



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Health Professions Licensure  
239 Causeway Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114

Tel: 617-973-0800  
TTY : 617-973-0988  
[www.mass.gov/dph/boards](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards)

**Board of Registration in Pharmacy  
Drug Control Program  
Immunization Program**

**Joint Policy 2020-12: Vaccine Administration by Qualified Pharmacy Technicians**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (“DPH or the Department”), through the Board of Registration in Pharmacy, Drug Control Program, and Immunization Program is making vaccines more accessible by authorizing administration by qualified pharmacy technicians. This policy sets forth the requirements for qualified pharmacy technicians to administer vaccinations and is intended to align with the Secretary of Health and Human Services’ Declaration under the PREP Act, authorizing qualified pharmacy technicians to vaccinate persons ages 3 through 18 years, or as otherwise authorized by the PREP Act, according to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (“ACIP”) standard immunization schedule.

**Please note carefully, certain allowances and requirements of this policy will terminate when the emergency declaration under the PREP Act terminates. After termination, policy details will be reevaluated.**

Qualified pharmacy technicians may administer vaccines provided the following requirements are satisfied:

- Qualified pharmacy technicians must be certified by a Board-approved national certifying body (i.e. ExCPT or PTCB) or have worked at least 500 hours after being licensed as a pharmacy technician.
- Qualified pharmacy technicians must be licensed by the Board.
- Qualified pharmacy technicians must have the approval of a Massachusetts licensed pharmacist on duty and are under the direct, on-site supervision of that pharmacist.
- After the pharmacist counsels the patient and selects the vaccine, a qualified pharmacy technician may only conduct the physical act of preparing and administering the vaccine and providing emergency medication to manage a vaccine reaction in accordance with a standing order.

- Qualified pharmacy technicians must successfully complete an Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (“ACPE”) accredited training program with the following minimum requirements:
  - 2 contact hours of self-study modules and assessment exam
  - 4 contact hours of live seminar to include an exam and successful demonstration of technique when administering an intramuscular and subcutaneous injection
  - recognition and management of vaccine reactions
- Except for the training program requirements, qualified pharmacy technicians must comply with all other requirements listed in joint [Policy 2020-11 Vaccine Administration](#) and 105 CMR 700.004(B)(6).

Please direct any questions to: [Pharmacy.Admin@MassMail.State.MA.US](mailto:Pharmacy.Admin@MassMail.State.MA.US)