



SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING
UNLICENSED ASSISTIVE PERSONNEL
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IMPORTANT MEMO DECEMBER 2015 – JANUARY 2016

South Dakota Board of Nursing implemented the Medication Aide Registry in 2015. After January 1, 2016, RNs and LPNs may delegate medication administration only to Medication Aides who are listed on the Board's Medication Aide Registry.

Rules adopted July 2014 in [ARSD 20:48:04.01](#) require the South Dakota Board of Nursing to maintain a registry of individuals who have completed a Board approved 20 hour medication administration training program. Registration implies only that the individual has met the minimal training **and testing requirements** necessary to accept the delegated task of medication administration by a licensed RN or LPN while under nurse supervision. Registration does NOT imply that an individual has met moral, ethical, or legal standards; the Medication Aide Registry should not take the place of an employer's hiring screening process or background check.

January 1, 2016, the grandfathering process conducted in 2015 **ends** and it will be required that all newly trained medication aide applicants, or applicants coming from another state, take and pass the Medication Aide Exam in order to be placed on the South Dakota Medication Aide Registry.

Process to follow for Proctor Application and Accessing the Medication Aide Exam

- 1) After successful completion of medication aide training, the student must complete and submit an [Application for Initial Registration](#) to the Board of Nursing.
- 2) After successful completion of medication aide training, a test Proctor must be identified (often the RN trainer). The Proctor must have on file with the Board an approved [Proctor Agreement Form](#) and must adhere to guidelines set forth within it while overseeing the applicant's examination. The Proctor is responsible to keep the exam secure at all times.
- 3) Once the application for registration AND a Proctor Agreement have been received by the BON, the Proctor will contact [Winora Robles](#) via email to arrange for access to the online examination.
- 4) After successfully completing the exam, the individual will be listed on the South Dakota Medication Aide Registry. Registration is valid for two years. Registrants should maintain current contact information.
- 5) It is the **registrant's responsibility** to renew registration at the end of the two year period. If not renewed, the registration will lapse and will be removed from the registry; re-training and re-testing will be required before the individual will be allowed back onto the Medication Aide Registry.
- 6) If not successful on the first attempt, the applicant may retake the exam one time. If the applicant does not pass the retake, additional instruction (remediation) is required.

For more information and application information, please see <http://doh.sd.gov/boards/nursing/>

For more about the examination requirement or the medication aide registry, please contact [Linda Young](#) or [Mallory Rykhus](#) or [Winora Robles](#)

2015-2016 South Dakota Medication Aide Written Examination Content Outline

The exam is comprised of 65 multiple-choice items; 10 are pretest items (non-scored) wherein statistical information is collected.
The "Pretest Med Aide" category is not included in the final score.

All information at this link should be reviewed during the medication aide training program instruction:
<http://doh.sd.gov/boards/nursing/assets/SDSpecificRequirements.pdf>

SOUTH DAKOTA MEDICATION AIDE EXAMINATION CONTENT OUTLINE		
CATEGORIES CONTENT DOMAIN	WEIGHTING OF CONTENT DOMAIN	NUMBER OF ITEMS IN DOMAIN
<p><u>CATEGORY I. GENERAL INFORMATION</u></p> <p>A. Governmental Regulations related to the practice of nursing, administration of medication, and the storage, administration, and recording of controlled substances</p> <p>B. Terminology, abbreviations, and symbols</p>	15%	8-9
<p><u>CATEGORY II. MEDICATION SPECIFIC INFORMATION</u></p> <p>A. Medication administration systems</p> <p>B. Forms of medication</p> <p>C. Procedures and routes of medication administration oral, topical, inhalation, rectal, vaginal</p> <p>D. Medication references available</p>	25%	13-14
<p><u>CATEGORY III. DELEGATION & RIGHTS OF MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION</u></p> <p>A. The role of unlicensed assistance personnel in administering medications</p> <p>B. The rights of medication administration: right patient, right medication, right dose, right time, right route, right documentation</p> <p>C. Infection control policies and procedures</p>	30%	16-17
<p><u>CATEGORY IV. BODY SYSTEMS</u></p> <p>A. Overview of the major categories of medications related to the body systems, including: cardiovascular, endocrine, gastrointestinal, integumentary, musculoskeletal, nervous, reproductive, respiratory, sensory, urinary, immune</p>	15%	8-9
<p><u>CATEGORY V. ETHICS & MANDATORY REPORTING</u></p> <p>A. Mandatory Reporting to include knowledge of definitions of abuse, neglect, exploitation, and process to follow for reporting</p> <p>B. Ethical Issues</p>	15%	8-9
TOTAL CONTENT DOMAIN	100%	55 ITEMS