

Summary of Changes in Law for Physician Assistants

Many of the Physician Assistant Practice Act statutes and other related laws were amended during the 2014 and 2015 legislative sessions. Physician Assistants need to be aware of how these changes will affect their license requirements, scope of practice and grounds for discipline. The chart below summarizes some of the important changes taking effect July 1, 2015 and January 11, 2016:

Statute	July 1, 2015	January 11, 2016	Comments/*Regulations in amendment process
K.S.A. 65-28a02		Changes terminology from “responsible physician” to “supervising physician” and removes term “designated physician. “	This change is also made throughout the PA Practice Act and in other laws.
K.S.A. 65-28a03	<p>(a) Creates specific designation of active license.</p> <p>(b) Requires active licensees to show proof of liability insurance and HCSF participation as a condition of license renewal.</p> <p>(c) Removes “expiration” period after renewal date.</p> <p>(e) Requires proof of liability insurance and HCSF participation for an inactive licensee to change to active.</p> <p>(f) Restores federally active license designation for fed employment and gratuitous practice. No liability insurance or HCSF participation required.</p> <p>(g) Creates exempt license designation for specified gratuitous practice. No liability insurance or HCSF participation required.</p> <p>(h)(2) endorsement license fee capped at \$200.</p> <p>(h)(9) federally active license fee capped at \$200.</p> <p>(h)(10) exempt license fee capped at \$150.</p>		<p>The federally active license designation was repealed in the 2014 legislation, but added back in during the 2015 session.</p> <p>Regs being amended:</p> <p>*K.A.R. 100-28a-1 regarding fees</p> <p>*K.A.R. 100-28a-2 regarding application information</p> <p>*K.A.R. 100-28a-4 regarding requirements for a license by examination</p> <p>*K.A.R. 100-28a-15 regarding license expiration</p> <p>*K.A.R. 100-28a-16 regarding reinstatement of licenses</p>

Statute	July 1, 2015	January 11, 2016	Comments/*Regulations in amendment process
K.S.A. 65-28a05	<p>Add'l grounds for discipline:</p> <p>(g) finding of mental illness/incompetence</p> <p>(h) violation of fed law/reg relating to controlled subst.</p> <p>(i) failing to report adverse action to Board (licensing, peer review, facility, prof. assoc., gov't agency, law enforcement or court)</p> <p>(j) surrender of license to practice, controlled subst. authority, limitation on privileges or prof. membership while under investigation</p> <p>(k) failing to report a surrender while under investigation to the Board</p> <p>(l) adverse judgment, award or settlement from a med. liability claim</p> <p>(m) failing to report an adverse judgment, award or settlement from a med. liability claim to the Board</p> <p>(n) impaired ability to practice with reasonable skill and safety due to physical/mental illness, condition or use of alcohol, drugs or controlled subst.</p>		<p>Regs being amended:</p> <p>*K.A.R. 100-28a-8 regarding unprofessional conduct</p>
K.S.A. 65-28a06	<p>(c)(4) Removes "after completing one year's study" to licensure exception for students practicing under instructor supervision in a PA training program</p> <p>(c)(5) Removes licensure exception for preceptorship</p> <p>(c)(8) Clarifies licensure exception for federal employment/active duty</p>		

Statute	July 1, 2015	January 11, 2016	Comments/*Regulations in amendment process
K.S.A. 65-28a07	(b)(1) Changes period of temp. licensure from 1 year to 6 months.		Will not apply to those granted a 1 year temp license before July 1, 2015
K.S.A. 65-28a08		Changes terminology from “responsible physician” to “supervising physician” and removes term “designated physician.” Also changes “protocol” to “agreement” (b)(2) Grants authority to PAs dispense Rx-only drugs under specified conditions and in regs (d)(1) Gives Board authority to issue regs setting limits on the number of PAs one physician can supervise.	Regs being amended: *K.A.R. 100-28a-6 regarding PA scope of practice *K.A.R. 100-28a-9 regarding the content of the physician request form/drug protocol *K.A.R. 100-28a-11 regarding a PA’s duty to communicate *K.A.R. 100-28a-13 regarding Rx-only drugs *K.A.R. 100-28a-14 regarding different practice location *K.A.R. 100-28a-17 regarding the limit on number of PAs supervised
K.S.A. 65-28a09		Changes terminology from “responsible physician” to “supervising physician” and removes term “designated physician.” Also changes “protocol” to “agreement”	Regs being amended: *K.A.R. 100-28a-10 regarding the adequacy of supervision *K.A.R. 100-28a-12 regarding designated physicians

Statute	July 1, 2015	January 11, 2016	Comments/*Regulations in amendment process
K.S.A. 65-4941	(c) DNR order can be written by a PA		Not part of the PA Act. Note- must be in authority delegated by the physician to the PA
New Sec. 56 (in 2015 Senate Sub for HB 2225)	(a) Violation of the PA Practice Act is a class B misdemeanor (b) Board can seek injunction in court for violations of PA Act (c) New authority for Board to fine licensees who violate PA Act (1 st violation up to \$5,000, 2 nd up to \$10,000, 3 rd up to \$15,000)		
New Sec. 57 (in 2015 Senate Sub for HB 2225)	PA licensees have to notify Board of changes in mailing and primary practice address within 30 days. Can be fined for violation.		
New Sec. 58 (In 2015 Senate Sub for HB 2225)	Ability to obtain license by endorsement for applicants already licensed and practicing in another state or country.		

Disclaimer: This summary is for informational purposes only. It does not include every statute amendment and does not constitute legal authority or legal advice. [Chapter 131 of the 2014 Session Laws of Kansas](#) (starts at p. 687) and the enrolled version of 2015 [Senate Substitute for House Bill 2225](#) should be relied upon for a definitive statement of the current law.