

Medication Aide Class: New Mexico Board of Nursing Requirements.

This program is mandated by New Mexico board of Nursing 16.12.5.2
SCOPE: The rule applies to medication aides and medication aide training programs which serve consumers in various health care and community settings except acute care facilities.

[16.12.5.2 NMAC - Rp, 16.12.5.2 NMAC, 12/13/2022]

16.12.5.5 EFFECTIVE DATE: December 13, 2022, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.

[16.12.5.5 NMAC - Rp, 16.12.5.5 NMAC, 12/13/2022]

16.12.5.6 OBJECTIVE: Pursuant to the Nursing Practice Act this part establishes the requirements for fees, examination, recertification, standards and functions, supervision/direction, and disciplinary action for medication aides who serve in multiple health care settings except acute care facilities. It also establishes requirements for approval of medication aide programs, minimum standards for medication aide programs, and the medication aide advisory committee for medication aides.

[16.12.5.6 NMAC - Rp, 16.12.5.6 NMAC, 12/13/2022]

A. Initial certification by examination \$45.00

B. Certification by exam for CMA II \$60.00

16.12.5.9 CERTIFICATION BY EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR MEDICATION AIDES:

A. Prerequisites:

(1) Be a minimum of 18 years of age.

(2) Be a high school graduate or complete the general education development (GED) course.

Applicants who graduated from non-U.S. education programs shall have an evaluation of their education credentials sent to the board directly from a board recognized educational credentialing agency to verify that the education is comparable to a US high school diploma.

(3) Provide documentation of a minimum of three months health care experience working at a board approved agency within the last year or hold a current New Mexico nurse aide certificate in good standing.

(4) Successfully complete a board-approved program for the preparation of medication aides within the last 12 months.

(5) Complete the required application form within the specified deadline and according to all policies.

(6) Provide proof of current CPR certification.

(7) Remit the required fee.

B. Application and fee for the medication aide examination:

(1) Any application containing fraudulent or misrepresented information could be the basis for denial of certification.

(2) Incomplete applications for certification will not be processed. The applicant will be notified of the incomplete application within 30 days of submission.

(3) Verification of successful completion of the medication aide program including date of completion must be received in the board office directly from the agency nurse educator which provided the clinical experience of the program on agency letterhead.

(4) Upon board approval of the application, the board will issue a notification to the applicant. Thereafter the applicant must follow testing service instructions for scheduling the examination.

(5) Applicants who fail the examination must submit a re-examination application and pay a re-examination fee.

(6) Results of the examination shall be reported by the online portal to the applicant.

Successful candidates are not certified until they receive notification from the board. Successful candidates shall be issued an initial certificate.

(7) Certification can be verified through the board's website.

(8) An initial certificate shall be valid until the last day of the applicant's birth month after the first anniversary of the initial certificate.

C. Medication aide certification examination:

(1) The board shall develop and maintain the board-approved examination for medication aides.

(2) Board-approved examination centers shall comply with the security procedures developed by the board for distribution and administration of the examination.

(3) Applicants for certification as a medication aide shall be required to pass the medication aide examination with a minimum of eighty percent of the items answered correctly.

(4) Failed examinations must be repeated in their entirety on all subsequent attempts.

(5) Unsuccessful candidates may repeat the examination one time.

(6) The examination may be taken a maximum of two times. After the second failure, the applicant must provide verification of repeating and successfully completing the theory and clinical portion of a board-approved medication aide program to be eligible to sit for the exam.

(7) Applicants observed giving or receiving unauthorized assistance during the writing of the examination shall be physically removed from the examination center and the individual(s) shall be referred to the board by a sworn complaint(s) filed by the examiner.

CEs / Recertification every 2 years

(1) To meet the CE requirement for recertification as a medication aide, the applicant must provide evidence of having accrued 16 clock hours of CE within the two years renewal period immediately, preceding recertification. CE may be prorated to commensurate with the length of the renewal period.

(a) The agency shall grant opportunities for CE.

(b) Acceptable courses shall be those with topics related to medications and medication administration.

(c) CE requirement records are subject to audit by the board. Certificate holders may be subject to disciplinary action by the board if non-compliant within 60 days of the first notification of the audit.

(d) Failure to meet the CE requirements for recertification shall result in denial of recertification. Individuals who do not meet the continuing education requirement may not function as a medication aide until such time as the CE requirement has been met.

(2) In order to meet the work requirement for recertification as a medication aide, the applicant must administer medications a minimum of 100 hours during the two-year period immediately preceding certification renewal in a board approved facility.

(a) Work requirement records are subject to audit by the board. Certificate holders may be subject to disciplinary action by the board if non-compliant within 60 days of the first notification of the audit. Work hours may be prorated to commensurate with the length of the renewal period if it is less than 24 months.

(b) Failure to meet the employment requirement shall result in denial of recertification.

(c) Individuals who have not met the employment requirement may not function as a medication aide, until a 24 hour refresher course has been completed and a recertification application and fee have been submitted, processed, and accepted by the board.