

Limited Scope X-ray Operator Guidance

12/15/2021

Application

Process

The Limited Scope X-ray Operator (LSXO) application and fee process is the same for the initial LSXO application and the retake LSXO application. Once a LSXO core module or procedure module(s) are passed, it does not have to be retaken.

LSXO applicants must pass the LSXO core module and at least one procedure module to operate a radiographic x-ray system. The applicant must pass the core module exam before taking x-rays on any passed procedure module(s). LSXOs may only perform imaging pertaining to the procedure module(s) they have passed and listed on MDH registration certificate. If an applicant fails a procedure module, the individual will need to retake and pass to take x-rays of that anatomical region.

Open Application

If a current application for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologist (ARRT) Radiologic Technologist (RT) exam, LSXO, or Bone Density Equipment Operator (BDEO) exam is pending, applicants cannot apply for another exam until the pending exam is passed and/or application is closed.

Close Application

To close a LSXO application, the applicant needs to send a written request to the ARRT. At that time, the applicant agrees to forfeit their fees to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and ARRT. When approved by ARRT, the applicant can resubmit a new LSXO application and the old LSXO application will be closed.

Payments

MDH Fees

Applicants will mail the completed LSXO registration application and include a \$25.00 money order or cashier's check payable to MDH. The mailing address for the LSXO application is Minnesota Department of Health Radiation Control, X-ray Unit; PO Box 64497 St. Paul, MN 55164-0497.

Personal or business checks are not acceptable and will be destroyed. Fees are nonrefundable and nontransferable.

ARRT Fees

After receiving notification from MDH, the applicant will pay the ARRT exam fee of \$150.00 by credit card, debit card, or gift card on their website at <https://state.arrt.org/>. ARRT does not accept money orders, cashier checks, personal checks, or business checks.

For ARRT online payments, a separate username and password needs to be created for each applicant. A business or school making an online payment for multiple applicants cannot use the same username and password for all their applicants.

Exam

Handbook and Candidate Status Report

ARRT will send applicants the LSXO exam handbook and Candidate Status Report (CSR) that explains the exam process. The CSR contains your identification information, permanent ARRT assigned ID number, and exam window dates. This handbook and CSR will be sent to the applicant after the ARRT processes the exam fee.

Applicants will have a 90-day exam window to take the exam. MDH strongly recommends scheduling an exam right away, as exam sites fill up quickly.

Extending an Exam Window

If an extension to the 90-day exam window is needed, requests should be received one week prior to the window expiration date. LSXO exam extension requests will be sent to MDH by email to health.xray@state.mn.us. Extending an exam window is limited to three extensions.

Passing Scores

MDH will notify approved applicants of their LSXO core module exam score, procedure module exam score(s), and if the individual has passed. Passing rate is 70% for the LSXO core module and each procedure module.

Applicants will receive a registration certificate for passing the LSXO core module and procedure module(s). An individual is not authorized to operate a radiographic x-ray system until they receive a registration certificate from MDH in the mail. The registration certificate will indicate which modules the individual has passed and will be registered with MDH. LSXOs may only perform imaging pertaining to the procedure module(s) they have passed.

Registration certificates must be available at the time of the inspection for MDH inspectors to review operator qualifications.

Failures

If an applicant fails the LSXO core module and procedure module(s), they will need to retake and pass the LSXO core module and procedure module(s) to be qualified to operate a radiographic x-ray system.

Minnesota Registered Limited Scope X-ray Operators

Passing the LSXO core module and procedure module(s) limits the individual to only operating a radiographic x-ray system. LSXO may only perform imaging pertaining to the procedure module(s) they have passed. Passed procedure modules will be listed on the registration certificate provided by MDH. There may be multiple certificates if they have retaken exams.

LSXO must not operate fluoroscopy, computed tomography (CT), cone beam computed tomography (CBCT), bone densitometry, mammography x-ray systems, or perform x-ray procedures where contrast media is used.

Minnesota Registered Bone Densitometry Equipment Operators

BDEO who have passed the bone densitometry exam are not qualified to operate a radiographic x-ray system. Individuals are required to pass the LSXO core module and procedure module(s) to be qualified to operate a radiographic x-ray system.

Limited Scope X-ray Operators from Out-of-State

Individuals who have taken the LSXO exam(s) from another state are not qualified to operate a radiographic x-ray system in Minnesota. Individuals must take and pass the LSXO core module and procedure module(s) and be registered with Minnesota.

Grandfathered-in Operators

Individuals who passed the X-ray Operator exam prior to January 1, 2008, are grandfathered x-ray operators and do not need to take this exam if the individual has the original certificate or the original letter of passing the exam to operate x-ray systems. If an individual does not have proof of certification or letter, MDH does not have a copy. The individual must take and pass the LSXO core module and procedure module(s) to operate a radiographic x-ray system.

Minnesota Department of Health
Radiation Control, X-ray Unit
PO Box 64975
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975
651-201-4545
health.xray@state.mn.us
www.health.state.mn.us/xray

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-4545.