

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FDA - MQSA Rules and Regulations

Hotline: 1-800-838-7715

You can also fax your question(s) to 1-410-290-6351

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RadComm, Inc.
Mammography Education
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RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST MAMMOGRAPHY SPECIFIC TRAINING

900.12(a)(2)(ii)(A)(B) and (C): Mammography requirements. **All mammographic examinations shall be performed by radiologic technologists who meet the following mammography requirements:** Have, prior to April 28, 1999 qualified as a radiologic technologist under paragraph (a)(2) of this section of FDA's interim regulations of December 21, 1993, or completed at least 40 contact hours of documented training specific to mammography under the supervision of a qualified instructor. The hours of documented training shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:

(A) Training in breast anatomy and physiology, positioning and compression, quality assurance/quality control techniques, imaging of patients with breast implants;

(B) The performance of a minimum of 25 examinations under the direct supervision of an individual qualified under paragraph (a)(2) of this section; and

(C) At least 8 hours of training in each mammography modality to be used by the technologist in performing mammography exams.

Copies of certificates earned or other documentation from the training provider will suffice for initial mammography specific training.

MQSA CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS.

900.12(a)(2)(iii)(A) and (C): Continuing Education Requirements:

(A) Following the third anniversary date of the end of the calendar quarter in which the requirements of paragraphs (a)(2)(i) and (a)(2)(ii) of this section were completed, the radiologic technologist shall have taught or completed at least 15 continuing education units in mammography during the 36 months immediately preceding the date of the facility's annual MQSA inspection or the last day of the calendar quarter preceding the inspection or any date in between the two. The facility will choose one of these dates to determine the 36-month period.

(C) At least six of the continuing education units required in paragraph (a)(2)(iii)(A) of this section shall be related to each mammographic modality used by the technologist.

REQUALIFICATION. 900.12(a)(2)(iii)(D): Requalification. Radiologic technologists who fail to meet the continuing education requirements of paragraph (a)(2)(iii)(A) of this section shall obtain a sufficient number of continuing education units in mammography to bring their total up to at least 15 in the previous 3 years, at least 6 of which shall be related to each modality used by the technologist in mammography. **The technologist may not resume performing unsupervised mammography examinations until the continuing education requirements are completed.**

MQSA CONTINUING EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS.

900.12(a)(2)(iv)(A): Continuing experience requirements. Following the second anniversary date of the end of the calendar quarter in which the requirements of paragraphs (a)(2)(i) and (a)(2)(ii) of this section were completed or of April 28, 1999, whichever is later, **the radiologic technologist shall have performed a minimum of 200 mammography examinations during the 24 months immediately preceding the date of the facility's annual inspection or the last day of the calendar quarter preceding the inspection or any date in between the two. The facility will choose one of these dates to determine the 24-month period.**

REQUALIFICATION. 900.12(a)(2)(iv)(B) Requalification. Radiologic technologists who fail to meet the continuing experience requirements of paragraph (a)(2)(iv)(A) of this section shall perform a minimum of 25 mammography examinations under the direct supervision of a qualified radiologic technologist, before resuming the performance of unsupervised mammography examinations.

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ARRT Continuing Education Requirements:

American Registry of Radiologic Technologists®
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(651) 687-0048, ext. 8540
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CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION

The renewal of certification and registration will continue on an annual basis, with the CE Requirements being reported every other year.

BIENNIUM REPORTING CYCLE

The CE Requirements are linked to a two-year period (biennium) that is defined in relation to the R.T.'s birth month. The biennium begins on the first day of the R.T.'s birth month. The biennium extends for two years to the end of the month prior to the birth month.

OPTIONS FOR SATISFYING CE REQUIREMENTS DURING A BIENNIUM

There are three options for meeting the CE requirements. Only one option must be met to satisfy the requirements. The options are:

1. Earn 24 CE credits that meet the criteria set forth by the ARRT;
2. Earn certification and registration in a primary discipline not previously held and for which the individual is eligible and which the ARRT recognizes for this purpose;
3. Earn post-primary certification and registration not previously held and for which the individual is eligible and which the ARRT recognizes for this purpose.
 - a. **Earning an additional certification will no longer receive CE credit effective for CE bienniums beginning on or after January 1, 2018.**

CE REQUIREMENT FOR R.T. CERTIFIED IN BOTH RADIOLOGY AND MAMMOGRAPHY

Mammography technologists need to earn only 24 credits per biennium for the ARRT. To simplify, let's assume that the technologist obtains 12 credits per year. In order to comply with MQSA's continuing education requirement of 15 mammography-specific credits during a 36-month period, the mammography technologist would be wise to obtain at least 5 mammography credits of the 12 obtained annually. Mammography technologists often choose all CE Category A credits specific to mammography.

ARRT LEGISLATION

- **Structured Education Requirements for Mammography Examination Application**

Effective January 1, 2016 candidates must document completion of 16 hours of acceptable structured education earned within the 24-month period immediately preceding submission of an application for certification and registration. RadComm's Initial Training in Mammography Program curriculum satisfies the ARRT Structured Education Requirement.

- **Applications Training Capped at Eight CE Credits**

The ARRT Board of Trustees adopted the decision to **cap applications training at eight credits, per biennium, for technologists** and applications specialists or trainers. **The cap applies only to onsite, facility training.** Online, webinar or corporate facility training is not affected.

- **CE Activities that MAY be repeated in subsequent biennium.**

Effective January 1, 2016 **directed readings, home study courses, or Internet activities reported in a biennium may not be repeated for credit in the same biennium.** Previously, the ARRT disallowed repeating these CE activities in subsequent biennium. This revision permits a technologist to repeat CE activities in the following biennium.