

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 5527, June 21, 1969]

AN ACT REQUIRING THE REGISTRATION OF MEDICAL TECHNOLOGISTS, DEFINING THEIR PRACTICE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. *Title*.—This Act may be also cited as the Philippine Medical Technology Act of 1969.

SEC. 2. *Definition of Terms*.—As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

(a) "Medical Technology".—An auxiliary branch of laboratory medicine which deals with the examination by various chemical, microscopic, bacteriologic and other medical laboratory procedures or technic which will aid the physician in the diagnosis, study and treatment of disease and in the promotion of health in general.

(b) "Pathologist".—A duly registered physician who is specially trained in methods of laboratory medicine, or the gross and microscopic study and interpretation of tissues, secretions and excretions of the human body and its functions in order to diagnose disease, follow its course, determine the effectivity of treatment, ascertain cause of death and advance medicine by means of research.

(c) "Medical Technologist".—A person who engages in the work of medical technology under the supervision of a pathologist or licensed physician authorized by the department of health in places where there is no pathologist and who having passed a prescribed course (Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology/Bachelor of Science in Hygiene) of training and examination is registered under the provision of this Act.

(d) "Medical Technician".—A person who not being a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology/ Bachelor of Science in Hygiene, but having passed the corresponding civil service examination, performs the work of medical technology under the supervision of a registered medical technologist and/or qualified pathologist.

(e) "Accredited Medical Technology Training Laboratory"—A clinical laboratory, office, agency, clinic, hospital or sanitarium duly approved by the Department of Health or its authorized agency.

(f) "Recognized School of Medical Technology".—Any school, college or university which offers a course in Medical Technology approved by the

Department of Education in accordance with the requirements under this Act, upon recommendation of the council of medical technology education.

(g) "Council".—The council of medical technology education established under this Act.

(h) "Board".—The Board of Examiners for Medical Technology established under this Act.

SEC. 3. *Council of Medical Technology Education, Its Composition.*—There is hereby established a Council of Medical Technology Education, hereafter referred to as Council, which shall be composed of the Secretary of Education or Director of Private Education as Chairman, the Director of the Bureau of Research and Laboratories of the Department of Health as Vice-Chairman, and the Chairman and two members of the Board of Medical Technology, the dean of the Institute of Hygiene of the University of the Philippines, a representative of the deans or heads of the private schools of medical technology, and the presidents of the Philippine Association of Medical Technologists and the Philippine Society of Pathologists, as members.

SEC. 4. *Compensation and Traveling Expenses of Council Members.*—The chairman and members of the Council shall be entitled to a twenty-five pesos *per diem* for every meeting actually attended: *Provided*, That the number of meetings authorized with a *per diem* shall not exceed two in a month: *And Provided, further*, That officials receiving regular salaries from the Government shall not receive *per diem*. In addition the chairman and members of the council shall be entitled to traveling expenses in connection with their official duties.

SEC. 5. *Functions of the Council of Medical Technology Education.*—The functions of the Council shall be:

(a) To recommend the minimum required curriculum for the course of medical technology.

(b) To determine and prescribe the number of students to be allowed to take up the medical technology course in each school, taking into account the student-instructor ratio and the availability of facilities for instruction.

(c) To approve medical technology schools meeting the requirements and recommend closure of those found to be substandard.

(d) To require all medical technology schools to submit an annual report, including the total number of students and instructors, a list of facilities available for instruction, a list of their recent graduates and new admissions, on or "before the month of June.

(e) To inspect, when necessary, the different medical technology schools in the country in order to determine whether a high standard of education is maintained in said institutions.

(f) To certify for admission into an undergraduate internship students

who have satisfactorily completed three years of the medical technology course or its equivalent and to collect from said students the amount of five pesos each which money accrue to the operating fund of the council.

(g) Formulate and recommend approval of refresher course for applicants who shall have failed the Board Examination for the third time.

(h) To promulgate and prescribe and enforce necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of the foregoing functions.

SEC. 6. *Minimum Required Course.*—The medical technology course shall be at least four years, including a 12-month satisfactory internship in accredited laboratories, and shall include the following subjects:

English	Biochemistry
Spanish	Gross Anatomy
Social Science	Histology
General Zoology	Physiology
Botany	Clinical Parasitology
Mathematics	General Pathology
College Physics	Microbiology
General Chemistry	Biostatistics
Qualitative Chemistry	Clinical Laboratory Methods
	including hematology, serology, blood banking, clinical microscopy, applied microbiology, and parasitology, and histopathologic techniques, and cyto- technology.
Quantitative Chemistry	

The Council is hereby authorized, subject to the approval of the Secretary of Education to change, remove from or add to the subjects listed above as the needs and demands of progress in the science of medical technology may require.

SEC. 7. *Board of Examiners for Medical Technology.*— There is hereby created a Board of Examiners for Medical Technology which shall hereafter be referred to as the Board composed of a chairman who is a pathologist appointed by the President of the Philippines from a list submitted by the Philippine Society of Pathologists and two members who are registered medical technologists appointed by the President of the Philippines from among a list submitted by the Philippine Association of Medical Technologists each one to serve a term of three years: *Provided*, That the first Board to be created one member who shall act as chairman shall serve for three years, one member for two years and the third member for one year: *And provided, further*, That the first members of the Board of Examiners for Medical Technology shall be issued a certificate of registration as Medical Technologist without prior examination in accordance with the provisions of this Act. No member shall be allowed more than one reappointment. The President of the Philippines shall fill the vacancy that may occur but the appointee shall serve only the unexpired term of the incapacitated member.

SEC. 8. *Qualifications of Examiners.*—No person shall be appointed a member of the Board of Examiners for Medical Technology unless he or she (1) is a Filipino citizen; (2) is of good moral character; (3) is a qualified pathologist or duly registered medical technologist of the Philippines with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology/Bachelor of Science in Hygiene; (4) has been in the practice of laboratory medicine or medical technology for at least ten years prior to his appointment, and (5) is not a member of the faculty of any medical technology school, or have any pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in such institution: *Provided, however,* That for the first three years following the approval of this Act, the requirement mentioned in number four (4) shall be reduced to five years.

SEC. 9. *Executive Officer of the Board.*—The Commissioner of Civil Service shall be the Executive Officer of the Board, and shall conduct the examinations given by it. The Secretary of the Board of Examiners appointed in accordance with Section ten of Act Numbered Four Thousand Seven, as amended, shall also be the Secretary of the Board. He shall keep a register of all persons to whom certificates of registration have been granted.

SEC. 10. *Compensation of Members of the Board of Examiners for Medical Technology.*—Each member of the Board shall receive a sum of ten pesos for each applicant examined and five pesos for each applicant granted a certificate of registration without examination.

SEC. 11. *Functions and Duties of the Board.*—The Board is vested with authority and required, conformably with the provisions of this Act, to:

- (a) Administer the provisions of this Act;
- (b) Administer oaths in connection with the administration of this Act;
- (c) Issue, suspend and revoke certificates of registration for the practice of medical technology;
- (d) Look into conditions affecting the practice of medical technology in the Philippines and, whenever necessary, adopt such measures as may be deemed proper for the maintenance of good ethics and standards in the practice of medical technology;
- (e) Investigate such violations of this Act or of the rules and regulations issued thereunder as may come to the knowledge of the Board and, for this purpose issue *subpoena* and *subpoena duces tecum* to secure appearance of witnesses and production of documents in connection with charges presented to the Board; and
- (f) Draft such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act: *Provided,* That the same shall be issued only after the approval of the President of the Philippines.

SEC. 12. *Removal of Board Members.*—Any member of the Board may be removed by the President of the Philippines for neglect of duty, incompetency, malpractice or unprofessional, unethical, immoral or dishonorable conduct after having been given opportunity to defend himself in a proper administrative investigation; *Provided,*