



ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

newsletter to promote pharmacy and drug law compliance

Board Members

- Lorri Walmsley, RPh, President
- Tenille Davis, PharmD, RPh, Vice President
- Cedar Lahann, PharmD, RPh, Member
- Tarek Al Nassif, RPh, Member
- Kevin Dang, PharmD, RPh, Member
- Jeff Anderson, PharmD, RPh, Member
- Kristen Snair, CPhT, Member
- Frank Thorwald, Member (Public)
- Vacant, Member (Public)

Update Your Profile

In an effort to communicate more effectively with its licensees and permittees, the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy has noticed that contact information in its system is not always current and up to date. You are required to update your personal contact information and pharmacy employer within 10 days after a change, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) §32-1926. Please use your online profile to [update your contact information](#).

Be on Alert – Scam

There have been reports of individuals impersonating Board staff members requesting personal information from license and permit holders. Please know that the Board already has your information, which you are able to update using the Board website at any time. The Board does not collect payment

National Pharmacy Compliance News

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

Visit NABP's website for the latest regulatory updates and news from FDA, USP, NABP, and more.

[Read National News](#)

over the phone. If you experience a similar situation in which you are contacted for personal or financial information, please contact the Board office at 602/771-2727.

Welcome New Board Members



Jeff Anderson, MS, PharmD, RPh, BCPS, FACHE, is a registered pharmacist with more than 20 years of experience in the academic hospital, community hospital, and retail pharmacy settings, providing leadership for pharmacy operations and clinical pharmacy services. He currently serves as director of pharmacy at Banner – University Medical Center Phoenix, Arizona’s largest level-one trauma academic medical center. Jeff is an adjunct assistant professor of pharmacy practice at the Midwestern University College of Pharmacy and a clinical instructor in pharmacy practice and science for the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy. He graduated with a bachelor of science degree in pharmacy from the University of Florida College of Pharmacy, a master of science degree from the George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and a doctor of pharmacy degree from Shenandoah University School of Pharmacy. Jeff is board certified as a pharmacotherapy specialist by the Board of Pharmacy Specialties and in health care management by the American College of Healthcare Executives. He has been an Arizona resident since 2012 and currently resides in Scottsdale, AZ.



Tarek Al Nassif, RPh, graduated from the University of Damascus College of Pharmacy in 1999. In his 24 years of pharmacy experience, he has served in community and hospital pharmacies, with additional experience in pharmaceutical marketing and supporting independent pharmacies.

Tarek’s passion is providing care for marginalized populations, specifically in a federally qualified health center. He has served at El Rio Health since 2011 in a variety of roles, with one of his primary areas of focus being ensuring compliance to the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program and providing timely and affordable medications to underserved populations. Tarek directly oversees eight outpatient pharmacy locations in an administrative role and was a lead in creating a collaborative practice agreement between outpatient pharmacists and providers at El Rio Health, allowing pharmacists to work at the top of their licenses to better serve El Rio patients.

Tarek has championed a variety of quality and improvement initiatives to ensure regulatory compliance with state and federal requirements across El Rio Health, including Health Resources and Services Administration and Joint Commission.

Tarek lives in Tucson, AZ, with his wife Samia, who is also a pharmacist, and their two teenage children.

Compliance Corner

The “Compliance Corner” section has been added to the *Arizona State Board of Pharmacy Newsletter* to address compliance-related topics in each installment. This issue will highlight license renewals. There are several aspects of the renewal process that need to be considered, such as when and how to apply and continuing education (CE) requirements. This article is meant to be an introduction to the renewal process and is not intended to completely capture all necessary information. For the full listing of requirements and processes, refer to the applicable Arizona statutes and rules.



License Renewals

License renewals are done on a biennial basis (every two years) for pharmacists and technicians. Be sure to reference your license to determine what renewal cycle you are on. Other license types, such as intern licenses, do not follow this schedule. Technician trainee registration is not renewable.

When and How to Apply

The online renewal cycle started on September 5, 2023, at 00:01 MDT and will end on November 1, 2023, at 23:59 MDT. Renewals submitted after November 1, 2023, are subject to a late renewal penalty. You may renew by logging in to your online profile [here](#). **Please Note:** A person shall not apply for a license renewal more than 60 days before the expiration date of their license. Ensure that your CE requirements are complete prior to starting the renewal process.

CE Requirements

Pharmacists must participate in 30 contact hours (3 CEU) of CE activity sponsored by an approved provider, and technicians must participate in 20 contact hours (2 CEU) of CE activity sponsored by an approved provider. It is the responsibility of the licensee to maintain documentation of all CE activity. The CE credits must be accrued only during the two-year period immediately before licensure renewal and do not carry over into other renewal periods. Pharmacists and technicians are exempt from the CE requirement between the time of initial licensure and first renewal.

A licensee certified to administer immunizations, vaccines, and emergency medications must participate in at least two contact hours of CE activity related to administering immunizations, vaccines, and emergency medications.

A licensee authorized to dispense controlled substances must participate in at least three contact hours of opioid-related, substance use disorder-related, or addiction-related CE activity.

A pharmacist who dispenses self-administered hormonal contraceptives under a standing prescription order must participate in at least three contact hours of CE activity sponsored by an approved provider related to self-administered hormonal contraceptives prior to license renewal. There may be other requirements for CE depending on the activities of one's practice. Refer to the full requirements in the applicable statutes and rules for more information and see the frequently asked questions section of the Board website.

(See A.R.S. §32-1936, A.R.S. §32-1925, A.R.S. §32-1979.01, A.R.S. §32-3248.02, Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) §R4-23-204, A.A.C. §R4-23-110, A.A.C. §R4-23-411, A.A.C. §R4-23-202, and A.A.C. §R4-23-1106)

Disciplinary Actions and Updates – Health Boards

Disciplinary actions for the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy can be found at

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1s4HN0QEkiYmpqEnwB8IW4JZculf-mRlytmG-64wtyTE/edit#gid=0>.

Disciplinary actions for the Arizona Medical Board can be found at

https://azbomprod.azmd.gov/glsuiteweb/clients/azbom/public/MD_RecentActionsHome.aspx.

Disciplinary actions for the Arizona Osteopathic Board can be found at

<https://azdo.gov/recent-actions>.

Disciplinary actions for the Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners can be found at

<https://azbodprod.glsuite.us/GLSuiteWeb/clients/azbod/public/WebVerificationSearch.aspx>.

The Arizona State Board of Pharmacy News is published by the Arizona 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.

Kamlesh "Kam" Gandhi, PharmD - State News Editor

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

Megan Pellegrini - Publications and Editorial Manager

1110 W Washington St, Ste 260 | Phoenix, AZ 85007 | <https://pharmacy.az.gov> | kgandhi@azpharmacy.gov