ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

Newsletter to Promote Pharmacy and Drug Law Compliance.

Executive Secretary Update

The application period for the executive secretary position is now closed. We are currently reviewing all submitted applications and will begin scheduling interviews in the coming weeks. Thank you

to everyone who shared the job posting within your networks and supported the search process. We will continue to keep you updated as we move forward with selecting our next executive secretary.

Legislative Update

Act 2025-372 (formerly House Bill 123) has taken effect. The bill resulted in significant changes to the Alabama Pharmacy Practice Act, most notably to the Alabama State Board of Pharmacy's composition, which will be expanding from five pharmacist members to seven pharmacist members, with the addition of a pharmacy technician member and a consumer member. Additionally, Board positions will no longer be elected; instead, all will be appointed by an elected official.

The Board is also working on developing set schedules for both civil penalties for disciplinary violations and administrative fines for non-disciplinary violations. The **draft** administrative fine schedule can be found on our website under Statutes & Rules. The Board welcomes your feedback. You can provide any comments to Anne Marie Nolen via email:

anolen@albop.com.

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Wellness Program

The Board has a program that encourages voluntary reporting, assists in evaluation and treatment referrals, and, with the cooperation of the affected individual, supports reentry to the profession.

The mission of the program is to promote early identification, intervention, rehabilitation, monitoring, and successful reentry of recovering pharmacists, interns, and pharmacy technicians into the profession. The Wellness Program will also provide ongoing education regarding issues of recovery.

Through the Pharmacy Wellness Program director, Michael Garver, DMD, the Board monitors the

pharmacist upon successful completion of treatment through ongoing support and monitoring for five years. While this may seem lengthy and perhaps invasive, monitoring provides a reliable form of accountability, which, in the interest of public protection, enables the Board to allow people to return to work safely. Monitoring also provides a measure of legal protection for the affected individual and is the number one reason why the recovery rates are so high for health care professionals.

Dr Garver has a history of over 20 years of working with recovering

health care professionals and boards in their monitoring programs. Being in recovery while actively maintaining his practice has enabled him to bring a unique perspective to assisting health professionals who have had problems with all types of addiction and substance abuse. With training in intervention, relapse prevention, and codependency issues, Dr Garver can assist health care professionals during all phases of their recovery, from re-integration with family and practice to the important aspects of recovery beyond the contract periods mandated by boards.

Licensing Update

Technician and Intern Renewals

Technician and intern renewals will begin in October 2025. Please create your Licensure Gateway portals now to ensure a seamless renewal process. Instructions on how to create a Gateway portal are available on our website at www.albop.com. If you have had your technician registration for longer than six months and still have not completed your training, you will not be allowed to renew until training has been completed.

Technician Training

Technicians are required to complete a Board-approved training program within six months of their initial registration with the Board. Proof of completion must be uploaded within 10 days. Supervising pharmacists are responsible for ensuring that technicians comply with this Board rule. Visit the Pharmacy Technician tab on our website for more information.

Reporting Employment

All licensees are responsible for updating their place of employment within 10 days of any employment change. Updates to employment, as well as other personal information, should be done through your Gateway portal.



AL Vol. 41 | No. 3 Alabama State Board of Pharmacy | 2

Rule Changes

680-X-2-.49 Remote Work by Pharmacists

The Board has begun the rulemaking process for this rule. This amendment would allow virtual verification to be performed remotely, outside of a permitted pharmacy. It would also place more guardrails on any pharmacy work being performed remotely. The public hearing is scheduled for September 17, 2025, during the business meeting. Comments are due to Anne Marie Nolen via email at anolen@albop.com no later than 4 PM CDT on September 12, 2025.

680-X-2-.18 Institutional Pharmacies

The Board has amended Rule 680-X-2-.18 to clarify which entities shall obtain an institutional pharmacy permit, as well as to allow for institutional pharmacies to utilize a centralized services model. Official language and more information can be found on the Board's website under Statutes & Rules. The effective date is September 14, 2025.

680-X-2-.15 Use of Computers for Recordkeeping in Pharmacies in Alabama

The Board amended this rule to clarify requirements for record keeping through a pharmacy computer system. Official language and more information can be found on the Board's website under Statutes & Rules. The effective date is September 14, 2025.

680-X-2-.45 Non-controlled Prescription Requirements

The Board amended this rule to relocate subsection (1) to a more appropriate placement within the administrative code for improved coherence. Official language and more information can be found on the Board's website under Statutes & Rules. The effective date is September 14, 2025.



CE and Board Meeting Credits

Pharmacists and technicians attending Board meetings – either in person or virtually – may receive live continuing education (CE) credit.

- · Pharmacists: Up to three live CE hours per year
- · Technicians: Up to one live CE hour per year

Instructions for submitting meeting credits are available on the Board website.

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

Anne Marie Nolen, PharmD, MPH, BCACP, Administrative Supervisor – State News Editor Lemrey "Al" Carter, PharmD, MS, RPh - National News Editor & Executive Editor Megan Pellegrini - Publications and Editorial Manager

111 Village St | Birmingham, AL 35242 | Tel: 205/981-2280 | Fax: 205/981-2330