

## LLR-BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Approved by the Board: July 17-18, 2000 Board meeting

Service Area: Licensure, Respiratory Care

Subject: RCPs, Requirements for renewal or reactivation of individuals who have not practiced respiratory care for five (5) years or more

### POLICY:

South Carolina Code Section 40-47-590, among other things, places on the Board of Medical Examiners and the Respiratory Care Committee general responsibility for determining the qualifications of practitioners for licensure renewal or reactivation and continuing professional education. Given the rapidly changing technology, pharmacology and new procedures in the treatment of pulmonary and critical care patients, the Board and the committee believe that practitioners who have not practiced respiratory care for five (5) years or more may not be authorized to practice without first demonstrating current clinical competency.

Current clinical competency may be demonstrated by submitting proof of the following items:

1. Proof of 15 or more contact hours of continuing education during the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date of application for licensure renewal or reactivation; and
2. Passage of NBRC Entry-Level Examination within the immediately preceding five (5) years.

### PROCEDURE:

1. Applicant submits a completed application and fee to LLR, Board of Medical Examiners.
2. Staff submits application to the Respiratory Care Committee for review.
3. Respiratory Care Committee makes a recommendation to the Board of Medical Examiners to grant or deny the application based on its review of the information submitted by the applicant.
4. Board of Medical Examiners grants or denies the application.
5. Staff notifies the applicant in writing (certified mail, return receipt requested) of the Board's decision concerning the application. The decision may be communicated in a letter from the staff or Office of General Counsel (OGC). If the Board's decision is to deny the application, an Order should be prepared by OGC and served by staff on the applicant by certified mail, return receipt requested. A copy of the notice should be filed in the Board's records, with proof of service (green card or affidavit)