



# OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

*newsletter to promote pharmacy and drug law compliance*

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### ***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.

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## 24.118 Specialized Permits for Pharmacies

Additional specialized permits are available for pharmacies on the Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy's website. These permits include, but are not limited to, the Drug Supplier Permit Application and the Training Area Permit Application.

A **drug supplier permit** is an additional specialized permit issued to Oklahoma resident retail pharmacies that "supply legend drugs to licensed prescribers for their office administration and/or [ . . . ] to hospitals and other licensed pharmacies for their dispensing" [Oklahoma Administrative Code (OAC) 535:15-7-1].

This application must be filled out and submitted to the Board, along with a fee of \$20, to supply drugs to other licensed entities. Upon annual renewal of the pharmacy license, the drug supplier permit must be paid for again in the online store. Otherwise, this permit will not be included on the renewed license and the pharmacy will not be able to supply drugs to other licensed entities.

A **training area permit** is an additional specialized permit issued to Oklahoma resident pharmacies that desire approval for the training of pharmacy interns (ie, a student currently enrolled in an accredited college of pharmacy) [OAC 535:10-5-9]. An application for this permit is available on the Board's website, and the cost of the permit is a fee of \$25. This permit allows interns to work in a pharmacy under the supervision of a licensed preceptor. This permit will expire annually upon the expiration of the pharmacy license unless it is renewed for a \$10 fee paid in addition to the annual license renewal fee. This also must be paid for in the Board's online store. Please allow 10-14 days from the date of receipt for processing.

For example, if you are renewing a pharmacy license that has a drug supplier permit and a training area permit, then you would need to submit payment for the pharmacy, drug supplier permit, and training area permit when you are paying through the online store.

You would select payment for three different items on your renewal.

- Pharmacy Retail Renewal
- Drug Supplier Renewal
- Training Area Renewal

If you fail to renew one of the extra permits, then you run the risk of being out of compliance with the Board.

## 24.119 Multiple Places of Employment

If you are a pharmacist who works in multiple locations or floats to various stores occasionally, please carry your pharmacist license (small wallet card, not large wall certificate), immunization certificate (or duplicate/copy), and CPR certificate (or duplicate/copy). Board compliance officers will ask for these items upon inspection.

## 24.120 Good Compounding Practices for Nonsterile Preparations

**OAC 535:15-10-3(e)** Any pharmacist in charge who performs or supervises the preparation of compounded medications shall:

[ . . . ]

(2) Certify that all participating pharmacists, interns, and technicians have completed a training and testing program in product preparation. Documentation of training and testing shall be available for review.

**OAC 535:15-10-3(f)** Staff will be trained and evaluated accordingly as follows:

[ . . . ]

(3) A written test shall be administered and passed based on the material referenced above upon initial hire or prior to assignment to compound preparations.

(4) Testing will be conducted annually for every individual involved in compounding preparations. Compounding personnel who fail written tests shall be immediately instructed and reevaluated by expert compounding personnel to ensure correction of all practice deficiencies.

## 24.121 Patient Counseling

Please be mindful of the fact that all aspects of patient counseling are to be performed by either a licensed pharmacist or a licensed intern who is appropriately supervised by a licensed pharmacist who is a preceptor. Pharmacies can get very busy, and supportive personnel may want to help relieve the load on the pharmacist by recommending products for certain ailments or answering questions regarding prescription products that patients may be taking, but they are not permitted to do so.

## 24.122 Scam Communications Claiming to Be From Board Staff

In 2023, Board staff received information on a few instances in which someone pretending to be a Board investigator called a pharmacist. Board staff was notified that someone impersonating a Board investigator has been calling pharmacies stating that they were working with Drug Enforcement Administration and Food and Drug Administration on a case involving “suspicious” and “unauthorized activities” involving “illegal drug trafficking” by the pharmacist. The scammer claimed to need various personal information to “verify” he was speaking with the pharmacist. The scammer made various vague threats against recording the call or speaking to anyone about the investigation. He demanded a personal cell phone number so he could discuss the case “securely.” Background noise clearly indicated the scammer was working from a call center.

Board staff reminds pharmacists and pharmacy staff that the names of all Board compliance officers are listed on the Board’s website, and if they are unsure or suspicious when contacted by someone claiming to be a Board staff member, they should contact the Board immediately.

### **24.123 Disciplinary Actions**

**(Impaired DPh) #18762 – Case No. 1668:** Respondent’s license is indefinitely suspended. Respondent shall comply with the previous Agreed Order issued on June 22, 2022. Respondent will enter into and remain compliant with a lifetime contract with Oklahoma Pharmacists Helping Pharmacists (OPHP). Respondent may petition the Board to request their pharmacist license be reinstated after showing they have been determined “fit for duty” and received a recommendation from OPHP supporting an active license. Respondent is found guilty on three counts; violation of a Board order or Agreed Order.

**Bryanna Blackburn, Technician #28227 – Case No. 1669:** Guilty on three counts, including theft of merchandise. **Revoked.**

**Kaley Weaver, Technician #27182 – Case No. 1671:** Guilty on two counts, including theft while working as a registrant. **Revoked.**

**Lillie Yarbrough, Technician #21575 – Case No. 1672:** Guilty on five counts, including a violation of registrant conduct to sell dangerous drugs to a person or entity not eligible to receive such drugs. **Revoked.**

**Mareca Handcock, Technician #7697 – Case No. 1673:** Guilty on three counts, including the sale of dangerous drugs to a person or entity not eligible to receive such drugs. **Revoked.**

**(Impaired DPh) #16765 – Case No. 1674:** Respondent’s license is indefinitely suspended. Respondent will enter into and remain compliant with a lifetime contract with OPHP. Once respondent has been determined “fit for duty” and the Board has received a recommendation from OPHP supporting an active license, they may petition the Board to request their pharmacist license be reinstated. All continuing education (CE) for the years 2024 and 2025 shall be live. Respondent is required to complete a substance use disorder conference or seminar that is OPHP approved before November 29, 2026. Respondent is found guilty on two counts, including violation of a Board order or Agreed Order.

**(Impaired DPh) #17375 – Case No. 1678:** Respondent’s license is indefinitely suspended. Respondent will be evaluated by an OPHP provider and will follow any and all resulting recommendations. Once respondent has been determined “fit for duty” and the Board has received a recommendation from OPHP supporting an active license, they may petition the Board to request their pharmacist license be reinstated. All required CE for the years 2024 and 2025 shall be live. Respondent will pay a fine of \$1,000. Respondent is found guilty on nine counts,

including abuse of alcohol or drugs and use of an illegal controlled dangerous substance or testing positive for such substance or its metabolite, which is a violation of registrant conduct.

**Angelica Leland, Technician #26326 – Case No. 1679:** Guilty on two counts, including theft while working as a registrant. **Revoked.**

## **Calendar Notes**

**Upcoming Holidays:** The Board office will be closed on January 15, 2024, for Martin Luther King, Jr Day and February 19, 2024, for Presidents' Day.

**Upcoming Board Meetings:** The Board is scheduled to meet on January 24, 2024, and March 6, 2024. All meetings begin at 8:30 AM.

## **New Fax Number**

The Board has received a new fax number. When sending faxes to the Board office, please use 405/900-8365. Please discontinue using 405/521-3758 to send faxes.

## **Change of Address or Employment?**

**Please be diligent in keeping your information up to date and, if possible, remind your coworkers and employees. Failure to notify the Board is a violation of Oklahoma pharmacy law. All pharmacists, technicians, and interns** must notify the Board in writing within 10 days of a change of address or employment. Address and employment changes can no longer be made on the online renewal system. Emailed notifications can be sent to [pharmacy@pharmacy.ok.gov](mailto:pharmacy@pharmacy.ok.gov) or faxed to 405/900-8365. License/permit numbers must be included to be accepted.

## **Special Notice About the Newsletter**

The *Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy Newsletter* is an official method of notification to pharmacies, pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and pharmacy technicians registered by the Board. Please read them carefully. The Board encourages you to keep them for future reference.

## **OPHP**

If you or a pharmacist you care about is suffering from chemical dependency, there is a solution. OPHP is readily available for help. Pharmacists in Oklahoma, Texas, and Louisiana may call the OPHP helpline at 1-800/260-7574, ext 5773. All calls are confidential.

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[74 O.S. §3105 and 65 O.S. §3-114]*

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