

Expiring Technologists Permits

We are hearing rumors that DHS will no longer renew expiring Technologist permits via fax or other "last minute" assistance - it appears they are taking the hard-line position that if the Technologist does not renew in a timely manner such that if anything goes wrong with the renewal process and results in the permit not arriving in time, then that is just too bad and the Technologist will in fact be put out of work until the permit is in fact received - no matter how long that might take and no matter than many, many times the hold up is with DHS itself.

The only way to be sure this does not affect your people is to alert them to the fact that:

1. they are responsible for their own permit,
2. they must not assume that DHS will remind them when their permit is due for renewal,
3. they need to make sure their application for renewal and their fees are submitted well in advance of the expiration date, and
4. they need to follow up with DHS well before their current license expires - and this means they need to follow up with both the issuing section as well as with the financial section - remember, at DHS there are often multiple sections that need to take some sort of an action on your paperwork and they are not good at communicating from one section to another, and they will not take responsibility for another section's action or inaction.

I strongly recommend each facility take some positive measure to assist your technologists with submitting their renewal applications well in advance of their expiration date - not all Technologists are attentive to detail like this and they can use the help.