



# SC DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING, & REGULATION

## BOARD OF PHARMACY

*newsletter to promote pharmacy and drug law compliance*

### **Remarks From the Outgoing Chair**

Those of you who have participated in a South Carolina Board of Pharmacy meeting this past year know that my preferred style of communication is concise. I will continue that tradition here, as I complete the last year of my term serving on the Board.

It is an honor to be a member of one of the most trusted professions and to serve on the Board. I am so proud of what has been accomplished during my term, from expanding the immunization protocol to improving access to contraception, to promoting a “just culture” of learning and collaboration. My sincerest appreciation and respect to the staff, and past and current Board members, who have devoted themselves to the profession of pharmacy and this state. And lastly, to the pharmacists of South Carolina – thank you. Pharmacists are highly educated health care professionals, and one of the most accessible to patients, which is rewarding but also extremely demanding. You make the lives of your patients better, and we at the Board appreciate all you do.

Lauren B. Thomas, PharmD, BCMTMS

Chairwoman of the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing, & Regulation – Board of Pharmacy

### **Renewals for Registered and State-Certified Pharmacy Technicians Are Open!**

If you validated your email address with the Board, you can complete the online renewal process. To access your renewal online, you will need your user ID and password. The email renewal

#### ***National Pharmacy Compliance News***

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notice contains 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 do not know your password, visit <https://eservice.llr.sc.gov/SSO/Login/RecoverPass> to change it. To change your email address, send a request to [contact.pharmacy@llr.sc.gov](mailto:contact.pharmacy@llr.sc.gov). Please allow 24 hours for updates.

If you choose not to renew online, you may request a paper renewal from the Board office and renew by mailing in the completed form and proper fees. Applications for renewal must be filed no later than June 30, 2023. Pharmacy technicians who do not renew **prior to** July 1, 2023, must immediately cease practice and refrain from performing any duties as a pharmacy technician. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action for both the technician and the pharmacist-in-charge (PIC).

If you are a state-certified pharmacy technician and your **national** certification has expired, you must also submit a copy of your current national certificate to the Board. Please remember that your national certification is different than your state pharmacy technician registration. Continuing to practice as a state-certified technician without the proper current documentation may result in disciplinary action for both the technician and the PIC.

### ***NABP e-Profile ID***

You must have a National Association of Boards of Pharmacy® (NABP®) e-Profile® ID for CPE Monitor® to renew online. CPE Monitor is a service used to document and report your continuing pharmacy education (CPE) credits. You will be asked to provide your e-Profile ID number on the renewal form. To create an e-Profile ID, visit [www.nabp.pharmacy](http://www.nabp.pharmacy). Click on “e-Profile Login” at the top right side of the page, then select “Individual or Business Customers” to create a login. For common questions about creating an e-Profile or internet browser requirements, visit the [Help section](#) of the NABP website.

### ***Technician vs Clerk***

Board staff often receives questions regarding whether an unregistered employee may “put away the order” and whether those individuals are considered in the technician-to-pharmacist ratio.

An employee who is not involved in dispensing duties and is simply putting away an order is not considered in the technician-to-pharmacist ratio. However, anyone who is handling stock medication for any reason must still be registered as a technician. Policy #140, Approved Technician Duties, outlines this requirement.

An employee of a pharmacy holding a pharmacy permit not registered with the SC Board of Pharmacy may perform many clerical functions associated with the practice of pharmacy. A non-registered employee is prohibited from performing the following functions:

- Entering data beyond demographic information (name, address, date of birth, gender, contact information, insurance, etc)
- Interpreting prescription drug orders
- Handling non-dispensed legend drugs or devices
- Compounding of any over-the-counter or legend drug

A Registered or Certified Pharmacy Technician may perform many clerical functions associated with the practice of pharmacy at a facility holding a pharmacy permit. While fulfilling clerical functions, up to the point of dispensing requiring clinical interpretation and/or product selection, as defined in Section 40-43-30(15), registered or certified technicians would not be considered in the pharmacist-to-technician ratio as indicated by Sec. 40-43-86 (B)(4)(b).

Policy #140, Approved Technician Duties, may be found in its entirety [here](#).

### ***Recent Update to Board Policy***

At the January 2023 meeting, the Board updated the [policy](#) below.

#### **Policy #133 OTC Compounding**

After careful consideration of South Carolina Code of Laws Annotated §40-43-86(U), stating that the dispensing of non-prescription medications by a pharmacist must be treated in all respects as a prescription drug, the Board revised Policy 133 to include the requirement that a valid patient-specific prescription must be obtained prior to compounding, labeling, and dispensing over-the-counter products.

### ***Pharmacy Board Member Named Influential Leader***

Congratulations to Board Member Dr Mary Douglass Smith on recently receiving national and state recognition for her work in the pharmacy industry.

Nationally, Dr Smith was named one of the “50 Most Influential Leaders in Pharmacy” by the Pharmacy Podcast Network (PPN). The PPN awards program launched in 2021 to recognize people who have made their mark through innovation, momentum, and distinction throughout the pharmacy profession. You can learn more about the award and the recipients [here](#).

In the state, the South Carolina Society of Health-System Pharmacists presented Dr Smith with the George D. Schwerin Mentor Award. This award is given to an individual in recognition of their extraordinary mentorship of student pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, pharmacy residents, pharmacists, and/or other members of the health care team.

Dr Smith, who has served on the Board since 2021, is the director of experiential education and associate professor of pharmacy practice at Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy (PCSP) in

Clinton, SC. In these positions, she coordinates students on rotations at community, hospital, and many other pharmacy sites. She is also in charge of preceptor development for the more than 250 preceptors at PCSP. Dr Smith teaches a variety of courses, including Therapeutics of Self Care, Advanced Compounding, and APPE-Readiness, and serves as preceptor for both introductory and advanced rotations. She also serves on the editorial board of *Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning*.

Dr Smith graduated from Presbyterian College with a bachelor of science degree and from the University of South Carolina with a doctor of pharmacy degree.

“Being recognized by these two groups has been such an honor,” Dr Smith said. “I hope to influence pharmacy practice to provide exceptional care to our patients and keep patient safety as a top priority. I’m fortunate to have a position that allows me to teach and mentor students and show them my love for pharmacy. It is very humbling to think that my impact will carry on to their future patients and how my students are able to advance the practice of pharmacy.”

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