



# SC DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING, & REGULATION

## BOARD OF PHARMACY

*newsletter to promote pharmacy and drug law compliance*

### **Pharmacist Renewals and Continuing Education**

Renewal notices for pharmacists for 2022-2023 will be emailed in early February **if** you have validated your email address with the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing, & Regulation – Board of Pharmacy. To access your renewal online, you will need your user ID and password. The email renewal will contain a link that will allow you to reset your user ID and password. To make the process smoother for all, please make sure your correct email is on file with the Board.

If you choose not to renew online, you may request a paper renewal form from the Board office and renew by mailing the completed form and proper fees. If mailed, the Board must receive the application **before** April 1, 2022, including all required fees, data, and certification of acceptable continuing education (CE). If not postmarked **before** April 1, a penalty of \$50 must be assessed per state law. Please plan accordingly as there are times when incorrect answers stop the process and cause the renewal to be late.

Renewal applications submitted between April 1 and April 30, 2022, must include the renewal fee plus the \$50 renewal penalty, in addition to evidence that the applicant meets the renewal requirements. If you do not renew by April 30, 2022, your license will be considered lapsed. You can be disciplined for unlicensed practice if you work in South Carolina with a lapsed license.

When renewing, you must indicate that you have completed the annual requirement of 15 hours of CE. At least 50% of the total must be in drug therapy or patient management. At least one hour must be related to the approved procedures for monitoring the controlled substances listed in Schedules II, III, and IV as noted in Sections 44-53-210, 44-53-230, and 44-53-250 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. If you are a pharmacist who administers immunizations, you must complete at least one hour of Category 1 continuing medical education or Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)-accredited continuing pharmacy education related to the administration of vaccines as part of your annual licensure requirements. Please make sure your CE meets all the specific requirements outlined above. You cannot renew until you have completed the CE requirements.

As required by state law, a random CE audit of 10% of licensees will be conducted after renewals are processed. Please respond promptly if you are selected for the audit. Disciplinary action may be taken

if you cannot show you completed the CE requirements or if proof of the required CE is dated after your renewal is received by the Board office.

As a reminder, the license year runs from May 1 through April 30. All CE needs to have been obtained during the previous license year (May 1, 2021, through time of renewal) to be valid. If you are using excess carryover hours, a total of 30 hours must have been obtained between May 1, 2020, and the time of your renewal. It is the responsibility of the licensee to document which hours are used for each license year.

Please note, if this is your first renewal since receiving your license, you are exempt from the CE requirements.

### **Recent Board Decisions**

- Kloxxado™ 8 mg was recently added to the naloxone protocol. The 8 mg is a nasal spray dispensed in a two-pack. Administer a single dose in one nostril, then repeat after three minutes if minimal or no response. The updated protocol can be found [here](#).
- South Carolina Code of Laws Annotated §40-43-82(B)(1)(a) states that one of the requirements for a technician to become state certified is the completion of a Board-approved technician course. At its November 2021 meeting, the Board broadened its interpretation of what constitutes a Board-approved technician training course. The Board will now accept a program that is Pharmacy Technician Certification Board-recognized as well as American Society of Health-System Pharmacists/ACPE-accredited programs. A list of acceptable programs can be found [here](#).
- The Board recently released an advisory opinion regarding expedited partner therapy (EPT). At its November 2021 meeting, the Board took a position on EPT after reviewing the positions taken by other boards and the conflicts that the South Carolina Pharmacy Practice Act may produce. Upon review, the Board recognizes and supports EPT and recommends that pharmacies and pharmacists work with practitioners to develop policies and procedures to effectively care for those receiving EPT in accordance with current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance. The full advisory opinion can be found [here](#).
- The Board intends to move forward with signing the Food and Drug Administration Memorandum of Understanding Addressing Certain Distributions of Compounded Human Drug Products (MOU). For those working at pharmacies that compound and ship or deliver these compounds outside of South Carolina, it is imperative that you familiarize yourselves with the MOU and the requirements. The MOU can be found [here](#).

### **Immunization Emergency Kit Reminders**

Board inspectors continue to cite for immunization protocol violations found during inspections. Specifically, they have identified that the immunization emergency kits often do not have the appropriate items. Therefore, it is imperative that pharmacies providing immunizations be familiar with and follow

all the requirements found in the immunization protocol. Further, if a pharmacy is providing off-site immunization clinics, in addition to on-site immunizations, there must be complete emergency kits for each immunization site. If an emergency kit is not complete, immunizations should not be administered at the immunization site until the site has a complete kit.

**As a reminder, a violation of the immunization protocol may potentially lead to discipline and/or a monetary fine for both the permit holder as well as the pharmacist-in-charge (PIC).** A copy of the immunization protocol can be found [here](#).

### **Updated Information**

Please be diligent in keeping your information up to date and, if possible, remind your coworkers and employees to do the same. State law requires all pharmacists, technicians, and interns to notify the Board in writing within 10 days of a change of address, employment, consultant, or PIC status. Forms are available on the Board website.

In addition, to ensure that you receive all communications, please make sure that your email is up to date and that you have subscribed to the Board's quarterly *Newsletter*.

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### **Special Notice About the Newsletter**

The Board's quarterly *Newsletter* is an official method of notification to pharmacies, pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and pharmacy technicians licensed or registered by the Board. Please read the newsletters carefully. The Board encourages you to keep the newsletters for future reference.

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*The South Carolina Board of Pharmacy News is published by the South Carolina Board of Pharmacy and the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foundation® (NABPF®) to promote compliance of pharmacy and drug law. The opinions and views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official views, opinions, or policies of NABPF or the Board unless expressly so stated.*

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