

Commission or an Agreement State. Instead of requiring that the certification process include the same criteria as the alternate pathway (§ 35.50(b) in the current rule), paragraph (a) would be amended to provide separate requirements for a specialty board's certification process. This process would include a requirement to pass an examination, administered by diplomates of the specialty board, which would evaluate knowledge and competency areas that are important to functioning as an RSO. Requirements for training would be changed to add requirements for a bachelor's or graduate degree from an accredited college or university in physical science or engineering or biological science with a minimum of 20 college credits in physical science, and 5 years of professional experience in health physics, including at least 3 years in applied health physics (graduate training could be substituted for up to 2 years of experience). Paragraph (a) would also be amended to include a statement that recognized board certifications will be posted on the NRC's Web page. The requirement for obtaining a preceptor statement would be removed from the requirements for recognition of specialty board certifications. This requirement, now in paragraph (b)(2), would be moved to paragraph (c) and apply to both the certification and alternate pathway. A new paragraph (d)(2)(i) would be added to allow medical physicists to serve as RSOs if they are certified by a specialty board whose certification process has been recognized by the Commission or an Agreement State, with the requirement for a preceptor statement included in paragraph (d)(2)(ii). A new paragraph (e) would be added to require training in radiation safety, regulatory issues, and emergency procedures for the types of use for which an applicant seeks authorization. Paragraph (e) would apply to all pathways.

*Section 35.51—Training for an Authorized Medical Physicist*

This section would be amended to modify the requirements that must be met as part of a specialty board certification process for the specialty board to be recognized by the Commission or an Agreement State. Instead of requiring that the certification process include the same criteria as the alternate pathway, paragraph (a) would be amended to provide separate requirements for a specialty board's certification process. This process would include a requirement to pass an examination, administered by diplomates of the specialty board,

which would evaluate knowledge and competency areas that are important to functioning as a medical physicist. Paragraph (a) would also be amended to include a statement that recognized board certifications will be posted on the NRC's Web page. The requirement for obtaining a preceptor statement would be removed from the requirements for recognition of specialty board certifications but would, instead, apply to each individual seeking recognition as an AMP and be moved from paragraph (b)(2) to paragraph (c). A new paragraph (d) would be added to require training related to the type of use for which authorization is sought that includes "hands on" device operation, safety procedures, clinical use, and operation of a treatment planning system. Paragraph (d) would apply to the certification and alternate pathways. In addition, for the alternate pathway (paragraph (b)(1)), the acceptable areas of concentration for degrees would be expanded, and a requirement that the degree be from an accredited college or university would be added. Paragraph (b)(1) would also be amended to list the specific areas for which the individual needs to have training and work experience, instead of referring to other sections of 10 CFR part 35 and would allow for the T&E to be received in clinical radiation facilities that provide high energy, external beam therapy and brachytherapy services.

*Section 35.55—Training for an Authorized Nuclear Pharmacist*

This section would be amended to modify the requirements that must be met as part of a specialty board certification process for the specialty board to be recognized by the Commission or an Agreement State. Instead of requiring that the certification process include the same criteria as the alternate pathway, paragraph (a) would be amended to provide separate requirements for a specialty board's certification process. This certification process would include a requirement to pass an examination, administered by diplomates of the specialty board, which would evaluate knowledge and competency areas that are important to functioning as an ANP. Paragraph (a) would also be amended to include a statement that recognized board certifications will be posted on the NRC's Web page. The requirement for obtaining a preceptor statement would be removed from the requirements for recognition of specialty board certifications but would, instead, apply to each individual seeking recognition as an AMP; the requirement would be

moved from paragraph (b)(2) to a new paragraph (c).

*Section 35.57—Training for Experienced Radiation Safety Officer, Teletherapy or Medical Physicist, Authorized User, and Nuclear Pharmacist*

Paragraphs (a) and (b) would be amended to change "October 24, 2002," to the effective date of the final rule, if adopted.

*Section 35.190—Training for Uptake, Dilution, and Excretion Studies*

Paragraph (a) would be amended to modify the requirements that must be met as part of a specialty board certification process for the specialty board to be recognized by the Commission or an Agreement State for uses under § 35.190. A requirement would be added that candidates must pass an examination administered by diplomates of the specialty board. The requirement for obtaining a preceptor statement would be removed from the requirements for recognition of specialty board certifications but would, instead, apply to each individual seeking recognition as an AU under § 35.100. Paragraph (a) would also be amended to include a statement that recognized board certifications will be posted on the NRC's Web page. Paragraph (c)(1)(ii)(B) would be amended to reflect that the work experience must include performing quality control procedures on instruments used to determine the activity of dosages, a change from requiring only the calibration of these instruments.

*Section 35.290—Training for Imaging and Localization Studies*

Paragraph (a) would be amended to modify the requirements that must be met as part of a specialty board certification process for the specialty board to be recognized by the Commission or an Agreement State for uses under § 35.290. A requirement would be added that candidates must pass an examination, administered by diplomates of the specialty board. The requirement for obtaining a preceptor statement would be removed from the requirements for recognition of specialty board certifications but would, instead, apply to each individual seeking recognition as an AU under § 35.200. Paragraph (a) would also be amended to include a statement that recognized board certifications will be posted on the NRC's Web page. Paragraph (c)(1)(ii)(B) would be amended to reflect that the work experience must include performing quality control procedures on instruments used to determine the