

MEDICAL BOARD STAFF REPORT

DATE REPORT ISSUED: March 23, 2010
 DEPARTMENT: Licensing Operations
 SUBJECT: Update on Implementation of SB 132 Polysomnographic Technologists, Technicians and Trainees
 STAFF CONTACT: Abbie French

SUMMARY:

SB 132, Denham, (Statutes of 2009) adding Chapter 7.8 to Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, took effect as an urgency measure on October 23, 2009. SB 132 requires the Medical Board of California to adopt regulations within one year after the effective date of this act relative to the qualifications for certified polysomnographic technologists, including requiring those technologists to: be credentialed by a board-approved national accrediting agency; have graduated from a board-approved educational program; and, have passed a board-approved national certifying examination (with a specified exception for that examination requirement for a three-year period).

SB 132 prohibits a person from using the title "certified polysomnographic technologist" or engaging in the practice of polysomnography unless: he or she undergoes a Department of Justice background check, as specified; is registered as a certified polysomnographic technologist; is supervised and directed by a licensed physician and surgeon; and, meets other requirements.

SB 132 would define polysomnography to mean the treatment, management, diagnostic testing, control, education, and care of patients with sleep and wake disorders. SB 132 would further require the board, within one year after the effective date of this act, to adopt regulations related to the employment of polysomnographic technologist, technicians and trainees.

STATUS:

March 2, 2010, Rhonda Baldo, the Associate Governmental Program Analyst in Licensing Operations was hired to implement this program.

March 16, 2010, Manager Abbie French, Associate Analyst Kelly Nelson, and Associate Analyst Rhonda Baldo met with David Gonzalez, the lobbyist who worked for the Society sponsoring SB 132. Discussions included background and suggestions on where to obtain information.

Currently working on:

- Identifying the national organizations currently certifying each registrant category
- Identifying the scope of practice for each registrant category
- Identifying the applicable experience in lieu of passage of a national certifying examination
- Identifying the projected number of applicants for each registrant category

Within the next few months, work will commence on:

| Task | Proposed Completion Date |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Preparing the proposed regulatory package for Board approval | June 1, 2010 |
| Establishing criteria for educational certification (to be implemented within three years) | June 1, 2010 |
| Creating certificate and wallet card for each registrant category | July 2010 |
| Proposed Draft of Regulations | July 29 – 30, 2010 Board Meeting |
| Creating and testing the Applicant Tracking System for new registration categories | September 2010 |
| Drafting new forms and applications | September 2010 |
| Working with the Department of Justice regarding contracted data | September 2010 |
| Developing policies and procedures | September 2010 |
| Starting outreach activities and Board website information | September 2010 |
| Preparing outreach pamphlets | September 2010 |
| Developing and executing appropriate contacts for fingerprint services, printing services, etc. | September 2010 |
| Polysomnographic Regulation Hearing | November 3 – 4, 2010 Board Meeting |