicians who
2 perform sterilization procedures in health care facilities;
3 imposing continuing education requirements; and providing for
4 the duties of health care facilities and the Department of
5 Health.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Short title.

9 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Central
10 Service Technician Certification Act.

11 Section 2. Definitions.

12 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
13 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
14 context clearly indicates otherwise:

15 "Central service technician." A person who provides the
16 services of inspecting, assembling, decontamination,
17 preparation, packaging and sterilization of reusable medical
18 instrumentation or devices in a health care facility.

19 "Department." The Department of Health of the Commonwealth.

1 "Health care facility." As defined in section 103 of the act
2 of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care
3 Facilities Act.

4 "Health care practitioner." As defined in section 103 of the
5 act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care
6 Facilities Act.

7 Section 3. Certification required.

8 Except as provided for in section 4(a), no person shall
9 function as a central service technician and no health care
10 facility shall employ or otherwise contract for the services of
11 a central service technician, unless the person meets one of the
12 following:

13 (1) Has successfully passed a nationally accredited
14 central service examination for central service technicians
15 and holds and maintains any of the following credentials:

16 (i) The Certified Registered Central Service
17 Technician credential.

18 (ii) The Certified Sterile Processing and
19 Distribution Technician credential.

20 (iii) A substantially similar credential to the
21 credentials listed under subparagraph (i) or (ii).

22 (2) Provides evidence that the person was employed or
23 otherwise contracted for the services as a central service
24 technician in a health care facility for a consecutive period
25 of two years, occurring within the five years immediately
26 prior to the effective date of this section.

27 Section 4. Continuing employment and education.

28 (a) New employees.--A central service technician who does
29 not meet the requirements under section 3 shall have 18 months
30 from the date of hire to comply with section 3(1).

1 (b) Continuing education.--A person who qualifies to
2 function as a central service technician in a health care
3 facility shall annually complete ten hours of continuing
4 education to maintain the person's certification as a central
5 service technician.

6 (c) Health care facility responsibility.--A health care
7 facility shall, upon the request of a central service
8 technician, verify in writing the central service technician's
9 dates of employment or the contract period when the central
10 service technician provided services to the health care
11 facility.

12 Section 5. Other licensed practitioners.

13 Nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit a licensed
14 health care practitioner from performing the tasks or functions
15 of a central service technician if the person is acting within
16 the scope of the person's license as a health care practitioner.

17 Section 6. Departmental duties.

18 The department shall administer the provisions of this act
19 and promulgate and adopt such regulations as may be necessary to
20 implement this act.

21 Section 7. Effective date.

22 This act shall take effect January 1, 2015.