

Frequently Asked Polysomnography Questions

Q & A: When will the Polysomnography Professional Standards Committee ("Committee") stop accepting new trainee notifications?

The Committee will not accept new trainee notifications on or after **January 18, 2012**. The Committee has determined that Applicants who enrolled in the A-STEP program after this date will **not** be able to fulfill the BRPT's pathway time requirements of 9 to 18 months of on the job training before July 1, 2012.

Q & A: When will the Committee stop accepting new technician (temporary) applications?

The Committee will **not** accept new technician (temporary) applications on or after **January 18, 2012**. The basis for the Committee's decision can be found at TENN. CODE ANN. SECT. 63-31-106 which provides that the A-STEP option shall not remain available after July 1, 2012, "if there are at least four (4) polysomnographic technologist educational programs in this state, at least two (2) in the east grand division and one (1) each in the middle and west grand divisions that remain accredited by the commission on accreditation of allied health educational programs for two (2) years. If there are not four (4) such accredited educational programs by July 12, 2012, this option shall remain available until there are four (4) such programs that have been accredited for two (2) years."

Q & A: If an applicant currently holds the trainee status and has sent notification to the Committee's administrative office, will they still be granted one (1) year and one (1) time extension to complete their A-STEP modules and training requirements?

Yes. If the applicant has sent a letter of notification on or before January 18, 2012 and meets all requirements of the trainee status, he or she will be allowed to complete their A-STEP modules and training. The Committee has determined that in order to remain in trainee status, the trainee must provide administrative office with proof of completion of at least four (4) modules every quarter.

Q & A: If an applicant held the trainee status and had sent notification to the Committee's administrative office before July 1, 2012 but did not meet the requirements of the trainee status, can the applicant re-enroll as a trainee?

No. If the applicant was not on the Committee's website as active trainee on or before January 18, 2012, they will be prohibited from re-enrolling as a trainee.

Q & A: If an applicant currently holds the trainee status and has sent notification to the Committee's administrative office before January 18, 2012, can he or she apply and be granted a temporary permit for one (1) year and one (1) time extension of three (3) months before or after July 1, 2012.

Yes. If the applicant held a trainee status before January 18, 2012, he/she can upgrade to a technician (temporary) permit and be granted the permit for one (1) year with the possibility of a one (1) time extension of three (3) months. The applicant must successfully pass the BRPT within the one (1) year and one (1) time three month extension time frame

or he/she will be required to attend an accredited polysomnographic technologist educational program.

Q & A: If an applicant has held a temporary permit and it has expired, will they be able to re-enroll in the A-step program and hold a temporary permit again?

No. If you currently hold technician (temporary) permit, you must sit and pass the BRPT before your temporary is set to expire.

Q & A: What if an applicant does not pass the BRPT before their technician (temporary) permit expires?

The applicant will not be able to work after the expiration of his or her temporary permit?

Q & A: What if my technician (temporary) permit has expired, but I pass the BRPT before July 1, 2012?

Your A-STEP education will be accepted and you will be granted a Technologist license in Tennessee as long as you have met all other requirements for licensure. However, though you may take the BRPT, you may not practice on that expired permit.

Q & A: What if my technician (temporary) permit has expired and I do not pass the BRPT before July 1, 2012?

Your A-STEP education will **not** be accepted and you will have to attend an accredited polysomnographic technologist educational program before you can be granted a Tennessee license.

Q & A: Will an applicant that is applying for a Technologist license from out-of-state after July 1, 2012 and has taken the A-STEP program and passed the BRPT be granted a Tennessee license?

No. If the applicant was not practicing polysomnography on or before July 1, 2007 (must submit proof) and is thus eligible for grandfathering, the applicant will be required to attend an accredited polysomnographic technologist educational program before a Tennessee license can be granted.

Q & A: What are the accredited polysomnographic technologist educational programs in Tennessee?

East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Miller-Motte Technical College in Clarksville, Roane State Community College in Harriman, and Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin (with a separate course section in West Tennessee) are the four accredited polysomnographic technologist educational programs in Tennessee.