



# DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF PHARMACY

*newsletter to promote pharmacy and drug law compliance*

## **News From the District of Columbia Board of Pharmacy**

The District of Columbia Board of Pharmacy members are:

- Tamara McCants, PharmD, RPh, Chairperson
- Alan Friedman, RPh, Vice Chairperson
- Ashlee Bow, PharmD, RPh, AAHIVP, Member
- Allison Hill, PharmD, RPh, Member
- Benjamin E. Miles, PharmD, RPh, BCPS, Member
- Vacant, Consumer Member
- Vacant, Consumer Member
- Justin Ortique, PharmD, RPh, Executive Director

**Contact the Board!** All inquiries regarding licensure and general information should be directed to Ms Karin Barron, health licensing specialist, at [karin.barron@dc.gov](mailto:karin.barron@dc.gov).

To contact the Board directly, visit its [website](#). Should you need to contact the Pharmaceutical Control Division, its website is [dchealth.dc.gov/pcd](http://dchealth.dc.gov/pcd).

## **Notice of Board Meeting Schedule**

The Board holds open (public) session meetings in the even-numbered months of the year, ie, February, April, June, August, October,

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

A Service of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foundation (NABPF)

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and December. In these months, the meetings will begin at 9:30 AM. These meetings are open to the public, including licensed pharmacists, where parties may share their comments pertaining to Board activities. All are invited to attend.

In the odd-numbered months of the year, ie, January, March, May, July, September, and November, the Board may meet in subcommittees and/or hold executive (closed) session meetings as needed. Pursuant to D.C. Official Code §2-575(b), and for the purposes set forth therein, these meetings are not open to the public.

The Board has transitioned to a hybrid schedule, meaning that quarterly Board meetings will be held in person. The public can still attend virtually via the Webex link after registration.

Future open session meeting dates are:

- Thursday, August 3, 2023 – 9:30 AM
- Thursday, October 5, 2023 – 9:30 AM
- Thursday, December 7, 2023 – 9:30 AM
- Thursday, February 1, 2024 – 9:30 AM
- Thursday, April 4, 2024 – 9:30 AM

### ***Board Licensees by the Numbers***

<b>Licensees as of April 26, 2023</b>	
<b>Pharmacists</b>	2,039
<b>Pharmacist Vaccination &amp; Immunization Authority</b>	727
<b>Pharmacy Interns</b>	464
<b>Pharmacy Technicians</b>	968
<b>Pharmacy Technician Trainees</b>	141
<b>Pharmaceutical Detailers</b>	738
<b>Pharmacy Technician Trainee Programs</b>	8

### ***COVID-19 PHE and COVID-19 Vaccines***

The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) public health emergency (PHE) has facilitated the government’s response to COVID-19. This declaration, along with the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act), allowed many new opportunities for pharmacists and pharmacy support personnel. With the conclusion of the PHE, it is important to remember how we can best serve our patients under these changes. At the time of this submission, the

United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra has committed to the following:

- Where immunity from liability will be extended until December 2024 to pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and pharmacy technicians:
  - to administer COVID-19 and seasonal influenza vaccines to those three and over (consistent with other requirements); and
  - COVID-19 tests
- No change to “Test to Treat”
- No change to coverage for dispensing of COVID-19 antivirals
- Once products are no longer distributed by the government, the following will cease:
  - COVID-19 vaccination by nontraditional providers (recently retired providers and students)
  - COVID-19 vaccinations across state lines by licensed pharmacists and pharmacy interns
  - Coverage for routine childhood vaccinations

It is important to stay up to date on all matters related to COVID-19 as authorizations will change. Pharmacy personnel may access HHS updates [here](#). COVID-19 vaccine administration and schedule information can be found at [Food and Drug Administration](#) and [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#). And always be sure to check important announcements from the [District of Columbia Department of Health](#). Thank you for serving the residents of DC.

### ***Narcan Soon Available OTC***

Narcan®, naloxone 4 mg nasal spray, is used to rapidly reverse the effects of a drug overdose and will soon be available without a prescription. Availability of over-the-counter (OTC) products will depend on the manufacturer, Emergent BioSolutions, who have said they are targeting late summer. Injectable forms of naloxone and other brands will only be available with a prescription.

Naloxone is currently available at no cost, ID, or prescription in every ward in the District of Columbia. More information regarding naloxone in DC can be found [here](#).

### ***New Resource Available for Pharmacies***

DC Health has an exciting resource available to help find free and reduced-cost services for patients in the DC/Maryland/Virginia (DMV) metropolitan area. [LinkU DMV](#) has a community needs assessment that can be completed to assist in discovering medical care, food, housing, and more. There is also an option to search for specific services in area codes around DMV. Click the link above to start searching.

## **Board of Pharmacy Consumer Members**

The Board is currently accepting applications for two consumer Board members. Appointment to the Board is through the Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments (MOTA). Requirements for consumer members include:

- DC residency;
- shall not be a health professional or in training to become a health professional; and
- shall not have a household member who is a health professional or is in training to become a health professional.

If you are interested, or know someone who may be interested, visit [MOTA](#) for an appointment application. Appointments to the Board are for three years.

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*The District of Columbia Board of Pharmacy News is published by the District of Columbia 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.*

*Muriel Bowser - Mayor*

*Justin Ortique, PharmD, RPh - Executive Director*

*Ashlee Bow, PharmD, RPh, AAHIVP - District News Editor*

*Lemrey "Al" Carter, PharmD, MS, RPh - National News Editor & Executive Editor*

*Megan Pellegrini - Publications and Editorial Manager*

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