

1.17 PRIVATE INSPECTOR LICENSE FOR INSPECTING X-RAY MACHINES

D *Question: Do I intend to perform State of Maryland certification inspections for low and/or high-energy X-ray machines? OR*

D *Question: Do I intend to perform mammography services?*

Why do I need this approval?

This license is issued to qualified individuals who wish to inspect x-ray machines as part of the State's certification process. The license ensures that x-ray machines and accelerators are inspected by qualified health physicists who meet or exceed established criteria. Inspectors follow State approved and prescribed methods.

What laws or regulations give MDE the legal authority to issue this approval?

STATE: Environment Article, Title 8, Subtitle 3; COMAR 26.12.02

What is the process to get this approval?

- 1) The applicant must complete the required education and experience as found in COMAR 26.12.02.
- 2) The applicant must file a completed application with the Department.
- 3) The Department issues the license based on the applicant meeting the requirements.
- 4) The Department does not send renewal reminders.

Are there any other requirements?

PRE-APPROVAL: Each applicant must forward original transcripts and resume indicating formal education and applied radiation machine experience. The following experience is needed:

- a) The licensee shall have a level of training and applied radiation machine experience equal to or greater than one of the following sets of criteria:
 - (i) A bachelor's degree with 30 credit hours in the physical or biological sciences or mathematics, and 4 years of applied radiation machine experience acceptable to the Department,
 - (ii) A master's degree in health physics or medical radiological physics, and 2 years of applied radiation machine experience acceptable to the Department,
 - (iii) A doctor's degree in health physics or medical radiological physics, and 1 year of applied radiation machine experience acceptable to the Department,
 - (iv) Certification by the American Board of Health Physics or the American Board of Radiology, and 1 year of applied radiation machine experience acceptable to the Department, or
 - (v) An associate's degree with 15 credit hours in the physical or biological sciences or mathematics, and 10 years of applied radiation machine experience acceptable to the Department;

(b) In addition to the requirements listed above, a licensee who inspects radiation machines having energy levels greater than one million electron volts shall have at least 1 year of experience at activities that provide information useful in the determination of compliance of these radiation machines with Section F.9 and Part I of the Maryland Department of the Environment "Regulations for the Control of Ionizing Radiation (1994)" which is incorporated by reference in COMAR 26.12.01.01, or the equivalent regulations of the federal government or of any other state.

POST-APPROVAL: At the Department's request, a state-licensed inspector must be prepared to demonstrate that the inspection methods used are at least as accurate and precise as those used by the Department. Inspectors must also be prepared to defend their work if challenged by the machine user. The State licensed inspector must renew his or her license prior to the expiration date given by submitting an application.

How long should I expect it to take to get this approval once I submit a complete application?

Up to 60 days

Once I get this approval, how long will it last?

Maximum of three years

How much will this approval cost?

No fee.

What about performing physics work for mammography facilities?

For those individuals licensed to perform state certification inspections, an option also exists for receiving state approval to conduct physics work at mammography facilities. The Licensed Inspector must request a review for this approval and submit required documentation. The Department evaluates the submission based on 21 CFR Part 900 requirements and will issue the additional approval, if appropriate.

Who do I contact with additional questions?

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Related link:

<http://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Air/RadiologicalHealth/Documents/www.mde.state.md.us/assets/document/air/RX-32.pdf>