

TENNESSEE BOARD OF PHARMACY

Newsletter to Promote Pharmacy
and Drug Law Compliance.

Upcoming Rulemaking Hearing

A rulemaking hearing has been scheduled for April 1, 2026, at 9 AM CT, to discuss rules surrounding compounding and ambulatory surgical treatment center pharmacies. Public comments may be sent by mail (665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, TN 37243) or

email (pharmacy.health@tn.gov) before the rulemaking hearing to be considered, as well as taken during the meeting itself. The rulemaking notice and language of the proposed rules can be found [here](#).

Pharmacy Technician Rule Changes

On October 16, 2025, various new rules went into effect. All of the rule changes can be found in the [rulemaking hearing filing notice](#).

The most significant changes include those related to pharmacy technicians' scope of practice. These newly promulgated rules allow for **certified** technicians to administer Food and Drug Administration-licensed vaccines and Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA)-waived tests. These changes mirrored much of the language set out in Amendments of the

Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) that allowed for certain medical countermeasures against COVID-19.

The required qualifications for providing vaccines include completion of an Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)-accredited or Tennessee Board of Pharmacy-approved, hands-on training program, CPR certification, and a minimum of two hours of ACPE-accredited or Board-approved continuing education (CE) for each pharmacy

*Access the National
Pharmacy Compliance News*

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



Pharmacy Technician Rule Changes

(cont)

technician's renewal cycle related to immunizations. Similar requirements are in place for providing CLIA-waived tests, including completing CE on point-of-care testing.

The [12th Amendment to the PREP Act](#) is still in effect until December 31, 2029, which would

allow any **registered** pharmacy technician to administer COVID-19, seasonal influenza, and childhood vaccines and COVID-19 tests in accordance with the act, provided they meet the training and supervision requirements outlined. The new rule remains in effect independently of the federal PREP

Act, meaning certified technicians in Tennessee may continue administering vaccines under state authority, regardless of future changes to federal emergency provisions.

See Board of Pharmacy Rule [1140-02](#) for the full language.

Ambulatory Surgical Treatment Centers

In accordance with [Public Chapter 714](#) of 2024, the Board is authorized to license ambulatory surgical treatment centers. While rules are going through the

process, the Board does have an application available for these entities. Entities seeking this license will be required to enter into an agreement for licensure with the

Board until rules go into effect. If you are interested in learning more about this process or want to apply, please email pharmacy.health@tn.gov.

2025 Legislative Update

Several key pieces of legislation were passed in 2025 that affect pharmacy practice in the state of Tennessee. A comprehensive list can be found on our [website](#). A few highlights include the following:

- [Public Chapter 68](#) – Makes certain changes to the practice of pharmacy, including removing the present prohibition on requiring a patient to pay an administrative fee for pharmacist-provided hormonal contraceptives when the patient is insured or covered and receives a pharmacy benefit that covers

the cost of the hormonal contraceptives.

- [Public Chapter 100](#) – Allows a pharmacist or pharmacy technician to petition the Board of Pharmacy after completing a peer assistance or treatment program contract to remove information from the public-facing licensure verification website regarding the adverse action and the order by the relevant board after five years from the completion date of that program or contract indicated in such order.

- [Public Chapter 247](#) – Explicitly allows health professionals to participate in activities associated with fertility treatment and contraception.
- [Public Chapter 266](#) – Grants health care providers the legal right to decline to participate in or fund any health care procedure, treatment, or service that violates their conscience.
- [Public Chapter 346](#) – Authorizes a health care practitioner to prescribe and a pharmacist to dispense a prescribed bronchodilator

2025 Legislative Update

(cont)

rescue inhaler to an authorized entity to be administered to a person believed to be experiencing asthma symptoms or respiratory

distress in an emergency situation, under a standing protocol from the health care practitioner.

- **Public Chapter 390** – Provides clarification on who can provide informed consent for vaccinations for minors.

Nancy Hooper Selected as the 2025 Kendall Matthew Lynch Award Winner

Nancy K. Hooper, DPh, was selected by the Board as the Kendall Matthew Lynch Award for Excellence in Public Health and Regulation recipient for 2025. This award recognizes those individuals whose efforts to protect public health and safety have greatly furthered the goals and objectives

of the Board. Dr Hooper is a seasoned health care professional with a background spanning long-term care, corporate, and community pharmacy settings. She currently serves as the director of the Tennessee Pharmacy Recovery Network (TPRN) and Well-Being Services at the Tennessee

Pharmacists Association. As a former participant in the TPRN, she remains deeply committed to supporting those affected by substance use disorders (SUDs), both personally and professionally.

Supporting the Well-Being of Tennessee's Pharmacy Professionals: TNPSQ and TPRN

The Board's commitment to enhancing the quality of life, health, and safety for the citizens of Tennessee means recognizing that the well-being of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians is essential to the overall health of the communities they serve. Pharmacy professionals in Tennessee face challenges such as high stress, demanding workloads, and risks for SUDs. Recognizing the need for support, Tennessee offers the Tennessee Professional Screening Questionnaire (TNPSQ) to pharmacy personnel through TPRN.

TNPSQ is a confidential, voluntary questionnaire designed to help Tennessee professionals, including pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and student pharmacists, assess well-being and mental health services. TNPSQ provides access to personalized information, recommendations, and options for next steps from licensed mental health professionals who understand the pressures of health care work. The program is anonymous, confidential, and free. Find out more and get started at the [TNPSQ website](#).

The TPRN is contracted by the Board to provide peer-to-peer assistance for pharmacy professionals dealing with SUDs. If pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, or student pharmacists need help with addiction or know an associate who does, they should contact Dr Nancy Hooper, director of TPRN and Well-Being Services, by phone at 615/256-3023 or by email at nancy@tprn.org. An informational link, which includes a reporting form, is located on the [TPRN website](#).

Dispensing of Maintenance Medications Prior to Authorization

Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA) §63-10-207 gives a pharmacist authority to dispense a non-controlled maintenance prescription medication to patients if the prescriber is not available to authorize the prescription. The law states that a pharmacist may, in good faith, dispense to a patient not to exceed a 72-hour supply, if:

1. The patient offers *satisfactory evidence* to the pharmacist that the prescriber has placed the patient on a maintenance medication **and** that such patient is without valid refills or for some valid reason cannot obtain proper authorization; **and**

2. In the judgment of the pharmacist, the health, safety and welfare of the patient would otherwise be endangered. **(emphasis added)**

The law does not further define what constitutes satisfactory evidence, leaving it to the pharmacist's professional judgment to determine whether the evidence presented is sufficient to support dispensing medication pursuant to this statute.

This statute also allows up to a 20-day supply of medications for patients who have been displaced by a disaster, as defined in TCA §58-2-101.

Expired Collaborative Pharmacy Practice Agreements

Collaborative pharmacy practice agreements (CPPAs) are an important part of the practice of pharmacy for many pharmacists throughout Tennessee. CPPAs must be accessible at each practice site where pharmacists are operating under the CPPA in accordance with Board Rule 1140-03-.17(7). CPPAs are frequently

reviewed during periodic Board of Pharmacy inspections, and there has been an increase in the discovery of expired CPPAs. Per Board Rule 1140-03-.17(5) (e), each CPPA must contain a term or expiration date, upon which the agreement will expire if not renewed. In addition, all

agreements must be reviewed and updated at least every two years. Pharmacists practicing under one or more CPPAs should review the agreements for term limits to ensure that renewal occurs prior to expiration and a written attestation has been filed with the Board.

Set Up Delegates in CSMD

Pharmacists can set up delegates, such as pharmacy technicians or pharmacy interns, to check the Controlled Substance Monitoring Database (CSMD) on their behalf. It is important that each pharmacy technician or intern has their own account because individuals are **not** permitted to share passwords. The delegate will start the process by registering for the CSMD at

www.tncsmd.com and choosing the appropriate role (licensed or unlicensed Health Care Extender Pharmacist for pharmacy technician). After picking the appropriate role, the delegate must provide all the required information. To connect to the supervising pharmacist, the registrant will need their supervisor's driver's license number. When this

number is added, the name of the supervisor will appear for selection to add to the registration. Once the registration is completed (either auto-approved or manually approved), the selected supervisor will receive an email communicating that there is a Health Care Delegate waiting for supervisory approval. The supervisor and/or Health Care

Set Up Delegates in CSMD

(cont)

Delegate can “inactivate/revoke” a relationship at any time by logging in to the CSMD and navigating to “My Account” to discontinue the relationship. Pharmacists can review queries performed by delegates.

Reminder: In accordance with TCA §53-10-310, all health care practitioners are required to check the CSMD before prescribing an opioid, benzodiazepine, or Schedule II amphetamine to a human patient at the beginning of

a new episode of treatment, prior to each new prescription for the first 90 days of that treatment and every six months thereafter if that treatment is continued.

Transfer of CS Inventory

During recent inspections and conversations with staff at the CSMD, we have seen pharmacies incorrectly enter transfers of controlled substances (CS), meaning the transfer of physical inventory, as prescriptions that have then been submitted to the CSMD. Transfer of CS should be

done in accordance with [Title 21 Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\) 1307.11](#). An invoice that contains all relevant information should be created, including the name of the substance, the number of units, the name and address of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registrant you are transferring to,

the date, and the name or initials of the pharmacist who transferred the CS. Transfers more than 5% of the total number of dosage units distributed and dispensed in the calendar year are not permitted. A DEA Form 222 must also be completed for Schedule II CS.

Reminder: Background Checks Required to Provide Patient Care

In accordance with TCA §63-1-149, before any person who will be providing direct patient care is hired, for whom a background check has not been completed, health care facilities, emergency

medical services, and individual health professionals are required by law to conduct background checks using the state sex offender registry, the state abuse registry, and the abuse registries

for states in which the prospective employee has lived in the previous seven years. Links to those registries can be found on the Board’s [website](#).

Disciplinary Actions

For disciplinary actions taken against registrants licensed with the Board and other health-related boards, click [here](#).

Report Theft or Significant Loss of CS

Per Title 21 CFR Section 1301.76(b), registrants must notify their local DEA office, in writing, of theft or significant loss of CS within one business day of discovery. Tennessee registrants may

now satisfy this requirement by submitting all relevant information via email to tntheftorloss@USDOJ.gov. Registrants must still complete a DEA Form 106 within 45 days

after discovery of the theft or loss and may do so online via the [DEA website](#). You may satisfy the Board regulation to immediately report theft or loss by sending a copy to pharmacy.health@tn.gov.

Board Meeting Schedule

The Board extends an open invitation for all registrants and the general public to attend its public meetings at 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, TN 37243. The meetings are currently scheduled to begin at 9 AM CT. It is advised to check for schedule changes on the Board website under the [Meeting Schedule](#) tab. These meetings are also live-streamed and recorded, with minutes available after approval from the Board.

To view the Tennessee Board of Pharmacy website, [click here](#).

Tennessee Board of Pharmacy Members

- Dr Marty Blane – President, Pharmacist Member
 - Dr Rebecca Leinart – Vice President, Pharmacist Member
 - Dr M. Kyle Phillips – Pharmacist Member
 - Dr Brooke Mills – Pharmacist Member
 - Dr David Brown – Pharmacist Member
 - Dr Melissa Boruff – Pharmacist Member
 - Dr Shanea McKinney – Pharmacist Member
 - Ms Nichole Foster – Technician Member
 - Mr Jake Bynum – Consumer Member
-
- Dr Lucy Shell – Executive Director

The Tennessee Board of Pharmacy News is published by the Tennessee 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.

Shanea McKinney, PharmD - Tennessee Board of Pharmacy Past-President & Newsletter Editor

Lucy A. Shell, PharmD - Tennessee Board of Pharmacy Executive Director & Newsletter Editor

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

Megan Pellegrini - Publications and Editorial Manager

665 Mainstream Drive | Nashville, TN 37243
<https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/health-professional-boards/pharmacy-board.html>