

APPENDIX C15

Detoxification Technician Standards Policy and Procedures December 2010

“Detoxification technician” defined. ([NRS 458.025](#)) “Detoxification technician” means a person who is certified by the Division to provide screening for safe withdrawal from alcohol and other drugs.

Qualifications for certification as detoxification technician. ([NRS 458.025](#)) The qualifications for certification as a detoxification technician are:

1. Submission to the Division of a completed application for certification as a detoxification technician; Application to include social security number. Submit a fee of \$25.00.
2. Certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, if applicable as described below.
3. Submission of a Detoxification Training Certification
Such six (6) hour educational training must include as required per NAC 449.1214 (2), but is not limited to the following:
 - acute withdrawal symptoms from alcohol and drug abuse
 - knowledge of severity of vital signs indicating a need for higher level of care
 - first aide procedures for clients and seizures, there must one staff person in the facility who is certified to provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation at all times
 - staff members shall have evidence that they have received training on the use of first-aid supplies and universal precautions.
4. Certification is valid for two (2) years and must be renewed to continue service with fee of \$25.00.
5. An applicant for the issuance or renewal of his or her certification as a detoxification technician must submit to the Division the statement prescribed by the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services of the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to [NRS 425.520](#). The statement must be completed and signed by the applicant.

Detoxification Technicians may work within the following programs and requirements.

NAC 449.1214 General requirements. ([NRS 449.037](#))

1. A facility that offers a social model detoxification program:
 - (a) Must have a physician, nurse practitioner, registered nurse or physician assistant conduct a physical assessment and a review of the general medical and drug history of a client within 24 hours after the client is admitted to the facility to ensure that a social model detoxification program is appropriate for the client.
 - (b) Must not provide detoxification services for clients who exhibit life-threatening symptoms of withdrawal from alcohol and drug abuse.
 - (c) Must develop and implement policies and procedures that protect the safety and health of clients. The facility must have these policies and procedures reviewed annually by a licensed physician who is familiar with the symptoms of withdrawal from alcohol and drug abuse.

(d) Must ensure that the observation of a client during his treatment in the social model detoxification program is reflected in the records of the client as deemed necessary by the policies and procedures of that facility.

2. The staff of a facility that offers a social model detoxification program must complete at least 6 hours of additional education in the detoxification of alcohol and drug abusers, as approved by the program of ongoing quality improvement pursuant to [NAC 449.1218](#), every 2 years. Such education must include instruction in:

- (a) Acute withdrawal symptoms from alcohol and drug abuse; and
 - (b) First-aid procedures for clients with seizures.
- (Added to NAC by Bd. of Health by R077-01, eff. 10-18-2001)

Requirements for service for civil protective custody. ([NRS 458.025](#)) The operator of a program which provides a service for civil protective custody that has been approved by the State or a designee of the operator shall:

- 1. Ensure that the program is approved by the State as a residential detoxification service;
- 2. Make a good faith effort to refer a client to treatment; and
- 3. Maintain a record for each client, including, without limitation:
 - (a) The date and time of admission;
 - (b) The vital signs of the client, taken every 2 hours while the client is awake;
 - (c) Written observations of the client;
 - (d) Relevant findings regarding the behavior of the client;
 - (e) Documentation of the efforts made to refer a client to treatment pursuant to subsection 2;
 - (f) The date and time that the client was discharged.

Requirements for residential detoxification service. ([NRS 458.025](#)) The operator of a program which provides a residential detoxification service that has been approved by the State or a designee of the operator shall:

- 1. Ensure that there is on the premises of the program at all times at least one licensed or certified medical professional or certified detoxification technician; and
- 2. Maintain a record for each patient, including, without limitation, case notes entered not less frequently than every 8 hours detailing:
 - (a) Observation of the patient;
 - (b) Relevant findings regarding the behavior of the patient; and
 - (c) The vital signs of the patient taken at least every 4 hours while the patient is awake.

General considerations for social model detoxification (III.2-D):

A clinically managed residential detoxification that may be delivered by appropriately trained staff, who provide 24 hour supervision, observation and support for patients who are intoxicated or experiencing withdrawal. Clinically managed detoxification is characterized by its emphasis on peer and social support. Intoxication and withdrawal signs and symptoms are sufficiently severe enough to require 24 hour structure and support but not severe enough to warrant the resources of a Level III.7-D medically monitored inpatient detoxification.

- a) A facility must have on duty, all hours of each day, members of the staff sufficient in number and qualifications to carry out policies responsibilities and program continuity.
- b) Verification of training, experience, and, if applicable, counselor certification.

Training: The staff of a facility that offers social model detoxification must complete at least 6 hours of SAPTA/BHCQC approved education in the detoxification of alcohol and drug users every two years. Such education must include but is not limited to the following:

- acute withdrawal symptoms from alcohol and drug abuse
- knowledge of severity of vital signs indicating a need for a higher level of care
- first aide procedures for clients and seizures, there must be one staff person in the facility who is certified to provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation at all times
- staff members shall have evidence that they have received training on the use of first-aid supplies and universal precautions.

NRS 458.025 Operation of state plan; certification of detoxification technicians, facilities and programs. [Effective until the date the regulation adopted by the Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug and Gambling Counselors for the certification of a person as a detoxification technician pursuant to [NRS 641C.500](#) becomes effective, unless a later date is otherwise specified in the regulation.] The Division:

1. Shall formulate and operate a comprehensive state plan for alcohol and drug abuse programs which must include:

(a) A survey of the need for prevention and treatment of alcohol and drug abuse, including a survey of the facilities needed to provide services and a plan for the development and distribution of services and programs throughout this State.

(b) A plan for programs to educate the public in the problems of the abuse of alcohol and other drugs.

(c) A survey of the need for persons who have professional training in fields of health and other persons involved in the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse and in the treatment and recovery of alcohol and drug abusers, and a plan to provide the necessary treatment.

↳ In developing and revising the state plan, the Division shall consider, without limitation, the amount of money available from the Federal Government for alcohol and drug abuse programs and the conditions attached to the acceptance of that money, and the limitations of legislative appropriations for alcohol and drug abuse programs.

2. Shall coordinate the efforts to carry out the state plan and coordinate all state and federal financial support of alcohol and drug abuse programs in this State.

3. Must be consulted in the planning of projects and advised of all applications for grants from within this State which are concerned with alcohol and drug abuse programs, and shall review the applications and advise the applicants concerning the applications.

4. Shall certify or deny certification of detoxification technicians or any facilities or programs on the basis of the standards established by the Division pursuant to this section, and publish a list of certified detoxification technicians, facilities and programs. Any detoxification technicians, facilities or programs which are not certified are ineligible to receive state and federal money for alcohol and drug abuse programs. The Division shall adopt regulations. The regulations:

(a) Must prescribe the requirements for continuing education for persons certified as detoxification technicians; and

(b) May prescribe the fees for the certification of detoxification technicians, facilities or programs. A fee prescribed pursuant to this paragraph must be calculated to produce the revenue estimated to cover the costs related to the certifications, but in no case may a fee for a certificate exceed the actual cost to the Division of issuing the certificate.

5. Upon request from a facility which is self-supported, may certify the facility, its programs and detoxification technicians and add them to the list described in subsection 4.

(Added to NRS by 1973, 1397; A 1975, 228; 1981, 1901; 1987, 526; [1999, 1267](#), [1875](#), [3066](#); [2001, 419](#), [441](#), [1910](#), [2519](#); [2005, 22nd Special Session, 57](#))

NRS 458.025 Operation of state plan; certification of facilities and programs. [Effective on the date the regulation adopted by the Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug and Gambling Counselors for the certification of a person as a detoxification technician pursuant to [NRS 641C.500](#) becomes effective, unless a later date is otherwise specified in the regulation.] The Division:

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(a) A survey of the need for prevention and treatment of alcohol and drug abuse, including a survey of the facilities needed to provide services and a plan for the development and distribution of services and programs throughout this State.

(b) A plan for programs to educate the public in the problems of the abuse of alcohol and other drugs.

(c) A survey of the need for persons who have professional training in fields of health and other persons involved in the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse and in the treatment and recovery of alcohol and drug abusers, and a plan to provide the necessary treatment.

↳ In developing and revising the state plan, the Division shall consider, without limitation, the amount of money available from the Federal Government for alcohol and drug abuse programs and the conditions attached to the acceptance of that money, and the limitations of legislative appropriations for alcohol and drug abuse programs.

2. Shall coordinate the efforts to carry out the state plan and coordinate all state and federal financial support of alcohol and drug abuse programs in this State.

3. Must be consulted in the planning of projects and advised of all applications for grants from within this State which are concerned with alcohol and drug abuse programs, and shall review the applications and advise the applicants concerning the applications.

4. Shall certify or deny certification of any facilities or programs on the basis of the standards established by the Division pursuant to this section, and publish a list of certified facilities and programs. Any facilities or programs which are not certified are ineligible to receive state and federal money for alcohol and drug abuse programs. The Division shall adopt regulations which may prescribe the fees for the certification of facilities or programs. A fee prescribed pursuant to this subsection must be calculated to produce the revenue estimated to cover the costs related to the certifications, but in no case may a fee for a certificate exceed the actual cost to the Division of issuing the certificate.

5. Upon request from a facility which is self-supported, may certify the facility and its programs and add them to the list described in subsection 4.

(Added to NRS by 1973, 1397; A 1975, 228; 1981, 1901; 1987, 526; [1999, 1267, 1875, 3066](#); [2001, 419, 441, 1910, 2519](#); [2003, 1168](#); [2005, 22nd Special Session, 57, 58](#), effective on the date the regulation adopted by the Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug and Gambling Counselors for the certification of a person as a detoxification technician pursuant to NRS 641C.500 becomes effective, unless a later date is otherwise specified in the regulation)

NRS 458.026 Certification of detoxification technician: Statement by applicant concerning payment of child support; grounds for denial of certification; duty of Administrator. [Expires by limitation on the date the regulation adopted by the Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug and Gambling Counselors, for the certification of a person as a detoxification technician pursuant to [NRS 641C.500](#) becomes effective, unless a later date is otherwise specified in the regulation, or on the date of the repeal of the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings, whichever occurs first.]

1. An applicant for the issuance or renewal of his or her certification as a detoxification technician must submit to the Division the statement prescribed by the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services of the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to [NRS 425.520](#). The statement must be completed and signed by the applicant.

2. The Division shall include the statement required pursuant to subsection 1 in:

(a) The application or any other forms that must be submitted for the issuance or renewal of the certification; or

(b) A separate form prescribed by the Division.

3. The certification of a person as a detoxification technician may not be issued or renewed by the Division if the applicant:

(a) Fails to complete or submit the statement required pursuant to subsection 1; or

(b) Indicates on the statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 that the applicant is subject to a court order for the support of a child and is not in compliance with the order or a plan approved by the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order for the repayment of the amount owed pursuant to the order.

4. If an applicant indicates on the statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 that the applicant is subject to a court order for the support of a child and is not in compliance with the order or a plan approved by the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order for the repayment of the amount owed pursuant to the order, the Administrator shall advise the applicant to contact the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order to determine the actions that the applicant may take to satisfy the arrearage.

(Added to NRS by 1997, 2059; A [1999, 1268, 3067](#); [2001, 132, 133, 420, 442, 1910, 2520](#); R [2003, 1169](#); A [2005, 22nd Special Session, 59](#))

NRS 458.027 Certification of detoxification technician: Suspension of certification for failure to pay child support or comply with certain subpoenas or warrants; reinstatement of certification. [Expires by limitation on the date the regulation adopted by the Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug and Gambling Counselors, for the certification of a person as a detoxification technician pursuant to [NRS 641C.500](#) becomes effective, unless a later date is otherwise specified in the regulation, or on the date of the repeal of the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings, whichever occurs first.]

1. If the Division receives a copy of a court order issued pursuant to [NRS 425.540](#) that provides for the suspension of all professional, occupational and recreational licenses, certificates and permits issued to a person who has been certified as a detoxification technician, the Division shall deem the certification to be suspended at the end of the 30th day after the date on which the court order was issued unless the Division receives a letter issued by the district attorney or other public agency pursuant to [NRS 425.550](#) to the person who has been certified stating that the person has complied with the subpoena or warrant or has satisfied the arrearage pursuant to [NRS 425.560](#).

2. The Division shall reinstate the certification of a person as a detoxification technician that has been suspended by a district court pursuant to [NRS 425.540](#) if the Division receives a letter issued by the district attorney or other public agency pursuant to [NRS 425.550](#) to the person whose certification was suspended stating that the person whose certification was suspended has complied with the subpoena or warrant or has satisfied the arrearage pursuant to [NRS 425.560](#).

(Added to NRS by 1997, 2060; A [1999, 1268, 3068](#); [2001, 421, 443, 1911, 2521](#); R [2003, 1169](#); A [2005, 22nd Special Session, 59](#))

NRS 458.028 Certification of detoxification technician: Application to include social security number. [Expires by limitation on the date the regulation adopted by the Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug and Gambling Counselors, for the certification of a person as a detoxification technician pursuant to [NRS 641C.500](#) becomes effective, unless a later date is otherwise specified in the regulation, or on the date of the repeal of the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings, whichever occurs first.] An application for the certification of a detoxification technician must include the social security number of the applicant.

(Added to NRS by 1997, 2060; A [1999, 1269, 3068](#); [2001, 1911, 2521](#); R [2003, 1169](#))