

Georgia Composite Medical Board

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Daniel R. Dorsey, MBA



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NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND AND ADOPT RULES

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia Composite Medical Board (hereinafter “Board”) proposes amendments to the Georgia Composite Medical Board Rules by amending **Rule 360-34-.02 “Qualifications for Physician to enter a protocol”**. An exact copy of the proposed rule is attached to this Notice.

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed rules and a synopsis of the proposed amendments may be reviewed between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except official state holidays, at 2 Peachtree Street, NW, 6th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303. These documents can also be reviewed online at <http://medicalboard.georgia.gov/notice-intent-amendadopt-rules>.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at **8:30 a.m. on October 6, 2022, via TEAMS** to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rules. At the public hearing, any interested person may present data, make a statement or comment, or offer a viewpoint or argument orally or in writing. Lengthy statements and statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to five minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. To ensure their consideration, submit all written comments by **September 22, 2022, to Kierra.Battle@dch.ga.gov** or via mail to the Georgia Composite Medical Board Rules Committee at 2 Peachtree Street, NW, 6th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

The Board voted to adopt this Notice of Intent on **September 1, 2022**. Upon conclusion of the public hearing on **October 6, 2022**, the Board will consider whether the formulation and adoption of these proposed rule amendments imposes excessive regulatory costs on any license or entity, and whether any cost to comply with the proposed rule amendments could be reduced by a less expensive alternative that accomplishes the objectives of the statutes which are the basis of the proposed rule. Additionally, the Board will consider whether it is legal or feasible in meeting the objectives of the applicable laws to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A),(B),(C), and (D).

This Notice is adopted and posted in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4 of the Georgia Administrative Procedures Act. A synopsis of the proposed rules and an economic impact statement are attached to this Notice. The authority for promulgation of these rules is O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-34-5, 43-34-103, and 43-34-108.

Issued this day September 1, 2022.

Daniel R. Dorsey
Executive Director

ECONOMIC IMPACT AND SYNOPSIS FOR

RULE CHAPTER 360-34 Vaccine Protocol Agreements

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

The attached rules are promulgated under the authority of the Medical Practice Act, Title 43, Chapter 34. The Georgia Composite Medical Board licenses and regulates nine professions. The formulation and adoption of these rules do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee, and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of Article 2 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. Additionally, it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of the Article 2 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses listed in O.C.G.A. §50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D).

RULE SYNOPSIS:

Rule 360-34-.02 “Qualifications for Physician to enter a protocol”

Purpose/Main Features: The proposed change simplifies the language imposing the requirement that a physician be registered with Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services ("GRITS") in order to be a party to a vaccine protocol agreement. This requirement is explicitly spelled out in O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.1(b).

Authority O.C.G.A. §§ 43-34-5; 43-34-26.1

Rule 360-34-.02 Qualifications for Physician to enter a protocol

In order for a physician to be eligible to enter into a vaccine protocol agreement, the physician must:

- (1) Hold a current license to practice medicine in the State of Georgia;
- (2) Have his/her principal place of practice in the State of Georgia;
- (3) Be registered with ~~the vaccination registry established by the Georgia Department of Public Health ("DPH") O.C.G.A. Section 31-12-3.1, commonly known as~~ the Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services ("GRITS");
- (4) Not be employed by the pharmacist(s) or nurse(s) with whom he/she is entering into the vaccine protocol agreement;
- (5) Not be an employee of a pharmacy that also employs the pharmacist(s) or nurse(s) with whom he/she is entering into the vaccine protocol agreement; and
- (6) Be available for immediate consultation or have designated another qualified physician as an alternate physician who is available for immediate consultation.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 31-12-3.1, 43-34-5, 43-34-26.1.