

REFERENCE TITLE: **anesthesiologist assistants; licensure.**

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2024

SB 1263

Introduced by
Senator Borrelli

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 OR CHAPTER 17 OF THIS TITLE AND WHO HAS SUCCESSFULLY
9 COMPLETED A TRAINING PROGRAM IN ANESTHESIOLOGY ACCREDITED BY THE
10 ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION OR THE AMERICAN
11 OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION OR AN EQUIVALENT ORGANIZATION AS DETERMINED BY THE
12 ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ARIZONA BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC
13 EXAMINERS IN MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

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

18 3. "ASSISTS" MEANS THE PERSONAL PERFORMANCE BY AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST
19 ASSISTANT OF THOSE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES DELEGATED BY THE
20 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT'S SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST.

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

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

31 6. "SUPERVISION" MEANS THAT AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST DELEGATES,
32 COORDINATES, DIRECTS OR CONSULTS WITH AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT AND
33 OVERSEES THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST'S INTENTIONS.

34 32-1492.01. Board; duties

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

38 B. THE BOARD SHALL:

39 1. GRANT, DENY, REVOKE, SUSPEND, RESTRICT AND REINSTATE LICENSES
40 UNDER THIS ARTICLE.

41 2. INVESTIGATE ALLEGATIONS THAT AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT OR A
42 SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST HAS ENGAGED IN CONDUCT CONSTITUTING A GROUND
43 FOR REVOCATION. IF THE SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST IS LICENSED PURSUANT
44 TO CHAPTER 17 OF THIS TITLE, THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD SHALL TRANSFER THE
45 COMPLAINT TO THE ARIZONA BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC EXAMINERS IN MEDICINE AND
46 SURGERY FOR INVESTIGATION AND ADJUDICATION.

1 3. CONDUCT INFORMAL INTERVIEWS AND HEARINGS.

2 4. ADOPT RULES GOVERNING THE PRACTICE OF ANESTHESIOLOGIST
3 ASSISTANTS.

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

8 32-1492.02. Licensure; use of title; qualifications; renewal;
9 reinstatement; temporary licensure

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

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

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

20 2. SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED A CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION.

21 3. COMPLETES AN APPLICATION FORM.

22 4. PAYS THE REQUIRED APPLICATION AND LICENSURE FEES AS PRESCRIBED
23 BY THE BOARD IN RULE.

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

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

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

35 1. COMPLETES A TEMPORARY LICENSE APPLICATION.

36 2. PAYS THE REQUIRED TEMPORARY LICENSE FEE AS PRESCRIBED BY THE
37 BOARD IN RULE.

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

1 32-1492.03. Scope of practice

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 1. DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING AN ANESTHESIA CARE PLAN FOR A
25 PATIENT.

26 2. OBTAINING A COMPREHENSIVE PATIENT HISTORY AND PERFORMING
27 RELEVANT ELEMENTS OF A PHYSICAL EXAM.

28 3. PERFORMING PREOPERATIVE AND POSTOPERATIVE ANESTHESIA EVALUATIONS
29 AND MAINTAINING PATIENT PROGRESS NOTES.

30 4. ORDERING AND PERFORMING PREOPERATIVE PATIENT CONSULTATIONS.

31 5. ORDERING PREOPERATIVE MEDICATIONS, INCLUDING CONTROLLED
32 SUBSTANCES, WHICH MAY BE ADMINISTERED BEFORE THE SUPERVISING
33 ANESTHESIOLOGIST COSIGNS.

34 6. CHANGING OR DISCONTINUING A MEDICAL TREATMENT PLAN AFTER
35 CONSULTING WITH THE SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST.

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

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

39 9. PRETESTING AND CALIBRATING ANESTHESIA DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND
40 OBTAINING AND INTERPRETING INFORMATION FROM THE SYSTEMS AND MONITORS.

41 10. IMPLEMENTING MEDICALLY ACCEPTED MONITORING TECHNIQUES.

42 11. PERFORMING BASIC AND ADVANCED AIRWAY INTERVENTIONS, INCLUDING
43 ENDOTRACHEAL INTUBATION, LARYNGEAL MASK INSERTION AND OTHER ADVANCED
44 AIRWAYS TECHNIQUES.

45 12. ESTABLISHING PERIPHERAL INTRAVENOUS LINES, INCLUDING
46 SUBCUTANEOUS LIDOCAINE USE.

1 13. PERFORMING INVASIVE PROCEDURES, INCLUDING ARTERIAL LINES,
2 CENTRAL LINES AND SWAN GANZ CATHETERS.

3 14. PERFORMING GENERAL ANESTHESIA, INCLUDING INDUCTION,
4 MAINTENANCE, EMERGENCE AND PROCEDURES ASSOCIATED WITH GENERAL ANESTHESIA,
5 SUCH AS GASTRIC INTUBATION.

6 15. ADMINISTERING ANESTHETIC DRUGS, ADJUVANT DRUGS AND ACCESSORY
7 DRUGS.

8 16. ADMINISTERING VASOACTIVE DRUGS AND STARTING AND TITRATING
9 VASOACTIVE INFUSIONS TO TREAT PATIENT RESPONSES TO ANESTHESIA.

10 17. PERFORMING, MAINTAINING, EVALUATING AND MANAGING EPIDURAL,
11 SPINAL AND REGIONAL ANESTHESIA, INCLUDING CATHETERS.

12 18. PERFORMING MONITORED ANESTHESIA CARE.

13 19. OBTAINING VENOUS AND ARTERIAL BLOOD SAMPLES.

14 20. ADMINISTERING BLOOD, BLOOD PRODUCTS AND SUPPORTIVE FLUIDS.

15 21. PERFORMING, ORDERING AND INTERPRETING APPROPRIATE PREOPERATIVE,
16 POINT-OF-CARE, INTRA-OPERATIVE OR POSTOPERATIVE DIAGNOSTIC TESTS OR
17 PROCEDURES.

18 22. OBTAINING AND ADMINISTERING PERIOPERATIVE ANESTHETIC AND
19 RELATED PHARMACEUTICAL AGENTS, INCLUDING INTRAVENOUS FLUIDS AND BLOOD
20 PRODUCTS.

21 23. MANAGING THE PATIENT WHILE IN THE PREOPERATIVE SUITE, RECOVERY
22 AREA OR LABOR SUITE.

23 24. ORDERING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

24 (a) POSTOPERATIVE SEDATION, ANXIOLYSIS OR ANALGESIA.

25 (b) POSTOPERATIVE RESPIRATORY THERAPY AND MEDICINES TO TREAT
26 PATIENT RESPONSES TO ANESTHESIA.

27 (c) POSTOPERATIVE OXYGEN THERAPY, INCLUDING INITIAL VENTILATOR
28 THERAPY, WHICH MAY BE ADMINISTERED BEFORE THE SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST
29 COSIGNS.

30 25. INITIATING AND MANAGING CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION IN
31 RESPONSE TO A LIFE-THREATENING SITUATION.

32 26. PARTICIPATING IN ADMINISTRATIVE, RESEARCH AND CLINICAL TEACHING
33 ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING SUPERVISING STUDENT ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS AND
34 OTHER STUDENTS INVOLVED IN ANESTHESIA EDUCATION.

35 27. PERFORMING SUCH OTHER TASKS NOT PROHIBITED BY LAW THAT AN
36 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT HAS BEEN TRAINED AND IS PROFICIENT TO PERFORM.

37 G. THIS ARTICLE DOES NOT PREVENT AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT FROM
38 HAVING ACCESS TO AND BEING ABLE TO OBTAIN PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AS DIRECTED
39 BY THE SUPERVISING ANESTHESIOLOGIST.

40 32-1492.04. Regulation and restriction of licenses; written
41 orders

42 A. THE BOARD MAY REFUSE TO RENEW AND MAY REVOKE, SUSPEND OR
43 RESTRICT A LICENSE OR TAKE OTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION, INCLUDING IMPOSING
44 CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON A LICENSE PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE AND THE
45 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 UNTIL A PERIOD OF AT LEAST TWO YEARS
25 HAS LAPSED SINCE THE DATE OF 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.