



**Executive
Council**
Nova Scotia

2026-8

*A certified copy of an Order in Council dated
January 20, 2026 N.S. Reg. 8/2026*

FILED

Date: January 20, 2026

**Rachel L. Jones
Registrar of Regulations
Province of Nova Scotia**

The Governor in Council on the report and recommendation of the Minister of Health and Wellness dated December 19, 2025, is pleased, effective on and after February 2, 2026:

(a) pursuant to Section 8 of Chapter 3 of the Acts of 2023, the *Patient Access to Care Act*, to repeal the *Medical Laboratory Assistants and Combined Laboratory and X-Ray Technologists Regulations*, N.S. Reg. 42/2025, made by the Governor in Council by Order in Council 2025-59 dated March 4, 2025; and

(b) pursuant to Sections 4, 13 and 14 of Chapter 15 of the Acts of 2023, the *Regulated Health Professions Act*, to make new regulations respecting medical laboratory sciences, in the form set forth in Schedule “A” attached to and forming part of the Report and Recommendation.

Certified to be a true copy

**Tracey Taweele
Clerk of the Executive Council**

Approved by Order in Council
2026-8
..... dated
..... January 20, 2026


Tracey Tawee
Clerk of the Executive Council

Schedule “A”

**Regulations Respecting Medical Laboratory Sciences
made by the Governor in Council under Sections 4, 13 and 14
of Chapter 15 of the Acts of 2023,
the *Regulated Health Professions Act***

Interpretation

Citation

1 These regulations may be cited as the *Medical Laboratory Sciences Regulations*.

Definitions

2 In these regulations,

“Act” means the *Regulated Health Professions Act*;

“Board” is further defined to mean the board of the Regulator;

“competency framework” means a framework approved by the Board establishing the competencies that registrants are required to possess to practise safely and ethically within the scope of practice of their designation or licensing category;

“General Regulations” means the *Regulated Health Professions General Regulations* made under the Act;

“medical laboratory sciences” means the practice of 1 of the following:

- (i) medical laboratory technology,
- (ii) combined laboratory and x-ray technology;

“medical laboratory technology” means the profession that medical laboratory technologists and medical laboratory assistants practise under;

“registration and licensing decision maker” means the registrar, the registration and licensing committee or the registration and licensing review committee, as

applicable;

“Regulator” means the Nova Scotia Regulator of Medical Laboratory Sciences;

“title protection” means the restriction on the use of a title associated with a particular designation or category of licence to persons who are authorized to practise within the scope of that designation or registered and licensed in that category of licence.

Regulator

Nova Scotia College of Medical Laboratory Technologists continued

3 The Nova Scotia College of Medical Laboratory Technologists is continued as a regulatory body under the name Nova Scotia Regulator of Medical Laboratory Sciences with the purpose of regulating the professions of medical laboratory technology and combined laboratory and x-ray technology in accordance with the objects set out in Section 6 of the Act.

Bylaw authorization

4 The Regulator is authorized to make bylaws under clauses 12(2)(b), (c), (d), (e), (g), (j), (k), (l) and (m) of the Act, in accordance with the Act and these regulations.

Public representatives on Board

5 In addition to the requirement of subsection 7(2) of the Act, the number of public representatives on the Board must be no fewer than 3 and no more than 4.

Scope of Practice

Scope of practice of medical laboratory technology

6 (1) The scope of practice of medical laboratory technology is the application of specialized and evidence-based medical laboratory technology knowledge, skills and judgment that have been taught in an approved education program or are set out in 1 or more of the following approved by the Board:

- (a) competency frameworks;
- (b) standards of practice;
- (c) practice guidelines.

(2) The scope of practice of medical laboratory technology as described in subsection (1) includes the performance of any or all of the following activities:

- (a) collecting, processing, preparing, analyzing and interpreting biological specimen results used in the diagnosis, treatment, monitoring and prevention of disease;
- (b) evaluating the accuracy, reliability and safety of laboratory services through the application of established standards and quality management protocols;
- (c) performing electrocardiogram procedures;
- (d) performing any other services, roles, functions and activities included in the scope of practice of the designations and licensing categories set out in the bylaws.

(3) The scope of practice of medical laboratory technology also includes health promotion, research, education, inter-professional collaboration, consultation, management, administration, advocacy, regulation or system development that is related to the activities and application of specialized and evidence-based medical laboratory technology knowledge, skills and judgment described in subsections (1) and (2).

Scope of practice of combined laboratory and x-ray technology

7 (1) The scope of practice of combined laboratory and x-ray technology is the application of specialized and evidence-based combined laboratory and x-ray technology knowledge, skills and judgment that have been taught in an approved education program or are set out in 1 or more of the following approved by the Board:

- (a) competency frameworks;
- (b) standards of practice;
- (c) practice guidelines.

(2) The scope of practice of combined laboratory and x-ray technology as described in subsection (1) includes the performance of any or all of the following activities:

- (a) collecting, processing, preparing, analyzing and interpreting biological specimen results used in the diagnosis, treatment, monitoring and prevention of disease;
- (b) evaluating the accuracy, reliability and safety of laboratory and radiological services through the application of established standards and

quality management protocols;

- (c) performing radiological and electrocardiogram procedures for diagnostic purposes;
- (d) performing any other services, roles, functions and activities included in the scope of practice of the designations and licensing categories set out in the bylaws.

(3) The scope of practice of combined laboratory and x-ray technology also includes health promotion, research, education, inter-professional collaboration, consultation, management, administration, advocacy, regulation or system development that is related to the activities and application of specialized and evidence-based combined laboratory and x-ray technology knowledge, skills and judgment described in subsections (1) and (2).

Scope of practice of designations and licensing categories

8 Under clauses 12(2)(k) and (l) of the Act, the Regulator may make bylaws setting out all of the following:

- (a) the scope of practice of each designation and licensing category established
 - (i) in these regulations, and
 - (ii) in the bylaws;
- (b) the title protection authorized for each designation and licensing category established in the bylaws.

Registration and Licensing

Practising licence categories

9 The following are the practising licence categories for medical laboratory technology and combined laboratory and x-ray technology:

- (a) medical laboratory technologist practising licence;
- (b) medical laboratory assistant practising licence;
- (c) combined laboratory and x-ray technologist practising licence;
- (d) any other category of practising licence established in the bylaws.

Conditional licence categories

10 The following are the conditional licence categories for medical laboratory technology and combined laboratory and x-ray technology:

- (a) medical laboratory technologist conditional licence;
- (b) medical laboratory assistant conditional licence;
- (c) combined laboratory and x-ray technologist conditional licence;
- (d) any other category of conditional licence established in the bylaws.

Application and criteria for registration in practising register

11 (1) An application required by Section 34 of the Act must be completed in the form required by the registrar.

(2) In addition to the completed application, an applicant for registration in a practising register must submit all of the following to the registrar:

- (a) proof satisfactory to the registration and licensing decision maker that the applicant meets all of the following criteria, except if any or all of the criteria are waived under Section 59 of the Act:
 - (i) they are a graduate of 1 of the following:
 - (A) an education program approved for registration in the practising register in which they seek to be registered,
 - (B) an education program that, in the opinion of the registration and licensing decision maker, is equivalent to an education program approved for registration in the practising register in which they seek to be registered,
 - (C) an education program that, together with the applicant's additional education and experience and in the opinion of the registration and licensing decision maker, provides the applicant with the competencies to practise in the scope of practice of registrants in the practising register in which they seek to be registered,
 - (ii) they have successfully completed any examinations required by the Board for registration in the practising register in which they seek to be registered,

- (iii) they have completed a competence assessment, if directed to do so by the registration and licensing decision maker,
- (iv) they have successfully completed any bridging education required for registration that was determined to be necessary by a competence assessment,
- (v) they have demonstrated proficiency in the English language, in the manner prescribed by the registrar,
- (vi) they are a Canadian citizen or legally entitled to live and work in Canada,
- (vii) they have the capacity, competence and character to safely and ethically engage in the practice of the profession in which they seek to be registered without conditions or restrictions,
- (viii) they have no outstanding complaints, prohibitions, conditions, agreements or restrictions originating from the Regulator or any other registration or licensing authority that would preclude registration in a register other than a conditional register,
- (ix) they are the person named in the documentation submitted in support of the application,
- (x) under the requirements of the Act, these regulations and the bylaws, they are eligible for a practising licence that corresponds with the practising register in which they seek to be registered,
- (xi) they meet any additional criteria for registration in a practising register set out in the bylaws;

(b) the applicable fee, within the time determined by the registrar and using a method acceptable to the registrar.

(3) The processing under Section 36 of the Act of an application and its associated information, documents and fee described in subsections (1) and (2) must be completed by the registrar as soon as practicable.

(4) A review and decision under Sections 37 and 38 of the Act regarding an application must be completed by the registration and licensing committee as soon as practicable.

Criteria for practising licence

12 (1) In addition to the completed application in a form approved by the registrar required by Section 35 of the Act, an applicant for a practising licence must submit all of the following to the registrar:

- (a) proof satisfactory to the registration and licensing decision maker that the applicant meets all of the following criteria, except if any or all of the criteria are waived under Section 59 of the Act:
 - (i) they meet the registration criteria in subclauses 11(2)(a)(iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii) and (ix),
 - (ii) they are registered in the practising register that corresponds with the licensing category for which they are seeking a practising licence,
 - (iii) they have professional liability insurance or another form of malpractice coverage or liability protection in the form and amount set by the Board,
 - (iv) they meet the requirements of the continuing competence program for the licensing category for which they are seeking a practising licence,
 - (v) they meet the currency of practice requirements for the licensing category for which they are seeking a practising licence,
 - (vi) they have no outstanding complaints, prohibitions, conditions, agreements or restrictions originating from the Regulator or any other registration or licensing authority that limit their ability to practise,
 - (vii) they have completed any assessments or education required by the Board for the licensing category for which they are seeking a practising licence,
 - (viii) they meet any additional criteria for issuing a practising licence set out in the bylaws;
- (b) the applicable fee, within the time determined by the registrar and using a method acceptable to the registrar.

(2) The processing under Section 36 of the Act of an application and associated information, documents and fee described in subsection (1) must be completed by

the registrar as soon as practicable.

(3) A review and decision under Sections 37 and 38 of the Act regarding an application must be completed by the registration and licensing committee as soon as practicable.

Criteria for registration in conditional register

13 (1) The registrar must enter the name of a person who meets all of the following in a conditional register:

(a) for an existing registrant in a practising register, they have

- (i) agreed to conditions or restrictions that limit their ability to practise, or
- (ii) had conditions or restrictions that limit their ability to practise imposed on them as a result of a regulatory process;

(b) for an applicant for registration in a register, they meet all of the following requirements:

- (i) all of the criteria for registration in a practising register, other than the criteria in subclauses 11(2)(a)(vii), (viii), (x) and (xi), and except as provided in subsection (4),
- (ii) they have the capacity, competence and character to safely and ethically engage in the practice of the profession in which they seek to be registered with conditions or restrictions,
- (iii) they have either
 - (A) agreed to conditions or restrictions that limit their ability to practise, or
 - (B) had conditions or restrictions that limit their ability to practise imposed on them as a result of a regulatory process,
- (iv) under the requirements of the Act, these regulations and the bylaws, they are eligible for a conditional licence that corresponds with the conditional register in which they seek to be registered,
- (v) any other requirements for registration in a conditional register set out in the bylaws,

- (vi) they have paid the applicable fee, within the time determined by the registrar and using a method acceptable to the registrar.
- (2) The processing of an application under Section 36 of the Act for an applicant described in clause (1)(b) must be completed by the registrar as soon as practicable.
- (3) A review and decision under Sections 37 and 38 of the Act regarding an application made by an applicant described in clause (1)(b) must be completed by the registration and licensing committee as soon as practicable.
- (4) An applicant who has not passed the examinations required for registration, but who otherwise meets the requirements of subsection 14(1), may be granted conditional registration by the registration and licensing decision maker pending the passing of the registration examinations.

Criteria for conditional licence

- 14 (1) The requirements to be met for issuing a conditional licence under Section 43 of the Act are as follows:
 - (a) for a person who is an existing registrant holding a practising licence, they have
 - (i) agreed to conditions or restrictions that limit their ability to practise, or
 - (ii) had conditions or restrictions that limit their ability to practise imposed on them as a result of a regulatory process;
 - (b) for an applicant for a licence, they meet all of the following requirements:
 - (i) all of the criteria for registration in a practising register, other than the criteria in subclauses 11(2)(a)(vii), (viii), (x) and (xi), and except as provided in subsection (4),
 - (ii) they are registered in a conditional register that corresponds with the licensing category for which they are seeking a conditional licence,
 - (iii) the requirements for a practising licence in subclauses 12(1)(a)(iii) and (vii),
 - (iv) they have the capacity, competence and character to safely and

ethically engage in the practice of the profession in which they seek to be licensed with conditions or restrictions,

- (v) any additional criteria for issuing a conditional licence set out in the bylaws,
- (vi) they have either
 - (A) agreed to the registration and licensing decision maker's imposition of conditions or restrictions that limit their ability to practise, or
 - (B) had conditions or restrictions that limit their ability to practise imposed by the registration and licensing decision maker or a statutory committee;
- (c) for all applicants, they have paid the applicable fee, within the time determined by the registrar and using a method acceptable to the registrar.

(2) The processing of an application under Section 36 of the Act for an applicant described in clause (1)(b) must be completed by the registrar as soon as practicable.

(3) A review and decision under Sections 37 and 38 of the Act regarding an application made by an applicant described in clause (1)(b) must be completed by the registration and licensing committee as soon as practicable.

(4) An applicant who has not passed the examinations required for registration, but who otherwise meets the requirements of subsection (1), may be issued a conditional licence by the registration and licensing decision maker pending the passing of the registration examinations.

Practice and Title Use Restrictions, Services Not Prohibited and Publication Restrictions

Restriction on practice of medical laboratory technology

15 No person may engage or offer to engage in the practice of medical laboratory technology or describe their activities as "medical laboratory technology" or "medical laboratory assisting" unless they are 1 of the following:

- (a) a registrant holding a medical laboratory technologist practising licence or a medical laboratory technologist conditional licence;
- (b) a registrant holding a medical laboratory assistant practising licence or a

medical laboratory assistant conditional licence;

- (c) otherwise authorized to practise medical laboratory technology, in accordance with the Act, these regulations, the General Regulations or the bylaws;
- (d) exempt from the application of the Act, these regulations, the General Regulations or the bylaws.

Restriction on practice of combined laboratory and x-ray technology

16 No person may engage or offer to engage in the practice of combined laboratory and x-ray technology or describe their activities as “combined laboratory and x-ray technology” unless they are 1 of the following:

- (a) a registrant holding a combined laboratory and x-ray technologist practising licence or a combined laboratory and x-ray technologist conditional licence;
- (b) otherwise authorized to practise combined laboratory and x-ray technology, in accordance with the Act, these regulations, the General Regulations or the bylaws;
- (c) exempt from the application of the Act, these regulations, the General Regulations or the bylaws.

Restriction on use of “medical laboratory technologist” title, description or designation

17 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), no person may take or use the title, description or designation of “medical laboratory technologist”, the abbreviation “MLT” or any derivation or abbreviation of them either alone or in combination with other words, letters or descriptions unless the person is 1 of the following:

- (a) a registrant holding 1 of the following under these regulations or the bylaws:
 - (i) a medical laboratory technologist practising licence, as permitted by clause 40(a) of the Act,
 - (ii) a medical laboratory technologist conditional licence;
- (b) otherwise authorized to practise as a medical laboratory technologist or to use the relevant title, description or designation in accordance with the Act, these regulations, the General Regulations or the bylaws.

(2) A person who meets all of the requirements for registration in the medical laboratory technologist practising register except for passing the registration examinations approved by the Board, and who has been issued a medical laboratory technologist conditional licence pending the passing of the examinations, may use the title “provisional medical laboratory technologist” only.

Restriction on use of “medical laboratory assistant” title, description or designation

18 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), no person may take or use the title, description or designation of “medical laboratory assistant”, “phlebotomist” or “medical laboratory technician”, the abbreviation “MLA” or any derivation or abbreviation of them either alone or in combination with other words, letters or descriptions unless the person is 1 of the following:

- (a) a registrant holding 1 of the following under these regulations or the bylaws:
 - (i) a medical laboratory assistant practising licence, as permitted by clause 40(a) of the Act,
 - (ii) a medical laboratory assistant conditional licence;
- (b) otherwise authorized to practise as a medical laboratory assistant or to use the relevant title, description or designation in accordance with the Act, these regulations, the General Regulations or the bylaws.

(2) A person who meets all of the requirements for registration in the medical laboratory assistant practising register except for passing the registration examinations approved by the Board, and who has been issued a medical laboratory assistant conditional licence pending the passing of the examinations, may use the title “provisional medical laboratory assistant” only.

Restriction on use of “combined laboratory and x-ray technologist” title, description or designation

19 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), no person may take or use the title, description or designation of “combined laboratory and x-ray technologist”, the abbreviation “CLXT” or any derivation or abbreviation of them either alone or in combination with other words, letters or descriptions unless the person is 1 of the following:

- (a) a registrant holding 1 of the following under these regulations or the bylaws:

- (i) a combined laboratory and x-ray technologist practising licence, as permitted by clause 40(a) of the Act,
- (ii) a combined laboratory and x-ray technologist conditional licence;

(b) otherwise authorized to practise as a combined laboratory and x-ray technologist or to use the relevant title, description or designation in accordance with the Act, these regulations, the General Regulations or the bylaws.

(2) A person who meets all of the requirements for registration in the combined laboratory and x-ray technologist practising register except for passing the registration examinations approved by the Board, and who has been issued a combined laboratory and x-ray technologist conditional licence pending the passing of the examinations, may use the title “provisional combined laboratory and x-ray technologist” only.

Restriction on use of bylaw licensing category title, description or designation

20 No person may take or use the title, description or designation of a licensing category established in the bylaws under clause 12(2)(l) of the Act, unless the person is 1 of the following:

- (a) a registrant holding a licence in the category that authorizes the use of that title, description or designation;
- (b) otherwise authorized to practise within the scope of the designation or to use the title, description or designation of that licensing category, in accordance with the Act, these regulations, the General Regulations or the bylaws.

Services not prohibited by Act, regulations or bylaws

21 In addition to the services set out in Section 164 of the Act, nothing in the Act, these regulations or the bylaws prohibits the practice of medical laboratory technology or combined laboratory and x-ray technology by a non-registrant through delegation or assignment of tasks by a registrant, if the practising and delegation or assignment are done in accordance with the requirements approved by the Board.

Restriction on use of title or designation in advertisement or publication

22 In any advertisement or publication, including business cards, websites and signage, that refers to activities that fall within the scope of practice of medical laboratory technology or combined laboratory and x-ray technology, the following restrictions apply:

- (a) only a person who is authorized to do so by these regulations may use the

following alone or in combination with other words, letters or descriptions:

- (i) the title of “medical laboratory technologist”, “medical laboratory assistant”, “phlebotomist”, “medical laboratory technician”, “combined laboratory and x-ray technologist” or any other title or designation protected by these regulations or the bylaws,
- (ii) any derivation or abbreviation of the titles or designations described in subclause (i);

- (b) only a person who is authorized to do so under Section 15 may describe their activities as “medical laboratory technology” or “medical laboratory assisting”;
- (c) only a person who is authorized to do so under Section 16 may describe their activities as “combined laboratory and x-ray technology”.

Fines

Professional conduct fine maximum

- 23 A fine imposed by the professional conduct committee under clause 110(1)(m) of the Act must not exceed a maximum amount of \$50 000.