

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

The Director of the Department of Health pursuant to the authority set forth under § 302(14) of the District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985 ("Act"), effective March 25, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-99: D.C. Official Code § 3-1203.02(14)), and Mayor's Order 98-140, dated August 20, 1998, hereby gives notice of his intent to take final rulemaking action to adopt the following amendments to Chapter 46 of Title 17 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR) in not less than thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice in the D.C. Register. The proposed amendments establish continuing education requirements for physicians who are actively practicing medicine by adding two new sections 4614 and 4615. In addition the continuing education requirements for physicians who are not actively practicing medicine are clarified by repealing sections 4606.2 and 4606.3.

Chapter 46 (Medicine) of Title 17 DCMR (Business, Occupations & Professions) (May 1990) is amended to read as follows:

Sections 4606.2 and 4606.3 are repealed.

New sections 4614 and 4615 are added to read as follows:

- 4614 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PRACTICING PHYSICIANS**
- 4614.1 Subject to § 4614.2, this section shall apply to actively practicing applicants for the renewal or reinstatement of a license for a term expiring December 31, 2006, and for subsequent terms.
- 4614.2 Physicians actively practicing medicine in the District of Columbia shall submit proof of having completed fifty (50) American Medical Association Physician Recognition Award (AMA/PRA) Category I hours of Board of Medicine approved continuing education credit during the two-year period preceding the date the license expires.
- 4614.3 For purposes of this section, a physician is actively practicing medicine if each calendar year the physician meets the following requirements:
- (a) Maintains a practice of one thousand (1,000) patient-visits per year;
 - (b) Is employed full-time in medical teaching, research, or administration; or

- (c) Is employed part-time in medical teaching, research, or administration and maintains a practice of five-hundred (500) patient-visits per year.

4614.4 An applicant under this section shall prove completion of required continuing education credits by submitting with the application the following information:

- (a) The name of the program, its location, and a description of the subject matter covered;
- (b) The dates on which the applicant attended the program;
- (c) The hours of credit claimed; and
- (d) Verification of completion of the credits by signature or stamp of the sponsor.

4614.5 This section shall not apply to applicants for an initial license by national examination, reciprocity, or endorsement, nor shall it apply to applicants for the first renewal of a license granted by examination. Neither shall the requirement for continuing education apply to physicians specifically exempted due to:

- (a) Hardship;
- (b) Disability;
- (c) Serious illness;
- (d) Service in the United States Congress;
- (e) Military service or other circumstances as the Board deems appropriate if supported by adequate documentation acceptable to the Board; and
- (f) Postgraduate training pursuant to § 4611.

4614.6 Physicians seeking such an exemption shall submit a written request with appropriate documentation including a description of circumstances sufficient to justify such an exemption.

4614.7 A request for an exemption shall be submitted to the Board in a sufficient time period prior to the expiration of the license to receive a determination from the Board as to whether an exemption shall be granted.

4614.8 A physician suspended for disciplinary reasons shall not be exempt from from the requirements of this section.

4615 APPROVED CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

4615.1 Pursuant to §§ 4607.2, 4607.3, and 4607.5 the Board may, in its discretion, approve Category I continuing education programs and activities that contribute to the knowledge, skills, and professional performance and relationships that a physician uses to provide services to patients, the public or the profession and which meet the other requirements of this section.

4615.2 The Board shall periodically conduct a random audit of at least one percent (1%) of its active licensees to determine compliance. The physicians selected for the audit shall provide a completed Continuing Education Compliance Audit Form and all supporting documentation to the Board within thirty (30) days of receiving notification of the audit.

4615.3 Failure to comply with these continuing medical education requirements may subject the licensee to disciplinary action by the Board.

4699 DEFINITIONS

4699.1 When used in this chapter, the following terms and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed:

Category I – structured activities receiving an American Medical Association Physicians Recognition Award (AMA/PRA) that are designated by an organization approved by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) or the American Osteopathic Association (AOA).

All persons desiring to comment on the subject matter of this proposed rulemaking should file comments in writing not later than thirty days after the date of publication of this notice in the D.C. Register. Comments should be sent to the Department of Health Office of the General Counsel, 825 North Capitol Street, N.E., 4th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20002. Copies of the proposed rules may be obtained from the Department at the same address during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1333 H STREET, N.W., SUITE 200, WEST TOWER
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

TELEPHONE TARIFF 06-3, IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
VERIZON WASHINGTON, DC INC. FOR AUTHORITY TO AMEND THE
GENERAL SERVICES TARIFF, P.S.C.-D.C.-NO. 203

1. The Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia ("Commission") hereby gives notice, pursuant to D.C. Code Section 2-505 (2001),¹ of its intent to act upon the Application of Verizon Washington, DC Inc. ("Verizon DC") in the above-captioned matter in not less than thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("NOPR") in the *D.C. Register*.

2. On April 7, 2006, Verizon DC filed an application requesting authority to amend the following tariff pages:

GENERAL SERVICES TARIFF, P.S.C.-D.C.-NO. 203

Section 6, 1st Revised Page 11

5th Revised Page 12

2nd Revised Page 13

3. This filing proposes to increase the rates for Verizon Value Added Services. Value Added Services are classified as discretionary services under Price Cap Plan 2004,² adopted by the Commission in Formal Case No. 1005, Order No. 13370.³ Discretionary services are limited to increases of 15 percent or less annually. Verizon DC asserts that its filing complies with Price Cap Plan 2004.

4. The complete text of the tariff pages is on file with the Commission. Copies of the proposed tariff pages can be reviewed at the Office of the Commission Secretary, 1333 H Street, N.W., 7th Floor, East Tower, Washington, D.C. 20005, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Copies of the tariff pages are available upon request, at a per-page reproduction cost.

¹ D.C. Code, Ann. § 2-505 (2001).

² *Formal Case No. 1005, In the Matter of Verizon Washington, D.C. Inc.'s Price Cap Plan 2002 for the Provision of Local Telecommunications Services in the District of Columbia*, Joint Petition of Verizon Washington, DC Inc. and the Office of the People's Counsel for Approval of Verizon DC's Amended Price Cap Plan 2002 (February 17, 2004). ("Price Cap Plan 2004").

³ *Formal Case No. 1005, In the Matter of Verizon Washington, D.C. Inc.'s Price Cap Plan 2004 for the Provision of Local Telecommunications Services in the District of Columbia*, Order No. 13370, rel. September 9, 2004.

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5. Comments regarding the proposed tariff revisions, setting forth the specific grounds for each representation, should be made in writing to Ms. Dorothy Wideman, Commission Secretary, at the above address. All comments must be received within thirty (30) days of the date of publication of this Notice in the *D.C. Register*. Persons wishing to file reply comments may do so no later than forty-five (45) days within the date of publication of this Notice in the *D.C. Register*. Once the comment and reply comment periods have expired, the Commission will take final rulemaking action on Verizon DC's filing.