

Physician Assistant Proposed Administrative Rule Amendments
Supplemental Information for Review by the
Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision
September 16, 2024

Excerpt of PA Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated July 16, 2024	<u>Pg. 2</u>
Public Comments (written) received between August 16, 2024 and September 16, 2024	<u>Pg. 4</u>
Public Comments (oral) presented at Public Comment Hearing held on September 16, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.	<u>Pg.52</u>

Minutes

Physician Assistant Advisory Committee of the
Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision - July 16, 2024

Committee Members present:

Jeffrey Burke, PA-C, FHRS, CEPS, CCDS, Acting Chair
 Louis Cox, MD
 Saura Douglas, PA-C
 Don Flinn, PA-C
 Jonathan Stone, DO
 Lee Schoeffler, MD

Committee Member(s) absent:

Leroy Young, DO

Program Director(s) Present:

Amy Harrison, MHS, PA-C, OSU PA Program Director
 Bobby Bosse, PA-C, MHS, OCU PA Program Director

Program Director(s) Absent:

Darlla Duniphin, PA, OU-OKC, PA Program Interim Director
 Shannon Ijams, MPAS, PA-C, OU-Tulsa, PA Program Director
 Mark Perdue, PhD, PA-C, NSU PA Program Director

Others present included:

Sandra B. Harrison, JD, Interim Executive Director
 Barbara J. Smith, Executive Secretary
 Lisa Cullen, Director of Licensing
 Valeska Barr, Assistant Director of Licensing

RULES EXCERPT:

Then, Ms. Harrison presented proposed amended administrative rules (OAC 435:15). She advised that she, Patti Parrish, Barbara Smith, and Alexis Garner, along with input from others, prepared the draft of rules before the Committee today. The recent Attorney General's Opinion regarding off-site writing of Schedule IIs is not addressed in the rule amendments. Most amendments are modernizing the rules to conform with laws that were passed four years ago, including some rules which were adopted by the Medical Board but were ultimately held from moving forward by the former Executive Director.

Following discussion regarding the definition of "On-Site" to include "(I) Any other setting as authorized by the delegating physician," in OAC 435:15-1-1.1., Dr. Stone stated he believed this definition to be too broad, i.e., "carte blanche for prescribing."

Regarding the supervising ratio, Dr. Stone indicated that employers would like physicians to supervise more than six mid-level practitioners who work in a hospital. Mr. Burke stated that SB1915's intent was to not have any ratio. Dr. Schoeffler indicated his concern stating, "This is

giving hospitals, etc., carte blanche to do whatever they want to do.” Mr. Burke stated there is a lot of collaboration between the physician and physician assistant. Mr. Flinn would like for the ratio to be removed and let the Board decide during its adoption phase.

Mr. Burke stated that Mercy Hospital contacted “us” to include a 100-day supply for non-CDS prescriptions with three refills and told the Committee it is “common practice” to prescribe in those quantities. See: OAC 435:15-11-1(c). Dr. Stone believes it is poor practice to prescribe that much medication for a new diagnosis. Mr. Burke stated there is no statutory requirement governing this issue. Dr. Stone asked for his disagreement with this language, especially as it relates to refills, to be put in the minutes.

At the conclusion of much discussion, Mr. Burke called for action and Ms. Smith requested separate motions and votes for the three items below:

- Mr. Burke moved to recommend leaving the proposed language of “(I) Any other setting as authorized by the delegating physician,” in OAC 435:15-1-1.1. Ms. Douglas seconded the motion and the vote is recorded below:

Jeffrey Burke, PA-C, FHRS, CEPS, CCDS, Acting Chair: Yes
 Louis Cox, MD: Yes
 Saura Douglas, PA-C: Yes
 Don Flinn, PA-C: Yes
 Jonathan Stone, DO: No
 Lee Schoeffler, MD: Yes

- Dr. Cox stated it did not seem appropriate that PA rules were governing MDs and how many mid-levels may be supervised by an MD. Following discussion, Dr. Stone moved to strike 435:15-3-13(c) from the rules. Mr. Flinn seconded the motion and the vote is recorded below:

Jeffrey Burke, PA-C, FHRS, CEPS, CCDS, Acting Chair: No
 Louis Cox, MD: Yes
 Saura Douglas, PA-C: Yes
 Don Flinn, PA-C: Yes
 Jonathan Stone, DO: Yes
 Lee Schoeffler, MD: Yes

- Mr. Flinn moved to approve the rules as presented with the two motions above notated. Dr. Cox seconded the motion and the vote is recorded below:

Jeffrey Burke, PA-C, FHRS, CEPS, CCDS, Acting Chair: Yes
 Louis Cox, MD: Yes
 Saura Douglas, PA-C: Yes
 Don Flinn, PA-C: Yes
 Jonathan Stone, DO: No
 Lee Schoeffler, MD: Yes

There being no further business, Mr. Burke moved to adjourn the meeting. The time was 5:17 p.m.

From: [Angela Bartlow](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PROPOSED RULE AMENDMENTS TO OK ADMIN CODE 435.15 PA AS ADOPTED BY THE PA ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 7:28:31 AM

Good morning,

I am a practicing PA in Harrah, Oklahoma for the past 23 years. I am in support of the Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee as it allows the rules to provide guidance and guardrails for the implementation of the PA Act and conforms the rules with current law. I ask the board members to vote **YES to support the proposed rules.**
Thank you for your consideration.

Angela Bartlow PA-C
Family Care Center of Harrah

From: [Brookelyn Johnson](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Vote YES on Rule 435.15
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 7:41:19 AM

Good Morning,

My name is Brookelyn Johnson, and I am a practicing Physician Assistant in Oklahoma City and Edmond, Oklahoma. I am writing you to express my support for the Proposed Rule Amendments to Oklahoma Administration Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee. These rules provide guidance and guardrails for the implementation of the PA Act and conforms the rules with current law which is imperative to our practice and medical care for OK residents. I sincerely ask you and the Medical Licensure Board to vote YES to support the proposed rules! Thank you kindly for your consideration and time. This is vital to our profession and the Medical profession as a whole.

Sincerely,
Brookelyn Johnson, PA-C

From: [Lauryn Jeffcoat](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Rule Amendments for Physician Assistants
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 8:10:42 AM

Dear members of the Oklahoma Medical Licensure Board,

My name is Lauryn Jeffcoat and I am a Physician Assistant currently practicing in Yukon, Oklahoma. I am writing to express my support for Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee. The rules provide guidance and guardrails for the implementation of the PA Act and conforms the rules with current law. I ask that you vote YES to support the proposed rules. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lauryn Jeffcoat, PA-C
lauryn.jeffcoat@gmail.com

From: [Alise Osis](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 12:07:17 PM

Hello,

My name is Alise Osis and I am a practicing physician assistant in Norman.

I'm writing to express my support for the proposed rule amendments to the current Physician Assistant practice guidelines as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee.

These amendments provide guidance and guardrails for the implementation of the PA Act and conforms the rules with current law.

Please vote YES to these proposed rules.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alise Osis PA-C
Norman, OK

From: [Melissa Green](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 – Physician Associates
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 3:35:36 PM

Dear Members of the Medical Licensure Board,

My name is Melissa Green, and I am a Physician Associate student in Edmond, Oklahoma. I am writing to express my strong support for the Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 concerning Physician Associates, as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee.

These amendments are crucial as they provide essential guidance and guardrails for the implementation of the PA Act. Furthermore, they align the rules with current law, ensuring that our practice remains safe, effective, and in accordance with the latest legal standards.

I respectfully urge you to vote YES to support the proposed rules. Your consideration and support of these amendments are vital for the continued advancement of our profession and the health of the communities we serve.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Melissa Green
OUHSC PA-S3 | Treasurer
OU '21 | Psychology
Cell: 405.808.6216 | email: Melissa.green.pa@outlook.com

From: [Jeff Hamblin](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Rules Vote
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 9:25:11 PM

Dear Oklahoma Medical Board Members,

My name is Jeff Hamblin and am a practicing PA in an urgent care clinic in Durant Oklahoma. I am in support of the Proposed Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee. It is my opinion that the rules provide guidance and guardrails for the implementation of the PA Act and conforms the rules to the current laws. Please vote yes in support of the proposed rules. I would like to thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey F. Hamblin PA-C
Sent from Jeff's iPhone

From: [Gmail 2](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Vote YES Okla. Admin. Code 435.15
Date: Wednesday, August 28, 2024 7:54:41 AM

Good morning,

My name is Britney Welch, and I am a board certified practicing PA in Tulsa, Oklahoma. I would like to express my support for Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee.

The rules provide guidance and structure for the implementation of the PA Act and conforms the rules with current law. I ask that members of the Medical Licensure Board vote YES to support the proposed rules.

Thank you tremendously for your consideration,

Respectfully,

Britney Welch

From: [Dane](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Rule Amendments 435.15
Date: Wednesday, August 28, 2024 4:14:02 PM

To whom it may concern:

My name is Dane Mitchell, and I am a practicing PA working in psychiatry under the supervision of Dr. Peter Stanbro at Stanbro Healthcare Group in Edmond, Oklahoma. I would like to express my support for the proposed rule amendments to Oklahoma Administrative Code 435.15 as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee. I believe these proposed rule amendments provide important guidance and conforms the rules with current law, and that these proposals will allow for increased efficiency, patient access to healthcare services, and delivery of quality healthcare services by those to whom this has been entrusted. I ask the members of the Medical Licensure Board to vote yes on these proposals and thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dane Mitchell, PA-C

From: [Vaden Danielson](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Oklahoma Administrative Code 435.15
Date: Thursday, August 29, 2024 10:59:12 AM

Good morning!

This email is concerning the Proposed Rule Amendments to Oklahoma Administrative Code 435.15 Physician Assistant.

My name is Sarah Vaden Danielson PA-C. I am a practicing Physician Assistant working in Edmond, Oklahoma.

Reading through the new rules adopted by the PA Advisory Committee it appears to provide guidance and guardrails for the implementation of the PA Act. As well, it appears to conform to the rules with current law, as I understand it.

I cordially ask the members of the Medical Licensure Board to vote **YES** to support the proposed rules-

Thank you for this consideration as we continue to help Oklahomans together.

Sincerely,

Sarah Vaden Danielson PA-C

From: [Christie, Gavin C](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Cc: [Gavin Christie](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Physician assistant rules
Date: Thursday, August 29, 2024 12:42:08 PM

To Oklahoma medical board members,

My name is Gavin Christie, I am a practicing physician assistant in neurosurgery at Baptist Medical Center.

I am in support of the proposed rule amendments to Oklahoma administration code for 35.15 physician assistance as adopted by the PA advisory committee.

These rules provide guidance and guardrails for implementation of the PA ACT and conform with the rules with the current law has previously passed by Senate Bill 1915.

I ask for your support for voting yes to pass the proposed rules as written. These provide a good step forward for improving patient care for Oklahomans.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Thank you again for your time,

Gavin Christie PA-C
405/570-4871
Okst952@yahoo.com

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From: [Coleen Krieger](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Code 435.15
Date: Thursday, August 29, 2024 11:03:48 PM

Hi my name is Coleen Krieger and I am a PA working in Blackwell and Perry. Please consider voting yes to adopt the proposed rule amendments to Oklahoma admin code 435.15. The rule supports guidelines set forth by the law. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Coleen

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jill Spreiter](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15
Date: Saturday, August 31, 2024 5:01:10 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Jill Spreiter and I am a practicing PA in Tulsa, Oklahoma. I support the proposed rules for amendment as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee. The proposed rules provide much needed updates to the current rules. They offer clarity, guidance, and protections as currently written.

Please vote YES to these proposed rules as written.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jill Spreiter, PA-C
The Orthopaedic Center
Tulsa, OK

From: [Charles O'Leary](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Email to OMB regarding upcoming PA Rules vote
Date: Monday, September 2, 2024 1:21:11 PM

Hello,

My name is Charles O'Leary and I am a Physician Assistant who has been in Family Medicine practice in Osage and Pawnee Counties in northern Oklahoma since 1975. I live in Hominy, Oklahoma and practice at Lake Area Medical Associates clinic in Cleveland, Oklahoma.

I am urging you to please support Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee. These rules provide guidance and guardrails for the implementation of PA Act and conforms the rules with current law.

I became a PA in 1975 because there was a shortage of health care providers, MD/DO, in rural areas of Oklahoma where I live.

Today the same situation exist. We have PA's and NP's who are willing to move to medically underserved rural areas of our State to provide needed healthcare, but the problem is our collaborating physicians, MD/DO's, are limited to working with only six midlevel providers each. There are not enough physicians in Rural Health Care to collaborate/supervise with the PA/NP's who providing the bulk of Rural healthcare and rural residents of our State are going without healthcare or limited because of this restriction.

The PA Act rectifies this situation.

Please vote YES on the proposed PA Rules that eliminates this numerical restriction for MD/DO collaboration.

Let's work together to bring quality health care to rural Oklahomans who deserve this care and allow the midlevel providers, many of us already in place, to provide this needed health care to all of our citizens.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely yours,

Charles O'Leary, PA-C

Charles O'Leary, PA-C

**Family Medicine
Lake Area Medical Associates
1400 W. Pawnee St.
Cleveland, OK 74020
918-358-3588**

coleary@lakeareamedical.org

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From: [Lisa Mogelnicki](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants
Date: Monday, September 2, 2024 6:04:19 PM

To whom this may concern:

My name is Lisa Mogelnicki and I am a practicing physician with an orthopedic private practice in Tulsa, a wound care center at the OSU medical center , and Indian Health Care clinic in Pawnee, Oklahoma.

I currently work closely with physician assistants within all those specialities and I agree with the proposed and updated wording of the Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee.

I saw nothing that changes the current practicing guidelines of our PAs.

Additionally, I wish the state of Oklahoma would allow podiatric surgeons to have PAs. Currently there are not enough podiatrists in the state with the growing number of limb salvage and foot related trauma cases we do. The PAs would help keep maintain proper post op management as well as preventative maintenance for these patients.

Thank you,
Lisa Mogelnicki, DPM, FACFAS, CWS

From: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
To: [Jacob Callison](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Contradiction in Subchapter 5 and 11.
Date: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 8:02:00 AM

Thank you for your comment.

Barbara J. Smith, Executive Secretary
OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE & SUPERVISION
101 NE 51st Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Phone: (405) 962-1400, Ext. 122

-----Original Message-----

From: Jacob Callison <calli0226@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 2:04 AM
To: Barbara J. Smith <bsmith@okmedicalboard.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Contradiction in Subchapter 5 and 11.

There is a contradiction found between subchapter 5 and 11 regarding Schedule III, IV, V prescriptions.

Subchapter 5 states - 30 day supply with no refills.
Subchapter 11 states - 30 day supply with up to 2 refills.

Hopefully can be corrected before sending to the board.

Thank you,

Jacob Callison PA
Broken Arrow Diagnostic Medicine, PLLC

From: [Pooja](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PA proposed rule amendments
Date: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 1:03:02 PM

Hello. My name is Pooja Bhakta and I am a practicing PA in Edmond, OK. I would like to express my support for the Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee. The rules provide guidance and guardrails for the implementation of the PA Act and conform to the rules with current law. I ask for members of the Medical Licensure Board to voice YES to support the proposed rules.

Thank you for time and consideration,

-Pooja Bhakta, PA-C

From: [Carl Jackson](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee
Date: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 3:35:55 PM

Hello,

I currently work full time as an ER PA-C in Tulsa, OK, and wished to write regarding the proposed rule amendments. I fully support the proposed changes in "delegating" vs "supervising." Please consider voting YES to allow enhanced care from Oklahoma Physician Assistants.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

--

Carl Jackson, PA-C
(706)631-8552

"All it takes, is all you got" - GORUCK Cadre

From: [Shannon Morey](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] AAPA Letter on Proposed Rule Amendments to OAC 453.15
Date: Friday, September 6, 2024 8:27:19 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[AAPA Letter to OSMB 9.15.24.pdf](#)

Good morning,

Please find the attached letter from the American Academy of PAs (AAPA) regarding proposed rule amendments to Oklahoma Admin. Code 453.15 regarding physician assistant practice updates. Thank you for the opportunity to comment and please let me know if there are any questions.

Best,



Shannon Morey, JD

Senior Director, State Advocacy and Outreach

AAPA

2318 Mill Road, Suite 1300

O: 571-319-4314

www.aapa.org

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September 15, 2024

Oklahoma State Medical Board
101 NE 51st Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Re: Support for Proposed Rule Amendments to Oklahoma Admin. Code 453.15

To the Members of the Oklahoma State Medical Board:

The American Academy Physician Associates (AAPA) is the only national professional society for PAs (physician associates/physician assistants). In this capacity, AAPA represents a profession of more than 178,700 PAs across all medical and surgical specialties in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, and the uniformed services, including over 2,000 in Oklahoma.

AAPA is writing in support of the proposed rule amendments in Oklahoma Admin. Code 435.15. These modernizations to PA practice in Oklahoma, as written, provide the necessary updates to adequately implement S.B. 1915 following its passage in the 2020 legislative session. The alignment of the regulatory changes and the changes to statute are essential to enable PAs to function and advance healthcare access for Oklahoma. AAPA is pleased to see these proposed rule amendments provide the clarification needed regarding physician delegation, ratios, and prescribing by PAs. By moving forward with these proposed amendments, patients across the state will benefit from improved access to care with the guidance and guardrails provided to the health care team through these changes.

AAPA is committed to working with the Oklahoma State Medical Board to improve PA practice and the regulatory environment in Oklahoma and asks the members of the Board to support these proposed rule amendments. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact Shannon Morey, AAPA, Senior Director, State Advocacy and Outreach at smorey@aapa.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Prevelige PA-C', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jason Prevelige, DMSc, MBA, PA-C, DFAAPA
President and Chair, Board of Directors

From: [Jan Loftis](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 2024-09-03 - FINAL letter of support on Med Board Rules 2024
Date: Monday, September 9, 2024 1:42:08 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[2024-09-03 - FINAL letter of support on Med Board Rules 2024.pdf](#)

Good afternoon:

Please accept the attached email as written comments on behalf of the Oklahoma Academy of Physician Associates in support of the pending PA Rules.

Please let me know if you need any further information. Thank you.

Regards,

Jan Loftis

Jan Gilmore Loftis
President/Owner
Gilmore Communications LLC
8642 N. May Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73120
405.826.3912
janloftis@gmail.com





Oklahoma Academy
of
Physician Associates
EST. 1974

September 11, 2024

Sent via email to: bsmith@okmedicalboard.org

Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision
101 NE 51st Street
Oklahoma City, OK73105

RE: Oklahoma Academy of Physician Associates Public Comment to Proposed Amendments to OAC 435:15. OAR Docket #24-869.

Dear Board President Nutt and Members of the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision:

On behalf of the Oklahoma Academy of Physician Associates (OAPA) more than 1,400 members, including licensed physician assistants and students, we are writing to express our strong support regarding the proposed changes to the Physician Assistant (PA) rules in OAC 435:15. We appreciate the work of Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision (the Board) and the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee (the Committee) for their work along with staff of the Board to craft the proposed rules. The proposed rule changes are consistent with the current statute and incorporate changes enacted by the Legislature from 2020 to 2024.

OAPA believes that the rules recommended by the Committee at its July 16, 2024, meeting serve the best interests of all Oklahomans and are necessary to conform current rules to the existing statutory code. In particular, OAPA supports the following changes, as advanced in the recommended rule revisions:

- **OAC 435:15-1-1.1** (*Definitions*). The proposed amendments add a definition of “delegating physician” and delete the references to “alternative supervising physician” and “primary supervising physician,” which is consistent with current law. 59 O.S. § 512.2.
- **OAC 435:15-3-1**. (*Qualification; application*). The proposed amendments clarify the delegation agreement and its implementation. These changes are also consistent with current state law.

- **OAC 435:15-5-13** (*Discipline*). These proposed amendments remove the reference to “supervising” to “delegating” consistent with current law.
- **OAC 435:15-3-19**. (*Locum tenens*). The revocation of the section dealing with locum tenens comports with existing law.
- **OAC 435:15-5-10**. (*Prescriptions*). The proposed amendment conforms *to the* statute with *the* rule defined in 435:15-1-1.1.
- **OAC 435:15-5-11**. (*Discipline*). The proposed amendments were recommended and included as suggested by the Attorney General.
- **OAC 435:15-11-1**. (*Prescriptive and dispensing authority*). The proposed amendments update the term “supervising” to “delegating” to conform with the statute and include orders for home health pursuant to 63 O.S. § 1-1961(4). Further, the proposed amendments address the authorization for refills and clarifies on-site administration as defined in OAC 435:15-1-1-1.

For the reasons outlined above, OAPA strongly supports the proposed changes to OAC 435:15 as proposed. The proposed rules also ensure practice decisions are made at the practice level based on the skills of both the PA and the physician.

We thus respectfully request your support of these amendments and ask the Board to adopt them as proposed.

Respectfully,

OAPA Board of Directors

Jeff Burke, PA-C, President	Saura Douglas, PA-C, Past President
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Melissa Loftis, PA-C	Jennifer Putnam, PA-C
Audra Ball, PA-C	Helga Price, PA-C

From: [Daniel O'Donnell](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PaRules
Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 6:43:35 AM

To whom it may concern,

My name is Daniel O'Donnell and I am a practicing PA in OKC. I support the rule amendments to okla admin code 435.15. These changes will provide guardrails for the implementation of the PA act and I ask the members of the medical board to vote YES in support of them. Thank you,
Daniel O'Donnell

From: [Liz Doty](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please vote YES!!!
Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 9:35:06 AM

Good morning,

My name is Elizabeth Doty. I am a practicing physician assistant in Oklahoma City and have been since 2010.

I am emailing you in request that the members of the medical board please vote YES in support of Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee.

It is my belief that passing this amendment will provide guidance for the implementation of the PA Act and fulfills obligations of compliance with current law. I have no doubt that this amendment will be hugely advantageous for the physician assistant profession as well as the physicians working closely with us.

I appreciate your time and consideration.



Liz Doty PA-C
Mariposa Aesthetics and Laser Center
Oklahoma City, OK
liz_doty@outlook.com
405-623-2471

From: [Koby Anderson](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants
Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 10:21:28 AM

To Whom it May Concern,

Hello, my name is Koby Anderson. I am a practicing PA in neurosurgery here in OKC, OK. I have been in practice for 10 years and value the working relationship we have with the Medical Board. I am in support of the Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee. The rules provide guidance and guardrails for the implementation of the PA Act and conforms the rules with current law. I am asking for the members of the Medical Licensure Board to vote YES to support the proposed rules.

Thank you all for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Koby Anderson, PA-C

From: [Kay Williams](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Cc: janloftis@gmail.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment for the Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision re Proposed Rule Amendments to OK Admin. Code 435.15
Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 12:09:58 PM

To: Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision

From: Matilda K. Williams, PAC
1021 Harding Street
Seminole, OK 74868
katherinewill@earthlink.net

Date: September 10, 2024

Re: Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin Code 435.15

Dear Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision,

I am currently retired, but I was a practicing PA in the state of Oklahoma for 20 years. I have appreciated the diligence of the Board in maintaining our PA licensing in the state of Oklahoma.

I want to urge the Board to adopt the Proposed Rule Amendments to the Oklahoma Administrative Code 435.15, as recommended by the PA Advisory Committee. These rules provide guidance and guardrails for the implementation of the PA Act and conforms with current law.

As, no doubt, many of you may have noticed, there has been a competition among various mid-level health professionals for public recognition, increased responsibility on the health care team, and corresponding increased career reward. This Board most likely does not wish to put a finger on the scale in this competition one way or the other, but rather simply to make common-sense changes consistent with Oklahoma law.

I am quite sure the PA Advisory Committee shares all of the Board's concerns and has respected these concerns in their analysis of what amendments need to be made. I urge you to vote "Yes" to support the proposed rule amendments.

Thanking you in advance for your careful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Matilda K. Williams, PA-C

From: [Sara House](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PA rules comment
Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 6:48:35 PM

To whom it may concern,

My name is Sara Parr I am a practicing PA and educator in Oklahoma City, OK. I am writing regarding my support for the proposed rule amendments to Oklahoma Admin Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee. The rules provide guidance and also align with the current PA Act/laws. I ask the members of the Oklahoma State Board of Licensure and Supervision vote YES to support the proposed rules.

Thank you for consideration

Sincerely,

Sara Parr

From: [cmgarrison36](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PA rules ammendment
Date: Wednesday, September 11, 2024 6:51:02 PM

To the Oklahoma State Medical licensure Board

I am writing in support of the proposed rules ammendments to the Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee.

My name is Mike Garrison MD. I am a practicing Internal Medicine and Pediatrics physician with Mercy in Edmond. I currently am the delegating physician for 2 PAs and have worked with PAs throughout my training and career.

After reading the proposed rules I believe they are fair and clear guidelines for the implementation of current Oklahoma law regarding the PA Practice Act.

I ask for the Medical licensure Board members for their support of these proposed rules as well and vote YES to approve the rules.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mike Garrison MD

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S24+, an AT&T 5G smartphone

From: [Steve Johnston](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed rule amendments to Oklahoma Administrative Code 435.15
Date: Thursday, September 12, 2024 10:21:33 PM

To whom it may concern:

My name is Stephen Johnston, and I am a practicing PA working in psychiatry under the supervision of Dr. Peter Stanbro at Stanbro Healthcare Group in Edmond, Oklahoma. I would like to express my support for the proposed rule amendments to Oklahoma Administrative Code 435.15 as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee. It is my belief that these proposed rule amendments provide important guidance and conforms the rules with current law, and that these proposals will allow for increased efficiency, patient access to healthcare services, and delivery of quality healthcare services by those to whom this has been entrusted. I ask the members of the Medical Licensure Board to VOTE YES on these proposals.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Stephen Johnston PA-C

From: [Chelsea Waldrop](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15
Date: Friday, September 13, 2024 7:37:10 AM

My name is Chelsea Waldrop #5074, a practicing PA in Choctaw, Oklahoma.

I support the Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee

I already have a practice agreement with my supervising physician that includes what he is/is not comfortable with regards to my scope of practice. This would continue under the proposed rule amendments.

The proposed rule amendments would allow my supervising physician to still provide guardrails for what he deems appropriate and would allow our practice to expand as he feels appropriate to meet the needs of our rural population.

Please vote 'YES' to support the proposed rules.

Thank you for your consideration.

Chelsea Waldrop, PA-C

From: [Iftikhar Sandhu](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PA rules amendments
Date: Friday, September 13, 2024 10:19:51 AM

Hello,

Iftikhar Sandhu, PA-C

License# PA1021

Home Address

1117 Hearthstone

Norman, OK 73072

Work Address:

Quick Urgent Care, LLC

2212 N. Broadway St.

Moore, OK 73160

I am a proud graduate of the University Of Oklahoma PA program, class of 1999. I have served my fellow Oklahomans in Cardiology, ER, internal medicine, and Urgent Care medical settings for 25 years. Currently, I work in an Urgent Care clinic. We see patients who will go and crowd the ER facilities. We take the burden off the ER staff so they can focus and take care of the real emergent cases. As we all know, there is a shortage of healthcare workers in all medical fields. I strongly support the proposed PA rules that the PA Advisory Committee recommends.

The necessary proposed changes will help us PAs serve the Oklahoma population better with a little more freedom under the supervision of our delegate physician.

I humbly request that you vote YES to support the proposed rules.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Iftikhar Sandhu, PA-C

Quick Urgent Care

2212 N. Broadway

Moore, OK 73160

405-285-7222

Open Daily 7AM-8PM

Walk-in clinic for minor injuries and illnesses.

Locally owned and operated

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From: [Jacalyn Honeywell](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PA RULES AMENDMENTS
Date: Friday, September 13, 2024 1:44:38 PM

Good morning,

My name is Jacalyn Honeywell and I am currently a PA in urgent care with a background in infectious disease and internal medicine. I graduated from OCU PA school in 2022.

I am from a small town, Jones OK. I believe these proposed amendments will help patients stay out of ER/ hospitals and get adequate care in the urgent care setting.

If you could please vote YES to support the proposed rules/amendments.

Thank you for your time,
Jacalyn Honeywell PA-C

From: [James Le](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15
Date: Friday, September 13, 2024 1:59:52 PM

To whom it may concern,

My name is James Le (5402) licensed and practicing osteopathic physician in the Oklahoma City and metro areas express my deepest support of the proposed rule 435.15.

I have been a delegated physician ever since I finished residency in 2015 working side by side with physician assistants in the ER and at urgent cares. It is important that with increasing population there is a demanding need and access for healthcare and PAs help in that respect. I have worked hard for my medical degree and the standards I am held at I expect similar standards for my fellow practitioners.

The proposed rule does help move things in the right direction. I urge the Members of the Board to vote yes. This has been long overdue.

Thank you so very much for your time and consideration.

James Le, DO

From: [Burke, P.A.-C., Jeffrey O.](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comments Regarding Proposed PA Rules
Date: Friday, September 13, 2024 2:06:51 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Jeff Burke and I have been practicing as a PA in Oklahoma City for the last 14 years. I support the proposed PA rules that are being considered by the Oklahoma State Medical Board.

These rules are a step toward improving healthcare in Oklahoma. Oklahoma currently has one of the worst rankings among states in overall health. There remains a shortage of physicians in Oklahoma and this will only worsen as our population grows. PAs are the solution. We have the training, education and experience to meet this need. PAs are vital to delivery of healthcare in the state of Oklahoma which is vastly underserved. Please approve these rules as written. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jeff Burke, PA-C

From: [Matt Robison](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#); [Sandra Harrison](#)
Cc: [Wes Glinsmann](#); [Pat Hall \(pat@pjhall.net\)](#); [Jim](#); [Jennifer Dennis-Smith](#); [Chelsea Abney](#); [roger@okosteo.org](#); [leroy.young@okstate.edu](#); [Kari Webber](#); [dawnwatson2424](#); [sharon.d'souza](#); [Mwbenn@sbcglobal.net](#); [Pam Dunlap \(pdunlap@osahq.org\)](#); ["jamilongacre@gmail.com"](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PA Advisory Committee PROPOSED Rules PUBLIC COMMENT
Date: Friday, September 13, 2024 11:51:21 AM
Attachments: [PA Rules PUBLIC COMMENT Submitted 9.13.24 WITH PARTNER LOGOS.pdf](#)

Barbara...the Oklahoma State Medical Association (OSMA), Oklahoma Academy of Family Physicians (OAFP), Oklahoma Osteopathic Association (OOA), Oklahoma Society of Anesthesiologists (OSA), and the Oklahoma State Radiological Society (OSRS) have reviewed the proposed rules that have been approved by the *Physician Assistant Advisory Committee* and scheduled to be considered for adoption at the next Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision (OBMLS) Board meeting. Attached are **PUBLIC COMMENTS** on behalf of these organizations.

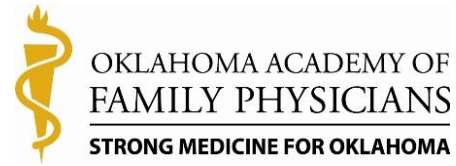
Please let me know if you have any questions or comments. We appreciate your attention on this matter.

Thank you!



Matt Robison
Director of Government Affairs
313 NE 50th Street, Oklahoma City, Ok 73105

Phone 405.212.2769
Toll Free 800.522.9452
Mobile 405.664.0265



September 13, 2024

Board Members
 Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision
 101 NE 51st Street
 Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Re: Physician Assistant Advisory Committee Proposed Rules

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Oklahoma State Medical Association (OSMA), Oklahoma Academy of Family Physicians (OAFP), Oklahoma Osteopathic Association (OOA), Oklahoma Society of Anesthesiologists (OSA), and the Oklahoma State Radiological Society (OSRS) have reviewed the proposed rules that have been approved by the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee and scheduled to be considered for adoption at the next Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision (OBMLS) Board meeting. These organizations request that the Board make one important change to the proposed rules prior to adoption.

These physician profession organizations request that the following language be struck from the definition of on-site set forth at OAC 435: 435:15-1-1: “(I) Any other setting as authorized by the delegating physician.”. We believe that this “catch-all” language could create ambiguities in the interpretation of the on-site requirements and will be inappropriately construed to permit physician assistants to write prescriptions for Schedule II drugs to be administered by a patient at their home if permitted to do so by the delegating physician. We believe such an interpretation would be inconsistent with the Physician Assistant Practice Act,¹ the Oklahoma Supreme Court’s order on March 27, 2023²

¹ Subsection E.1. of Title 59, § 519.6. provides: “A physician assistant under the direction of a delegating physician may prescribe written and oral prescriptions and orders. The physician assistant may prescribe drugs, including controlled medications in Schedules II through V pursuant to Section 2-312 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and medical supplies and services as delegated by the delegating physician and as approved by the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision after consultation with the State Board of Pharmacy on the Physician Assistant Drug Formulary.”

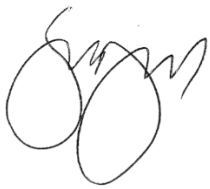
The language in Subsection E.1 is then followed by E.2 which states: “A physician assistant may write an order for a Schedule II drug for immediate or ongoing administration on site.” Under the rules of statutory construction, Section E.2 has to mean something. If P.A.s were authorized to prescribe Schedule II’s in any setting as long as they had a delegation agreement with a physician, then Section E.2 would be entirely superfluous and without meaning.

² In 2023, the Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants, Inc. filed a Petition for Declaratory Relief in response to a November 3, 2022, directive from the Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy and the administrative rules adopted by the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure on November 17, 2022 (which were later rejected by the Legislature). The

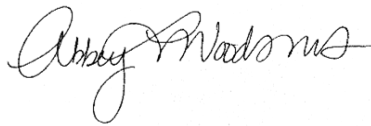
and the Attorney General Opinion issued on February 22, 2024³. Nevertheless, in light of the aggressive interpretations of the statutory language debated over the past couple of years, we do not want to have ambiguous language included in the final rule.

We note that Footnote 1 of A.G. opinion 2024-3 states: “Your [the OBMLS] request did not ask the Attorney General to offer an opinion on the meaning of “off-site locations[,], on-site locations or “immediate or ongoing administration on site[,]”, as used in title 59 , section 519.6(E(2) (23021). Thus, such questions are beyond the scope of this Opinion.” If the Board does not agree to remove Subsection (I) of the proposed definition of “on-site”, then the OSMA believes it will be necessary to request another Attorney General opinion to resolve the issue which would result in yet another delay to adopting rules consistent with the Physician Assistance Practice Act passed by the legislature years ago. If the Board agrees to strike the language as requested, the OSMA supports adoption of the rules with that one minor change.

We appreciate your consideration of the matters outlined in this letter.



Edgar “Bud” Boyd, MD
OSMA President



Abby L. Woods, MD
OAFP President



Sharon D’Souza, MD, MPH
OSRS President



Michael Roberts, MD
OSA President



Johnathan B. Stone, DO
OOA President

Pharmacy Board directive and the OBMLS rules conformed to the statutory language in the Title 59 practice act and did not include off-site Schedule II prescribing for P.A.s despite their argument that they should be permitted to prescribe Schedule II drugs in any setting based on the change to the Controlled Substance Act made by SB 1322. The Oklahoma Supreme Court denied their request on March 27, 2023.

In its order, the Oklahoma Supreme Court stated:

“[P]etitioner [the Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants] failed to show that, prior to the November 3, 2022, directive issued by the Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy and the administrative rules adopted by the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure on November 17, 2022, physician assistants possessed statutory authority to prescribe Schedule II narcotics for off-site administration. Accordingly, we decline to invoke our *publici juris* doctrine to assume original jurisdiction,”

³ Oklahoma Attorney General Opinion 2024-3.

From: [Gina Powers](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Rule amendment OK Admin Code 435.15
Date: Saturday, September 14, 2024 3:25:04 PM

- Your name and identify yourself as a practicing PA in (include your town) Oklahoma;
- Express your support for Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee;
- Include that the rules provide guidance and guardrails for the implementation of the PA Act and conforms the rules with current law;
- Ask the members of the Medical Licensure Board to vote YES to support the proposed rules; and,
- Thank them for their consideration.

To Whom It May Concern;

My name is Gina Powers and I am a working Physician Assistant-certified for over 30 years in McAlester, Oklahoma. Currently the Oklahoma Medical Board is considering proposed rules amendments to the Oklahoma Administrative Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee. This proposal provides counsel for the execution of the OK PA Act and aligns with the current legislation. I implore the members of the Medical Board to support and VOTE YES for the proposed rules.

Your support and consideration are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Gina Gaberino Powers PA-C
Warren Clinic Ob/Gyn Department
McAlester OK 74501

From: [Hannah Holasek](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] VOTE YES To Physician Assistants Proposed Rule Amendments
Date: Saturday, September 14, 2024 4:14:42 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Hannah Peacock and I am a practicing PA in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. As a practicing PA in this state I have reviewed the proposed amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee and support the proposed changes. These rule changes listed will provide guidance and guardrails for the implementation of the PA Act and conforms the rules with current law. These changes will also provide additional clarity to the role of the delegating physician and PA collaboration.

I am writing this email to ask the members of the Oklahoma Medical Licensure Board to vote YES to support the proposed rules.

Fellow PAs and I appreciate your consideration.

Thank you,
Hannah Peacock, PA-C

From: [Burke Hendricks](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] support letter
Date: Sunday, September 15, 2024 4:23:06 PM

Dr. Burke Hendricks, D.O.
1407 Wisenant Dr
Duncan, OK 73533

9/14/2024

Oklahoma PA Advisory Committee

Dear Members of the PA Advisory Committee,

Subject: Support for Proposed Rule Amendments to Oklahoma Edmond Code 435.15

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed amendments to the Oklahoma Edmond Code 435.15, specifically regarding the scope of practice for Physician Assistants (PAs). I advocate for the extension of PA prescribing authority to include narcotics not only in acute care settings but also for short-term outpatient use.

The ability of PAs to prescribe narcotics in both acute and short-term outpatient settings is essential for several reasons:

Timely and Effective Pain Management: In acute care settings, the ability to prescribe narcotics enables PAs to provide immediate relief to patients experiencing severe pain. Extending this authority to outpatient settings is equally important for managing pain that may persist after discharge, ensuring continuity of care and minimizing unnecessary suffering.

Streamlined Care Continuity: Allowing PAs to prescribe narcotics for short-term outpatient use will streamline patient care by providing a seamless transition from acute to outpatient settings. This continuity is crucial for patients who require ongoing pain management as part of their recovery process, reducing the need for additional appointments or delays in treatment.

Improved Efficiency in Patient Management: Expanding PA prescribing authority to include narcotics in outpatient settings enhances the efficiency of the healthcare system. It reduces the administrative burden on supervising physicians and prevents potential delays in obtaining necessary medications, which can be critical for patient recovery and overall satisfaction.

Alignment with Evolving Practice Standards: Granting PAs the ability to prescribe narcotics in both acute and short-term outpatient settings aligns with contemporary healthcare practices and the increasing role of PAs in comprehensive patient management. It reflects the growing recognition of PAs as integral members of the healthcare team, equipped to handle a broad spectrum of medical needs.

Support for Healthcare Teams and Patient Outcomes: Empowering PAs with the authority to prescribe narcotics in these contexts supports healthcare teams by balancing responsibilities and improving patient outcomes. It ensures that patients receive timely and appropriate pain management, contributing to better overall recovery and patient experience.

In the emergency department, I work closely with PAs and we are often seeing acute fractures, kidney stones, and other pathologies that require acute pain control until the patient can get into a specialist. This expansion will help bridge this gap in patient care until they can get into specialist or primary care provider.

In summary, extending PA prescribing authority to include narcotics for both acute and short-term outpatient settings will significantly enhance patient care and healthcare delivery. I strongly support the proposed rule amendments and believe they will provide substantial benefits to both healthcare providers and patients.

Thank you for considering my support for these important amendments. I am confident that their adoption will positively impact the quality of care within our healthcare system.

Sincerely,

Dr. Burke Hendricks, D.O.
EM Physician
Duncan Regional Hospital

From: [Kendra Hurst](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15 Physician Assistants
Date: Sunday, September 15, 2024 4:37:34 PM

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kendra Hurst and I am a practicing PA in Tulsa, OK. I would like to let you know that I support the Proposed Rule Amendments to Oklahoma Code 435.15 Physician Assistants as adopted by the PA Advisory Committee. The rules provide guidance for the implementation of the PA Act and conform the rules with current law. I would like to ask for your YES vote to support the proposed rules. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kendra Hurst, PA-C

From: [Elizabeth DiSalvatore](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Proposed Rule Amendments to Okla. Admin. Code 435.15
Date: Sunday, September 15, 2024 4:41:27 PM

Oklahoma Medical Board:

I am an Emergency Medicine PA practicing in both pediatric and rural emergency medicine.

I am writing in support for the Proposed Rule Amendment to Okla. Admin Code 435.15 as adopted by the PA advisory Committee.

The rules provide guidance and guardrails for the implementation of the PA Act and confirm the rules with current law. Working in emergency medicine, we often see patients who require short term pain control. Often PAs are working as single providers in rural ER and there is not a physician on site to see the patient and prescribe short pain control until they get into primary care or specialist.

We receive many hours of training in school and ongoing CME on opioid/narcotic prescription practices. The guidelines are specific and clear in prescription authority for these scenarios.

This will allow PAs to continue to be an extension of the healthcare team especially in rural Oklahoma.

Please vote yes to help healthcare in Oklahoma.

Thank you for your consideration,

Elizabeth DiSalvatore, PA-C
Emergency Medicine

From: [Audra Ball](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment submission for PA Rules approval
Date: Sunday, September 15, 2024 9:55:37 PM

Members of the Oklahoma Medical Board,

My name is Audra Ball and I have been a practicing Physician Assistant in the state of Oklahoma for the past 17 years. I am a graduate of the OU OKC PA Program which was one of the first in the nation. I currently practice in the OKC metro in both a surgical subspecialty and family medicine. My background as a PA has afforded me the flexibility to practice in various settings throughout Oklahoma since graduation including rural health, inner city free clinics and doing in-home mobile urgent care. I consider it an honor to have cared for so many Oklahomans as well as close friends and family. The PA profession has equipped me in every way possible to utilize my advanced skill set and knowledge to reach those without a physician PCP and fulfill a growing primary care crisis in our state.

I am writing specifically to express my support for the Proposed Rule Amendments to the OAC 435.15 Physician Assistants as written. I am confident that these rules will remove unnecessary burdens from the PA-patient relationship in an age where more PAs are bridging the primary care gap, particularly in rural parts of the state. The proposed rules clarify much needed language with regard to Physician delegation ratios and outpatient schedule II medication prescribing by PAs. The proposed rules more accurately reflect the modernized statutes passed in 2020 and allow PAs to practice to the full extent and scope of their training in this state. This translates to increased access to care by patients who so desperately need a primary care provider.

Respectfully, I ask the board to vote YES to support the Proposed Rule Amendments to the OAC 435.15 regarding Physician Assistants. Oklahoma ranks among the worst in the nation for health outcomes which we can work to improve by addressing these primary care shortages. It serves to reason that we would utilize one of our greatest healthcare assets in the state to its fullest extent- well qualified PAs who are trained in the generalist and primary care model. There are a wealth of studies that back the quality of care we provide which is comparable to that of physicians. There are also studies in other states that support the safety of the care delivered by PAs when unnecessary practice restrictions and barriers are removed. Giving PAs the ability to practice within the full scope of their training provides that all Oklahomans have increased access to high quality medical care and is a win-win for the state.

Sincerely,

Audra Ball, PA-C
405-921-3242

From: [Pennie Carson](#)
To: [Barbara J. Smith](#)
Cc: [Craig Carson](#); [Brookes Wright](#); "tyler@csspartnersok.com"
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PA Supervision
Date: Monday, September 16, 2024 10:55:09 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image006.jpg](#)
[PA Supervision OAC 2024-09-16.pdf](#)

Barbara,

Please find attached a letter to submit to the Med Board on the proposed changes to the rules governing PAs that is due today.

Thank you,

Pennie on behalf of Dr Craig W Carson

Pennie Carson
Executive Director

www.okarthritis.com



1701 Renaissance Blvd | Edmond, OK 73013
Phone 405.844.4978 Ext 313 | Fax 405.844.0562

"The best interest of the patient is the only interest to be considered..."
William J. Mayo, M.D., 1910

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Sept 16th, 2024

Sent via email to: bsmith@okmedicalboard.org

Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision
101 NE 51st Street
Oklahoma City, OK73105

RE: Oklahoma Arthritis Center Public Comment to Proposed Amendments to OAC 435:15.

Dear Board President Katsis and Members of the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision:

On behalf of the Oklahoma Arthritis Center and our providers, we thank the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision (“the Board”) for the proposed changes contained in OAC 435:15 with an update on the rules governing the practice of Physician Assistants (“PAs”). As a large practice with over 40 providers, including 29 PAs and Advance Practice Registered Nurses (“APRNs”), the Oklahoma Arthritis Center supports the proposed changes and believes the proposed changes will ease much of the burden for us to see patients and likely improve patient outcomes.

We are incredibly thankful for the clarification the proposed rules have related to ratios, specifically the changes in OAC 435:15-3-13 that clarify the ability of a physician to supervise up to six PAs and APRNs at any one time. This change alone will provide our practice substantial flexibility to ensure that our patients are seen quickly and do not face longer delays in receiving rheumatology care. While we believe further discussion about the ratios needs to be conducted to ensure that PAs can practice to the fullest of their training, the proposed rules allow the Board to take a solid first step in having that conversation in future years.

As a practice that generally sees patients over years, we also support the proposed changes to OAC 435:15-11-1 addressing the ability of PAs to issue prescriptions for extended periods, and we believe this will assist our patients from making unnecessary trips to our office for routine refills.

The Oklahoma Arthritis Center has led in using PAs and APRNs to see patients quickly and get them the life-changing care they deserve. Our results speak for themselves, but our PAs and APRNs are continuously ranked as our best providers based on patient feedback. They also provide an important role in allowing our physicians to address the most critical patient needs. We would strongly urge the Board to adopt the proposed rules found in OAC 435:15 and look forward to continuing to work with the Board on ways that we can improve patient outcomes, ensure access to care, and allow our providers to practice to the fullest extent of their training, all while ensuring patient safety.

Sincerely,

Craig Carson, M.D.

📍 Edmond	1701 Renaissance Blvd., Suite 110, Edmond, OK 73013	☎ (405) 844-4978	📠 (405) 844-0562
📍 Elk City	2406 Bell Ave., Elk City, OK 73644	☎ (580) 303-7944	📠 (580) 210-5227
📍 Enid	825 E. Owen K Garriott Rd., Enid, OK 73701	☎ (580) 701-2586	📠 (580) 324-8057
📍 Norman	808 Wall St., Norman, OK 73069	☎ (405) 977-4321	📠 (405) 844-0562
📍 Stillwater	605 S. Orchard St., Stillwater, OK 74074	☎ (580) 780-6650	📠 (580) 844-0562
📍 Tulsa	6135 S. 90th E. Ave., Tulsa, OK 74133	☎ (539) 215-5609	📠 (539) 233-2480

1 OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF
2 MEDICAL LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION
3 STATE OF OKLAHOMA
4

5
6 * * * * *

7 PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING
8 ON THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROPOSED
9 ADMINISTRATIVE RULE AMENDMENTS
10

11 OKLAHOMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE 435:15
12 SUBCHAPTERS 1, 3, 5 and 11
13

14 HELD ON SEPTEMBER 16, 2024
15 COMMENCING AT 9:00 A.M.
16 IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

17 * * * * *

18
19
20
21 INSTASCRIP, L.L.C.
22 125 PARK AVENUE, SUITE LL
23 OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73102
405.605.6880
24 schedule@instascript.net

25 REPORTED BY: BETH A. MCGINLEY, CSR, RPR, RMR

A P P E A R A N C E S

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

MS. BARBARA SMITH

INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

MS. SANDRA HARRISON

PARTICIPANTS:

DR. LEE SCHOEFFLER

PA DON GUTHRIE

PA GAVIN CHRISTIE

PA JEFF BURKE

PA KEITH PLUMMER

MS. CORI LOOMIS

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1 (Proceedings commenced at 9:00 a.m. as
2 follows:)

3 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** I have 9:00 and I
4 will call the public hearing to order.

5 I'm Barbara Smith. I'm the Executive
6 Secretary for the Oklahoma Medical Board. I think I
7 know most of you. And we're here today to accept public
8 comments on the PA Proposed Administrative Rule
9 Amendments, Subchapters 1, 3, 5, and 11, as noticed in
10 the register.

11 If you have not signed in and you wish to
12 speak, please sign in. You must be signed in and
13 present by 9:10 a.m. in order to speak.

14 I wanted to introduce to you Sandra Harrison,
15 who's our Interim Deputy --

16 **INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HARRISON:** Sorry.

17 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** -- Executive
18 Director.

19 **INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HARRISON:** I got
20 flagged from the hall. Sorry.

21 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Beth Kimrey is
22 with us today. She's our court reporter. And so we
23 will have an official record of this for the Board's
24 review.

25 And Alexis Garner, who's our legal intern.

1 With that being said, I will also let you all
2 know that we will be timing your comments. Each speaker
3 will have three minutes to make their comment. And with
4 that, we'll get started.

5 I will just call you in the order that you
6 signed in. And if you do not wish to speak, even though
7 you've signed in, you're not required to speak and can
8 pass.

9 And so we'll start with Dr. Schoeffler.

10 **DR. LEE SCHOEFFLER:** Okay.

11 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Would you like to
12 speak?

13 **DR. LEE SCHOEFFLER:** Yes.

14 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** All right. And if
15 you'd like to stand up, you may. If you like to sit
16 there, you may. What's important is that our court
17 reporter get a good record of it.

18 **DR. LEE SCHOEFFLER:** Okay.

19 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** That's --

20 **DR. LEE SCHOEFFLER:** If she has trouble, let
21 me know.

22 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Okay.

23 **DR. LEE SCHOEFFLER:** I'm not...

24 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** And if you would,
25 state your name.

1 **DR. LEE SCHOEFFLER:** Lee Schoeffler.

2 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** All right.

3 **DR. LEE SCHOEFFLER:** Okay. I -- I'm here to
4 basically speak against some of the proposals. I have
5 nothing against PAs. They do a great job.

6 I think what -- what has happened with these
7 changes, I think it's too loopy-goopy. I think it
8 leaves too -- leaves too much to the individual judgment
9 of the supervising, delegating, whatever it is,
10 physician.

11 Number one, the medical clinics or offices in
12 case -- are offices in case of emergency, as designated
13 by the delegating physician. Any other setting, as
14 auth- -- as authorized by the delegating physician, is
15 acceptable as -- and that, to me, is too broad.

16 One thing that we have -- and it's going on as
17 we speak -- we have some big hospitals, about three of
18 them that I know, that are hiring PAs -- nothing wrong
19 with hiring PAs -- to go out and basically act without,
20 what I would consider, adequate supervision in -- in
21 some areas.

22 And I -- yeah, I've -- I've been treated by
23 PAs and they've done a great job. My son uses a PA.
24 And then it's -- there's no problem there, but -- but I
25 think the -- letting the physician or hospital-based

1 physicians delegate what is an on-site, I think that's
2 too broad and I -- I think it's not in the best interest
3 of the patient.

4 And like I said, I am not anti-narcotics. I
5 used them for 50 years, operating on people. When, you
6 know, violate somebody's -- their mouth, it's going to
7 hurt. And, hopefully, I was judicious, but I think the
8 inclusion of Schedule II for this type of regulation is
9 not proper.

10 And -- and whatever happens here today -- what
11 we say here today probably won't make much difference,
12 but whatever happens, it's the Board's fault -- or the
13 Board's responsibility, wasn't their fault, whatever --
14 whatever you want, and to keep that in mind. It's not
15 the PA's responsibility, it's the Board's
16 responsibility, and the consequences of that will be
17 spread throughout the medical profession, just as the
18 narcotic's plague has been.

19 So, any way, that's about all I have to say.
20 I would -- a PA is a physician extender, not a physician
21 replacement.

22 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Thank you.

23 Next up, I have Don Guthrie. And let me get
24 my timing --

25 **PA DON GUTHRIE:** Okay.

1 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** -- reset, please.

2 Just a -- just a minute here.

3 Are you ready?

4 **PA DON GUTHRIE:** I am.

5 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Okay. And let me
6 check with the court reporter.

7 Are you okay there? Okay.

8 All right, thank you, Mr. Guthrie.

9 **PA DON GUTHRIE:** Excellent.

10 My name is Don Guthrie. I'm a PA. I'm here
11 representing the Oklahoma Academy of Physician
12 Associates. I'm currently the President Elect and
13 Chairman of the Legislative and Governmental Affairs
14 Committee.

15 I've worked in the Oklahoma City area for the
16 last 43-plus years, graduated from OU PA school in 1981.
17 Had a unique experience with PAs because I -- I was in
18 the military during the early '70s, when PAs became
19 prevalent in use in military installations for care to
20 active duty, their dependents, retirees, and then, also,
21 veterans.

22 I saw the unique role that they played in
23 providing care, when it -- back then, we had a very
24 severe physician shortage, and that we had the Berry
25 Plan to get physicians in for a short period of time,

1 and there was not enough, so PAs fill a valuable role in
2 providing that care.

3 As you may or may not be aware, the whole
4 process began with Navy Corpsmen and during Vietnam,
5 that they made physician extenders, and then they -- as
6 they got out, they said, "Well, what do we do with these
7 people?" Well, we send them to a school. So schools
8 were developed.

9 Duke University developed the first school,
10 graduated the first class in '68, and then the
11 profession has matured since then, from a PA to
12 ultimate -- ultimate team player for medical care and
13 developing as PCPs for primary care.

14 It -- it's interesting to look at some of the
15 history to find out where we were and where we're going.
16 There are now 243 plus PA programs in the United States,
17 with more coming online soon.

18 I can't -- I can't figure out how we're going
19 to solve a medical provider shortage without having PAs,
20 having good statutes and good rules with which to
21 complement the statutes, for us to practice in a logical
22 and seamless manner.

23 So my hope is that, you know, the -- the Board
24 will approve these rules and make it more realistic for
25 PAs to practice, based on their -- their scope of

1 training and their experience.

2 Thank you.

3 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Thank you.

4 Gavin Christie?

5 **UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE:** Can -- excuse me, can
6 Jeff sign in to speak?

7 **PA JEFF BURKE:** I think --

8 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** He's already
9 signed in.

10 **PA JEFF BURKE:** I think I'm --

11 **UNIDENTIFIED MALE:** I signed you in.

12 **UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE:** Oh, okay.

13 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Okay.

14 (Cross-talk/indiscernible).

15 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** I'm sorry.

16 **PA GAVIN CHRISTIE:** Ready?

17 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Gavin Christie,
18 I'm ready.

19 **PA GAVIN CHRISTIE:** Okay. My name is Gavin
20 Christie and I'm a practicing physician assistant at
21 Integris Baptist in the Neurosurgery Department, and
22 have been for about 18 years. I graduated from PA
23 school 23 years ago, have been -- and I appreciate the
24 opportunity to speak here today.

25 And the -- these rules, specifically, are

1 helping to kind of seamlessly allow me to provide care
2 to Oklahomans, with the -- under the direction and
3 delegation of specific providers, other doctors, and
4 allow me to bring them into the hospital, provide good
5 medical care, and get them out more efficiently, and as
6 well as on the -- on the clinical side, you know, treat
7 them efficiently and pro- --

8 And these -- these rules specifically bring us
9 up to date with the current legislature and -- or the
10 current statute that was passed with our Senate Bill
11 1915 that was in 2000.

12 So, essentially, these just bring us up to
13 date with what is current statute. These are the rules
14 that allow us to take effect, and I hope you'll support
15 these rules and -- as written and proposed.

16 And I just thank you for your time and
17 appreciate the opportunity to be here and continue to
18 provide good care for Oklahomans.

19 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Thank you.

20 Next is Keith Plummer. Are you Mr. Plummer?

21 **PA KEITH PLUMMER:** Uh-huh.

22 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** All right. Are
23 you ready?

24 **PA KEITH PLUMMER:** Yes, I am.

25 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Okay.

1 **PA KEITH PLUMMER:** My name is Keith Plummer.
2 I have been a PA for 28 years, practicing rural
3 emergency medicine, and I want to thank the PA Advisory
4 Committee and, specifically, Sandra Harrison, for kind
5 of getting these things off center and -- and getting
6 them -- getting them going.

7 These rules are -- agree with the statute, and
8 that it's important that we have rules that do actually
9 agree with the statute, so that -- that we can practice
10 medicine as -- at the top of our license and -- and help
11 Oklahomans, and especially in -- in rural medicine.

12 It's -- you know, my job is -- I practice in
13 the ER and it's just me and, you know, I have a
14 delegating physician that I can contact if I need to,
15 but these rules will help all PAs in Oklahoma practice
16 at the top of their license and provide better care to
17 the patient population in Oklahoma.

18 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Thank you.

19 Next is Jeff Burke.

20 **PA JEFF BURKE:** Okay.

21 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Are you ready,
22 Mr. Burke?

23 **PA JEFF BURKE:** I am. Three minutes, correct?

24 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Three minutes,
25 correct.

1 **PA JEFF BURKE:** All right. My name is Jeff
2 Burke. First of all, thank you all for, you know,
3 allowing me to speak today.

4 I am a PA. I've worked in Oklahoma since late
5 2009, so 14, going on 15 years. I'm the Chair of the PA
6 Advisory Committee for the last few years and kind of
7 helped in -- in the process with the rules.

8 And so Senate Bill 1915, I think, has already
9 been addressed. These are just trying to get the rules
10 up to speed. You know, there's some just kind of little
11 things, updating boarding verbiage, some -- some, you
12 know, small adjustments to that.

13 There's also, you know, the removal of locum
14 tenens, which I think is a really good opportunity just
15 for this -- just because there really wasn't anything in
16 the statute. There is -- you know, PAs will actually
17 have to go for a full license, which is a little bit
18 more, I think, appropriate for -- for those people
19 coming out of state, anyway, but -- you know.

20 And the biggest thing with -- you know, that I
21 think these are trying to accomplish, is to help out
22 Oklahomans. Right? So that's what we're here to do,
23 take care of patients, make our communities safer and
24 better.

25 We have a, you know, increasing -- we -- you

1 know, our -- our population is getting older, they're
2 becoming more -- they're -- you know. You know, with
3 that, we're getting all these illnesses, age-related
4 illnesses. It's really putting a burden on the
5 healthcare system. There's people who, you know, wait
6 six months, six to nine months to get into a specialist.
7 That's really unacceptable in Oklahoma. We do not rank
8 the highest in -- in Oklahoma, for healthcare,
9 unfortunately. Some people say its genetics or, you
10 know, lifestyle, but -- but I think the -- the
11 healthcare system does play a role.

12 There aren't enough of us to go around. You
13 know, I think everybody feels the strain and the burden
14 of that, but I think PAs are the solution. PAs are a
15 part of the solution, anyways. It's a -- it's a very
16 complex problem, but -- but there's -- there's not
17 enough people to go around.

18 And so anything we can do to shorten procedure
19 times, shorten wait times for the clinic, give patients,
20 you know, more options, I think that is going to reduce
21 the strain on the healthcare system, in general, and I
22 think it will make Oklahoma better. And I think we
23 can -- we can rank higher and, you know, what we're all
24 trying to do here is pursue excellence. Right? I think
25 that's what we do in our --

1 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** You have 15
2 seconds.

3 **PA JEFF BURKE:** -- everyday job. And I think
4 these rules will help bring the prior statute in line
5 and get there.

6 Thank you all very much. Appreciate it.

7 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Thank you, Mr.
8 Burke.

9 And, Cori Loomis.

10 **MS. CORI LOOMIS:** Yes. Thank you.

11 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** You're welcome.

12 **MS. CORI LOOMIS:** I'm here --

13 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** And just --

14 **MS. CORI LOOMIS:** Oh, sorry.

15 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Excuse me just a
16 moment.

17 Will you be able to hear and see her okay?

18 All right, I'm sorry.

19 **MS. CORI LOOMIS:** That's all right.

20 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** All right, Ms.
21 Loomis.

22 **MS. CORI LOOMIS:** Okay. Thank you.

23 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Uh-huh.

24 **MS. CORI LOOMIS:** I'm here on behalf of the
25 OSMA and the other medical groups that signed on to the

1 comment letter that they submitted last week.

2 And so, just for the sake of the record, to
3 reiterate what's in the letter, the only -- the only
4 change that the OSMA -- or the language in the bill --
5 or, bill -- the regulation that -- that we take issue
6 with is the addition of big "I" or capital "I" to the
7 definition of "on site." It's kind of some catchall
8 language. It says, "any other place," you know,
9 "delegated by the physician." That just seems -- in
10 light of the controversies that we've had leading up to
11 this, about when can Schedule IIs be administered or
12 prescribed by PAs, that seems to take it a step too far.

13 And without that, as you'll remember, the --
14 this Board requested an AG Opinion. And in that
15 opinion, the AG noted that we -- that they were not
16 asked to opine on the definition of "on site" and
17 almost, seems to me, inviting that question.

18 So we have two options -- or with -- the OSMA
19 would like to put forth, adopt the rule as is, without
20 that one section, which the OSMA would support, or hold
21 it again and send it back for an AG Opinion on that
22 definition. But it has been two or three years now and
23 so, ideally, the rule would be passed without that
24 language, so it could conform to the statute that was
25 passed several years ago.

1 Thank you.

2 **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SMITH:** Thank you.

3 Is there anyone that signed in to speak that I
4 did not call?

5 All right. That concludes our public comment
6 hearing. Thank you for your time.

7 Just for your information, just the next steps
8 is Ms. Kimrey -- Ms. McGinley -- will make the record
9 for us, the transcript, and we'll get that to the
10 Medical Board as soon as it's ready, along with the
11 public comments that were written that I've received. I
12 will compile those this evening. That public comment
13 runs at 5:00 today.

14 I will get that together this evening and get
15 that to the Medical Board, and then they meet on
16 Thursday. They'll have all of your comments before
17 them, as well as the rules and -- and all the supporting
18 documentation that I filed.

19 So that concludes our hearing. Thank you all
20 very much for your time. It was nice seeing you all
21 again.

22 (Hearing concluded at 9:15 a.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF OKLAHOMA)

I, BETH A. MCGINLEY, Certified Shorthand Reporter for the State of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing proceedings were taken by me in shorthand and thereafter transcribed; that the record made is a true and correct transcript of the proceedings; and that it was taken on the 16th day of September, 2024, at 101 N.E. 51st Street, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and that I am not an attorney for nor a relative of any party, nor otherwise interested in this action.

Witness my hand and seal of office on this the 16th day of September, 2024.

Beth A. McGinley, CSR
Oklahoma CSR No. 357
Expires December 31, 2024