

Connecticut General Statutes
Chapter 381b
Perfusionists

Sec. 20-162aa. Definitions. As used in sections 20-162aa to 20-162cc, inclusive, and subsection (c) of section 19a-14:

- (1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health.
- 2) "Department" means the Department of Public Health.
- (3) "Extracorporeal circulation" means the diversion of a patient's blood through a heart-lung machine or a similar device that assumes the functions of the patient's heart, lungs, kidney, liver or other organs.
- (4) "Perfusion" means the functions necessary for the support, treatment, measurement or supplementation of the cardiovascular, circulatory or respiratory system or other organs, or a combination of such activities, and to ensure the safe management of physiologic functions by monitoring and analyzing the parameters of the systems under an order and under the supervision of a licensed physician, including, but not limited to:
 - (A) The use of extracorporeal circulation, long-term cardiopulmonary support techniques including extracorporeal carbon-dioxide removal and extracorporeal membrane oxygenation and associated therapeutic and diagnostic technologies;
 - (B) Counterpulsation, ventricular assistance, autotransfusion, blood conservation techniques, myocardial and organ preservation, extracorporeal life support and isolated limb perfusion;
 - (C) The use of techniques involving blood management, advanced life support and other related functions; and
 - (D) In the performance of the following activities:
 - (i) The administration of pharmacological and therapeutic agents, or blood products or anesthetic agents through the extracorporeal circuit or through an intravenous line as ordered by a physician;
 - (ii) The performance and use of anticoagulation monitoring and analysis; physiologic monitoring and analysis; blood gas and chemistry monitoring and analysis; hematologic monitoring and analysis; hypothermia; hyperthermia; hemoconcentration and hemodilution; or modified extracorporeal circulatory hemodialysis; or
 - (iii) The observation of signs and symptoms related to perfusion services, the determination of whether the signs and symptoms exhibit abnormal characteristics, and the implementation of appropriate reporting, perfusion protocols, or changes in or the initiation of emergency procedures.
- (5) "Perfusionist" means a person who is licensed to practice perfusion pursuant to the provisions of sections 20-162aa to 20-162cc, inclusive.
- (6) "Direct supervision" means a supervising physician is physically present in the location where the perfusionist trainee is performing routine perfusion functions.

Sec. 20-162bb. Licensure as perfusionist. Application and examination. Limited period for licensure without examination. Exceptions. Annual license renewal. (a) No person shall practice perfusion in this state unless the person holds a valid license from the department to practice perfusion in this state. No person shall use the title "perfusionist" or make use of any title, words, letters or abbreviations that may reasonably be confused with licensure as a perfusionist unless such person holds a valid license from the department to practice perfusion in this state.

(b) Each person seeking licensure to practice perfusion in this state shall make application on forms prescribed by the department, pay an application fee of three hundred and fifteen dollars and present to

the department satisfactory evidence that such person (1) successfully completed a perfusion education program with standards established by the Accreditation Committee for Perfusion Education and approved by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs; (2) completed a minimum of fifty cases after graduating from a perfusion education program accredited or approved pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection; and (3) after completing the requirements set forth in subdivision (2) of this subsection, successfully completed the certification examination offered by the American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion, or its successor. The commissioner shall grant a license as a perfusionist to any applicant who meets the requirements of this subsection.

(c) In lieu of the requirements set forth in subsection (b) of this section, a person may qualify for a license to practice perfusion in this state, provided such person: (1) Is currently certified by the American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion; (2) has worked as a perfusionist in a licensed healthcare facility in another state for a period of not less than five years; and (3) has had no lapse in active practice as perfusionist greater than twenty-four months at the time of filing a licensure application in Connecticut. The commissioner may grant a license as a perfusionist to any applicant who meets the requirements of this subsection.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to the activities and services of a person who (1) has successfully completed a perfusion education program that meets the criteria of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section from gaining experience in the practice of perfusion, provided such activities (A) are necessary to satisfy the requirements of subdivision (2) of said subsection (b), (B) are performed under direct supervision, and (C) such person is designated as an intern or trainee or other such title indicating the training status appropriate to such person's level of training, or (2) is enrolled in an accredited perfusion education program and performing such work as is incidental to the course of study.

(e) The provisions of this section do not apply to any practicing physician or surgeon licensed under chapter 370.

(f) No license shall be issued under this section to any applicant against whom professional disciplinary action is pending or who is the subject of an unresolved complaint in this or any other state or territory.

(g) Licenses shall be renewed annually in accordance with the provisions of section 19a-88 for a fee of three hundred fifteen dollars.

Sec. 20-162cc. Disciplinary action for improper professional conduct. The Commissioner of Public Health may take any disciplinary action set forth in section 19a-17 against a perfusionist for any of the following reasons: (1) Failure to conform to the accepted standards of the profession; (2) conviction of a felony; (3) fraud or deceit in obtaining or seeking reinstatement of a license to practice perfusion; (4) fraud or deceit in the practice of the profession; (5) negligent, incompetent or wrongful conduct in professional activities; (6) physical, mental or emotional illness or disorder resulting in an inability to conform to the accepted standards of the profession; (7) alcohol or substance abuse; (8) wilful falsification of entries in any hospital, patient or other record pertaining to the profession; or (9) violation of any provision of sections 20-162aa to 20-162cc, inclusive. The commissioner may order a license holder to submit to a reasonable physical or mental examination if the physical or mental capacity of the license holder to practice safely is the subject of an investigation. The commissioner may petition the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to enforce such order or any action taken pursuant to said section 19a-17. The commissioner shall give notice and an opportunity to be heard on any contemplated action under said section 19a-17.