

RULEMAKING NOTICE FORM

Notice Number _____

Rule Number _____

Plc 1500 various sections

1. Agency Name & Address:

**Office of Professional Licensure &
Certification
7 Eagle Square
Concord, NH 03301**

2. RSA Authority:

RSA 310:6, II; 326-E:2

3. Federal Authority:

n/a

4. Type of Action:

Adoption

X

Repeal

Readoption

Readoption w/amendment

X

5. Short Title: **Updates to Rules for Respiratory Care Practitioners**

6. (a) Summary of what the rule says and of any proposed amendments:

In July 2023, the Executive Director adopted emergency rules to adjust the continuing education requirements so as to not unduly burden licensees and their employers, in response to comments received at a meeting with stakeholders held in June 2023. The Executive Director is now proposing to readopt the emergency rules as regular rules and is proposing additional changes based on the comments received at the June meeting.

Specifically, the amendments are intended to:

- **Add an option to engage in self-study programs to earn continuing education credit;**
- **Eliminate the requirement to issue a conditional license to any applicant who has been active in the profession fewer than 1750 hours after passing the required exam;**
- **Adjust the requirements for supervision of conditional licensees to facilitate efficiency in supervision;**
- **Change the language used for respiratory care students' practical experience from "internships" to "clinical rotations" at the request of licensees;**
- **Adjust the notification requirements to reflect that RSA 326-E:8, VI allows licensees 30 days to provide notice of a change in home or business address;**
- **Add the conviction without annulment of certain specified crimes to the circumstances that require licensees to notify the OPLC;**
- **Add extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) both as a program topic and as a certification for which continuing competence credit can be claimed;**
- **Clarify that any continuing competence program accepted by the National Board for Respiratory Care, Inc. (NBRC) can be claimed for credit;**
- **Adjust the time period for which documentation of continuing competence programs must be retained to reflect that in Plc 300;**
- **Add the National Certification Corporation Certified in Neonatal Pediatric Transport (C-NPT) examination to the list for which credit can be claimed;**
- **Increase the hours that can be claimed for the Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP) initial or renewal certification to reflect the increase in difficulty of obtaining the certification;**

3. Cost and benefits of the proposed rule(s):

When comparing the proposed rules to the existing rules there could be a small savings for certain State citizens as the new rules have expanded the options on how to obtain continuing education.

A. To State general or State special funds:

None

B. To State citizens and political subdivisions:

See #3 above.

C. To independently owned businesses:

None

11. Statement Relative to Part I, Article 28-a of the N.H. Constitution:

The rules do not apply to political subdivisions. The rules thus do not mandate or assign any new, expanded, or modified programs or responsibilities to any political subdivision in such a way as to necessitate additional local expenditures and so do not violate Part I, Article 28-a of the N.H. Constitution.