

REFERENCE TITLE: **anesthesiologist assistants; licensure**

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-sixth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2023

## **HB 2457**

Introduced by  
Representative Pingerelli

**AN ACT**

**AMENDING TITLE 32, CHAPTER 13, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING  
ARTICLE 7; RELATING TO THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD.**

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 32, chapter 13, Arizona Revised Statutes, is  
3 amended by adding article 7, to read:

4 ARTICLE 7. ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS

5 32-1492. Definitions

6 IN THIS ARTICLE, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7 1. "ANESTHESIOLOGIST" MEANS A PHYSICIAN WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO  
8 THIS CHAPTER AND WHO HAS COMPLETED A RESIDENCY IN ANESTHESIOLOGY APPROVED  
9 BY THE AMERICAN BOARD OF ANESTHESIOLOGY OR THE AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC BOARD  
10 OF ANESTHESIOLOGY.

11 2. "ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT" MEANS A PERSON WHO MEETS THE  
12 REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 32-1492.02 AND WHO IS LICENSED BY THE BOARD TO  
13 ASSIST IN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING ANESTHESIA CARE PLANS FOR PATIENTS  
14 UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST.

15 3. "ASSISTS" MEANS THE PERSONAL PERFORMANCE BY AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
16 ASSISTANT OF THOSE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES DELEGATED BY THE  
17 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT'S SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST.

18 4. "CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION" MEANS THE INITIAL CERTIFYING  
19 EXAMINATION APPROVED BY THE BOARD FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF  
20 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS, INCLUDING THE EXAMINATION ADMINISTERED BY THE  
21 NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CERTIFICATION OF ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS OR  
22 ANOTHER NATIONAL ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT CERTIFYING AGENCY THAT HAS  
23 BEEN REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD AND THAT IS CURRENTLY CERTIFIED.

24 5. "SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST" MEANS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST WHO  
25 HOLDS A CURRENT UNRESTRICTED LICENSE, WHO SUPERVISES AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
26 ASSISTANT AND WHO ASSUMES LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HEALTH CARE TASKS  
27 PERFORMED BY THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT.

28 6. "SUPERVISION" MEANS THE AVAILABILITY OF AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST WHO  
29 DELEGATES, COORDINATES, DIRECTS OR CONSULTS WITH AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
30 ASSISTANT AND OVERSEES THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST'S  
31 INTENTIONS.

32 32-1492.01. Board: duties

33 A. THE BOARD SHALL REVIEW AND DETERMINE THE QUALIFICATIONS AND  
34 FITNESS OF ALL PERSONS APPLYING FOR A LICENSE TO PRACTICE AS AN  
35 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT.

36 B. THE BOARD SHALL:

37 1. GRANT, DENY, REVOKE, SUSPEND, RESTRICT AND REINSTATE LICENSES  
38 UNDER THIS ARTICLE.

39 2. INVESTIGATE ALLEGATIONS THAT AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT OR A  
40 SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST HAS ENGAGED IN CONDUCT CONSTITUTING A GROUND  
41 FOR REVOCATION.

42 3. CONDUCT INFORMAL INTERVIEWS AND HEARINGS.

43 4. ADOPT RULES GOVERNING THE PRACTICE OF ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
44 ASSISTANTS.

1 5. RETAIN JURISDICTION OVER ONLY THOSE LICENSEES TO WHOM TEMPORARY  
2 OR FULL LICENSES ARE GRANTED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE, REGARDLESS OF  
3 WHETHER THE LICENSE HAS EXPIRED, HAS LAPSED OR WAS RELINQUISHED DURING OR  
4 AFTER ANY ALLEGED OCCURRENCE OF CONDUCT.

5 32-1492.02. Licensure; use of title; requirements; renewal;  
6 reinstatement; temporary licensure

7 A. A PERSON MAY NOT PRACTICE IN THIS STATE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
8 ASSISTANT OR USE THE TITLE OR REPRESENT THAT THE PERSON IS A CERTIFIED  
9 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT OR ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT OR USE THE  
10 ABBREVIATION "C.A.A." OR "A.A." WITHOUT HAVING A LICENSE GRANTED BY THE  
11 BOARD PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE.

12 B. THE BOARD MAY GRANT AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT LICENSE TO AN  
13 APPLICANT WHO MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

14 1. GRADUATED FROM AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM ACCREDITED  
15 BY THE COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION OF ALLIED HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS, OR  
16 ITS PREDECESSOR OR SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION.

17 2. SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED A CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION.

18 3. COMPLETES AN APPLICATION FORM.

19 4. PAYS THE REQUIRED APPLICATION AND LICENSURE FEES AS PRESCRIBED  
20 BY THE BOARD IN RULE.

21 C. A LICENSE ISSUED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE, OTHER THAN A  
22 TEMPORARY LICENSE, IS VALID FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS. A LICENSEE SHALL  
23 RENEW THE LICENSE EVERY OTHER YEAR ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 31 BY COMPLETING  
24 AND SUBMITTING TO THE BOARD A RENEWAL APPLICATION FORM AS PRESCRIBED BY  
25 THE BOARD AND THE PRESCRIBED RENEWAL FEE BEFORE THE CURRENT LICENSE  
26 EXPIRES. THE BOARD SHALL PROVIDE RENEWAL NOTICES TO LICENSEES AT LEAST  
27 ONE MONTH BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE.

28 D. THE BOARD MAY REINSTATE A LAPSED LICENSE IF THE APPLICANT PAYS A  
29 REINSTATEMENT FEE AS PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD IN RULE AND MEETS THE  
30 REQUIREMENTS FOR INITIAL LICENSURE.

31 E. THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY LICENSE TO ANY PERSON WHO:

32 1. COMPLETES A TEMPORARY LICENSE APPLICATION.

33 2. PAYS THE REQUIRED TEMPORARY LICENSE FEE AS PRESCRIBED BY THE  
34 BOARD IN RULE.

35 3. SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES A PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION ON  
36 ACCREDITATION OF ALLIED HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS OR ANOTHER  
37 BOARD-APPROVED PROGRAM FOR EDUCATING AND TRAINING ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
38 ASSISTANTS BUT WHO HAS NOT PASSED A CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION. THE PERSON  
39 SHALL TAKE THE NEXT AVAILABLE CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION AFTER RECEIVING A  
40 TEMPORARY LICENSE. A TEMPORARY LICENSE MAY NOT BE ISSUED FOR A PERIOD OF  
41 MORE THAN ONE YEAR AND IS SUBJECT TO ANY OTHER REQUIREMENTS THE BOARD  
42 ADOPTS BY RULE.

43 32-1492.03. Scope of practice

44 A. THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO PERSONS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN AN  
45 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT EDUCATION PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

1 B. AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT MAY ASSIST IN THE PRACTICE OF  
2 MEDICINE ONLY UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST. THE  
3 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT MAY PERFORM ONLY THOSE DUTIES AND  
4 RESPONSIBILITIES DELEGATED TO THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT BY THE  
5 SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST.

6 C. THE SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST SHALL BE ALLOWED TO SUPERVISE  
7 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH FEDERAL  
8 REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES FOR  
9 REIMBURSEMENT FOR ANESTHESIA SERVICES.

10 D. THE SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST SHALL BE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE  
11 TO THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT WHO ASSISTS IN DELIVERING MEDICAL CARE  
12 SUCH THAT THE SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST IS ABLE TO INTERVENE IF NEEDED.

13 E. AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT'S PRACTICE MAY NOT EXCEED THE  
14 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT'S EDUCATION AND TRAINING OR THE SCOPE OF  
15 PRACTICE OF THE SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST. A MEDICAL CARE TASK ASSIGNED  
16 BY THE SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST TO THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT MAY  
17 NOT BE DELEGATED BY THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT TO ANOTHER PERSON.

18 F. A SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST MAY DELEGATE TO AN  
19 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING DUTIES:

20 1. DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING AN ANESTHESIA CARE PLAN FOR A  
21 PATIENT.

22 2. OBTAINING A COMPREHENSIVE PATIENT HISTORY AND PERFORMING  
23 RELEVANT ELEMENTS OF A PHYSICAL EXAM.

24 3. PERFORMING PREOPERATIVE AND POSTOPERATIVE ANESTHESIA EVALUATIONS  
25 AND MAINTAINING PATIENT PROGRESS NOTES.

26 4. ORDERING AND PERFORMING PREOPERATIVE PATIENT CONSULTATIONS.

27 5. ORDERING PREOPERATIVE MEDICATIONS, INCLUDING CONTROLLED  
28 SUBSTANCES, WHICH MAY BE ADMINISTERED BEFORE THE SUPERVISING  
29 ANESTHESIOLOGIST COSIGNS.

30 6. CHANGING OR DISCONTINUING A MEDICAL TREATMENT PLAN AFTER  
31 CONSULTING WITH THE SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST.

32 7. OBTAINING INFORMED CONSENT FOR ANESTHESIA OR RELATED PROCEDURES.

33 8. ORDERING THE PERIOPERATIVE CONTINUATION OF CURRENT MEDICATIONS,  
34 WHICH MAY BE ADMINISTERED BEFORE THE SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST COSIGNS.

35 9. PRETESTING AND CALIBRATING ANESTHESIA DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND  
36 OBTAINING AND INTERPRETING INFORMATION FROM THE SYSTEMS AND MONITORS.

37 10. IMPLEMENTING MEDICALLY ACCEPTED MONITORING TECHNIQUES.

38 11. PERFORMING BASIC AND ADVANCED AIRWAY INTERVENTIONS, INCLUDING  
39 ENDOTRACHEAL INTUBATION, LARYNGEAL MASK INSERTION AND OTHER ADVANCED  
40 AIRWAYS TECHNIQUES.

41 12. ESTABLISHING PERIPHERAL INTRAVENOUS LINES, INCLUDING  
42 SUBCUTANEOUS LIDOCAINE USE.

43 13. PERFORMING INVASIVE PROCEDURES, INCLUDING ARTERIAL LINES,  
44 CENTRAL LINES AND SWAN GANZ CATHETERS.

- 1 14. PERFORMING GENERAL ANESTHESIA, INCLUDING INDUCTION,  
2 MAINTENANCE, EMERGENCE AND PROCEDURES ASSOCIATED WITH GENERAL ANESTHESIA,  
3 SUCH AS GASTRIC INTUBATION.
- 4 15. ADMINISTERING ANESTHETIC DRUGS, ADJUVANT DRUGS AND ACCESSORY  
5 DRUGS.
- 6 16. ADMINISTERING VASOACTIVE DRUGS AND STARTING AND TITRATING  
7 VASOACTIVE INFUSIONS TO TREAT PATIENT RESPONSES TO ANESTHESIA.
- 8 17. PERFORMING, MAINTAINING, EVALUATING AND MANAGING EPIDURAL,  
9 SPINAL AND REGIONAL ANESTHESIA, INCLUDING CATHETERS.
- 10 18. PERFORMING MONITORED ANESTHESIA CARE.
- 11 19. OBTAINING VENOUS AND ARTERIAL BLOOD SAMPLES.
- 12 20. ADMINISTERING BLOOD, BLOOD PRODUCTS AND SUPPORTIVE FLUIDS.
- 13 21. PERFORMING, ORDERING AND INTERPRETING APPROPRIATE PREOPERATIVE,  
14 POINT-OF-CARE, INTRA-OPERATIVE OR POSTOPERATIVE DIAGNOSTIC TESTS OR  
15 PROCEDURES.
- 16 22. OBTAINING AND ADMINISTERING PERIOPERATIVE ANESTHETIC AND  
17 RELATED PHARMACEUTICAL AGENTS, INCLUDING INTRAVENOUS FLUIDS AND BLOOD  
18 PRODUCTS.
- 19 23. MANAGING THE PATIENT WHILE IN THE PREOPERATIVE SUITE, RECOVERY  
20 AREA OR LABOR SUITE.
- 21 24. ORDERING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:  
22 (a) POSTOPERATIVE SEDATION, ANXIOLYSIS OR ANALGESIA.  
23 (b) POSTOPERATIVE RESPIRATORY THERAPY AND MEDICINES TO TREAT  
24 PATIENT RESPONSES TO ANESTHESIA.  
25 (c) POSTOPERATIVE OXYGEN THERAPY, INCLUDING INITIAL VENTILATOR  
26 THERAPY, WHICH MAY BE ADMINISTERED BEFORE THE SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
27 COSIGNS.
- 28 25. INITIATING AND MANAGING CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION IN  
29 RESPONSE TO A LIFE-THREATENING SITUATION.
- 30 26. PARTICIPATING IN ADMINISTRATIVE, RESEARCH AND CLINICAL TEACHING  
31 ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING SUPERVISING STUDENT ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS AND  
32 OTHER STUDENTS INVOLVED IN ANESTHESIA EDUCATION.
- 33 27. PERFORMING SUCH OTHER TASKS NOT PROHIBITED BY LAW THAT AN  
34 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT HAS BEEN TRAINED AND IS PROFICIENT TO PERFORM.
- 35 G. THIS ARTICLE DOES NOT PREVENT AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT FROM  
36 HAVING ACCESS TO AND BEING ABLE TO OBTAIN PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AS DIRECTED  
37 BY THE SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST.
- 38 32-1492.04. Regulation and restriction of licenses; written  
39 orders
- 40 A. THE BOARD MAY REFUSE TO RENEW AND MAY REVOKE, SUSPEND OR  
41 RESTRICT A LICENSE OR TAKE OTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION, INCLUDING IMPOSING  
42 CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON A LICENSE PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE AND THE  
43 RULES ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE.

1 B. IF THE BOARD DETERMINES THAT A PERSON IS INELIGIBLE FOR  
2 LICENSURE, THAT AN APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE SHOULD BE DENIED, THAT A  
3 LICENSE SHOULD BE REVOKED, SUSPENDED OR RESTRICTED OR THAT ANY OTHER  
4 ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN ON A CURRENT LICENSE, THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT AND  
5 ENTER ITS WRITTEN ORDER AND FINDINGS.

6 32-1492.05. Reinstatement of license; requirements

7 A. THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A NEW LICENSE TO AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
8 ASSISTANT WHOSE LICENSE WAS PREVIOUSLY REVOKED BY THE BOARD IF THE  
9 APPLICANT APPLIES IN WRITING TO THE BOARD AND DEMONSTRATES TO THE BOARD'S  
10 SATISFACTION THAT THE APPLICANT IS COMPLETELY REHABILITATED WITH RESPECT  
11 TO THE CONDUCT THAT WAS THE BASIS FOR THE REVOCATION. IN MAKING ITS  
12 DECISION, THE BOARD SHALL DETERMINE:

13 1. THAT THE APPLICANT HAS NOT ENGAGED IN ANY CONDUCT DURING THE  
14 REVOCATION PERIOD THAT WOULD CONSTITUTE A BASIS FOR REVOCATION PURSUANT TO  
15 RULES ADOPTED BY THE BOARD.

16 2. IF A CRIMINAL CONVICTION WAS A BASIS OF THE REVOCATION, THAT THE  
17 APPLICANT'S CIVIL RIGHTS HAVE BEEN FULLY RESTORED PURSUANT TO STATUTE OR  
18 ANY OTHER APPLICABLE RECOGNIZED JUDICIAL OR GUBERNATORIAL ORDER.

19 3. THAT THE APPLICANT HAS MADE RESTITUTION TO ANY AGGRIEVED PERSON  
20 AS ORDERED BY A COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION.

21 4. THAT THE APPLICANT DEMONSTRATES ANY OTHER STANDARD OF  
22 REHABILITATION THE BOARD DETERMINES IS APPROPRIATE.

23 B. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION C OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON MAY  
24 NOT APPLY FOR LICENSE REINSTATEMENT FEWER THAN TWO YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF  
25 REVOCATION.

26 C. IF A LICENSE REVOCATION WAS BASED ON A CONVICTION OF A FELONY OR  
27 AN OFFENSE INVOLVING MORAL TURPITUDE AND THAT CONVICTION HAS BEEN REVERSED  
28 ON APPEAL, THE BOARD SHALL VACATE ITS PREVIOUS ORDER TO REVOKE THE LICENSE  
29 AND THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT MAY APPLY FOR REINSTATEMENT AS SOON AS  
30 THE COURT ENTERS THE REVERSAL.

31 D. AN APPLICANT FOR REINSTATEMENT SHALL COMPLY WITH ALL INITIAL  
32 LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED BY THIS ARTICLE AND RULES ADOPTED BY THE  
33 BOARD PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE.

34 32-1492.06. Unauthorized practice; violation; classification

35 ANY PERSON WHO PRACTICES AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT OR  
36 REPRESENTS THAT THE PERSON IS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT WITHOUT HAVING  
37 A LICENSE ISSUED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE OR ANY PERSON WHO EMPLOYS AN  
38 UNLICENSED PERSON TO PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT IS GUILTY  
39 OF A CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR. EACH VIOLATION CONSTITUTES A SEPARATE OFFENSE  
40 UNDER THIS SECTION.