



WYOMING STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

newsletter to promote pharmacy and drug law compliance

Notice of Intent to Amend Wyoming Pharmacy Act Rules and Regulations

The Wyoming Board of Pharmacy proposes to amend Chapters 2, 20, and 21 of the Wyoming Pharmacy Act Rules and Regulations in order to modernize, reorganize, and simplify the chapter by removing obsolete and/or commonly understood terms and definitions; simplify and separate the requirements of a pharmacist-in-charge from a pharmacy license holder; simplify the requirements for non-controlled substance prescriptions, including refill authorizations, labeling requirements, and prescription transfers. Rules for shared pharmacy services are being modernized and simplified. The Board also proposes to repeal Chapter 20 because its proposed revisions modernize and simplify the requirements for collaborative practice and bring those simplified requirements back into Chapter 2. The Board proposes to create a new chapter, Chapter 21: Fees to make it easier to find the fees that the Board charges.

As required by Wyoming Statute § 16-3-103(a)(i)(G), these rules meet minimum substantive state statutory requirements.

Chapter 2: General Practice of Pharmacy Regulations

- The chapter is being modernized, reorganized, and simplified.
- Obsolete and/or commonly understood terms/ definitions are being removed.
- Requirements for the pharmacist-in-charge are being simplified, modernized, and separated from requirements for the pharmacy license holder.

National Pharmacy Compliance News

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- Requirements for prescriptions, including refill authorizations, labeling requirements, and transferring prescriptions are being simplified and modernized.
- Rules for shared pharmacy services are being modernized and simplified.

Chapter 20: Collaborative Practice Regulations

- The rules on collaborative practice are being modernized and simplified.
- The simplified and modernized rules are brought back into Chapter 2 because the Board believes collaborative practice to be an aspect of the general practice of pharmacy.
- Chapter 20 is repealed.

Chapter 21: Fees

- A new chapter is being created to make it easier to find the fees that the Board charges.

Requests for copies of the proposed amendments may be addressed to the Board executive director at 1712 Carey Avenue, Suite 200, Cheyenne, WY 82002. The proposed amended rules and new chapters are posted on the Wyoming Secretary of State and the Board websites. Comments may be submitted to the Board by mail using the address above or to bop@wyo.gov on or before March 11, 2023, at 5 PM MST.

Notice of Intent to Amend Wyoming Controlled Substances Act Rules and Regulations

The Board proposes to amend Chapters 8 and 10 of the Wyoming Controlled Substances Act Rules and Regulations in order to modernize and simplify rules for reporting into and using the prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) now that the Board has transitioned to the new Wyoming PMP AWARxE platform and to update the requirements for transferring controlled substance (CS) prescriptions pursuant to the revisions being done to the Wyoming Pharmacy Act Rules Chapter 2.

As required by Wyoming Statute § 16-3-103(a)(i)(G), these rules meet minimum substantive state statutory requirements.

Chapter 8: Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

- The rules for reporting into and using the PDMP are being modernized and simplified now that the Board has transitioned to the new Wyoming PMP AWARxE platform.

Chapter 10: Issuing and Dispensing Prescriptions for Controlled Substances

- Requirements for transferring prescriptions for CS are being updated due to the revisions to Chapter 2: General Practice of Pharmacy Regulations.

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Fixing Submission Errors in Wyoming PMP AWARxE

The Wyoming PMP AWARxE platform has now been live and in use for several months. This new platform gives a cleaner clinical picture of the CS that a patient has been prescribed. For example, you can see at a glance how many providers a patient has seen, how many pharmacies they have used, and a breakdown of their current morphine milligram equivalents if they have been prescribed any opioids. This tool, however, can only be as accurate as what is reported in it. With the new platform, the Board is now able to more clearly see who is reporting, who is not, and who is not fixing their reporting errors. Errors must be corrected as soon as possible.

The most common error that the Board is seeing is “DEA value missing.” This is usually associated with gabapentin. While gabapentin does not require a practitioner to have a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) number to prescribe it to a patient, it is a drug of concern, and a DEA number is required to be reported into the PDMP when it is dispensed. The [Data Submission Dispenser Guide](#), available on the [Board’s website](#), has a DEA number that can be used for this scenario only, ie, the practitioner does not have a DEA number and has prescribed a drug of concern that must be reported.

If there are any errors in your data submission report, you will receive an email notification from Bamboo Health at the email address that was used to register with the Bamboo Health PMP Clearinghouse. Dispensers should be checking the email for error notifications as well as successful submissions. Again, data submission errors must be corrected as soon as possible. If you experience issues correcting submission errors, you should open a help desk ticket with Bamboo Health, either via its telephone line or website. The Board will reach out if your reporting is not in compliance. As always, you can contact the Board office with any questions or concerns.

Coming in 2023: WPAP Interactive Screening Program

For many years, the Board has partnered with the Wyoming Professional Assistance Program (WPAP) to provide the Board’s licensees who are struggling with substance use and mental health issues with confidential assistance, including evaluations, intervention guidance, life coaching, treatment provider referrals, and a comprehensive monitoring program. Licensees may contact WPAP on their own initiative and/or by referral from their colleagues. There may be times when the Board will require a licensee or applicant to contact WPAP to determine what, if any, action may be required of them. This partnership between the Board and WPAP has helped put numerous pharmacy professionals on the road to recovery.

Research indicates that health care workers are at higher risk of suicide than the general population. Job problems in the pharmacy sector reflect significant changes that have occurred in the industry over recent years. More pharmacists and pharmacy technicians are employed by hospitals and chain retailers than by small, private pharmacies. Pharmacy responsibilities have grown considerably, with larger volumes of prescriptions to dispense and increasing demand to administer vaccines and other health care services. The increased responsibilities have not always been followed by the resources needed to meet expectations. All too frequently, pharmacy staff is expected to handle increased responsibilities with the same resources and compensation they had before the pandemic.¹

“If we learned anything from the pandemic, it’s that there is a breaking point for health professionals,” said Kelly C. Lee, PharmD, professor of clinical pharmacy at the University of California San Diego Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. “Mental health is still highly stigmatized, and often even more so among health professionals,” said Lee. “Even though we should know better, there is such an expectation to appear strong, capable and reliable in our roles that we struggle to admit any vulnerabilities. It’s time to take a look at what our jobs are doing to us and how we can better support each other, or we are going to lose our best [pharmacy professionals].”¹

Life can be stressful at times. Whatever you are struggling with – family pressures, work, relationship issues, grief, stress, or financial concerns – it is easy to get overwhelmed without an idea of where to turn for support. WPAP’s [Interactive Screening Program \(ISP\)/Self-Check Questionnaire](#) is a new resource that is a safe and secure online tool that will be available to Board licensees in 2023. It can help reduce barriers to care and encourage individuals to connect to mental health services. More information on WPAP’s ISP will be forthcoming in future *Newsletters*.

Final Reminder: Board Going Paperless in 2023

To make future communications more efficient, 2022 was the last year that the Board will mail out paper renewal notices. Beginning in 2023, the Board will use email to provide alerts, *Newsletters*, notices, renewals, and instructions, etc. To avoid missing communications from the Board, please make sure that your email contact information is up to date. You can check this by visiting the Board’s website and clicking on the [“Renew/Print License”](#) link along the top of the screen.

If you have forgotten your username or password, please click [“Recover Login Credentials.”](#) If you do not believe you currently have an online login credential, please use the [“Create Account”](#) link. Please note that the username and password for your renewal is not necessarily the same username and password that you may have used for your previous Wyoming PMP AWARxE account. Renewal forms will continue to be available to download from the Board’s website if you would like to submit your renewal on paper.

Alerts, recent announcements, the Wyoming Pharmacy Act, the Wyoming Controlled Substances Act, the Board’s rules and regulations, renewal forms, *Newsletters*, and other resources will continue to be

1. Mlynaryk N. Pharmacists at Higher Risk of Suicide than General Population, Study Finds. *UC San Diego Today*. <https://today.ucsd.edu/story/pharmacists-at-higher-risk-of-suicide-than-general-population-study-finds>. May 13, 2022.

available on the Board's [website](#). You may also contact the Board office by phone at 307/634-9636 or by email at bop@wyo.gov if you have questions.

Recent Disciplinary Actions

J.F., RPT, #T2515: Failed to complete six hours of approved continuing education (CE) for renewal of her 2020 pharmacy technician license. Her National Association of Boards of Pharmacy® CPE Monitor® transcript for 2021 showed that she had completed 22 hours of CE in 2021. Required to pay an administrative penalty of \$150.

M.C., RPh, #3197: Failed to complete 12 hours of approved CE, including failing to complete 1.5 hours of CE on the responsible prescribing of CS, for the renewal of her 2022 pharmacist license. Required to pay an administrative penalty of \$500 and to complete 12 extra hours of CE in 2022. The total earned CE in 2022 must be 24 hours, including three hours on pharmacy law, for the renewal of pharmacist license for 2023.

R.C., RPh, #3347: Failed to complete 12 hours of approved CE, including failing to complete 1.5 hours of CE on the responsible prescribing of CS, for the renewal of her 2022 pharmacist license. Required to pay an administrative penalty of \$500 and to complete 12 extra hours of CE in 2022. The total earned CE in 2022 must be 24 hours, including three hours on pharmacy law, for the renewal of pharmacist license for 2023.

W.L., RPh, #3917: Failed to complete 12 hours of CE from an approved CE provider, including failing to complete 1.5 hours of CE on the responsible prescribing of CS, for the renewal of his 2022 pharmacist license. Voluntarily surrendered his pharmacist license to the Board.

The Wyoming State Board of Pharmacy News is published by the Wyoming State 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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