

ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

*Newsletter to Promote Pharmacy
and Drug Law Compliance.*

Leading Through Change

Throughout the second quarter of 2026, the Alabama State Board of Pharmacy focused on improving transparency, modernizing administrative rules, and addressing emerging issues affecting pharmacists across Alabama.

Engagement

One of the Board's most significant initiatives during the second quarter was increasing accessibility to Board business. Monthly business meetings are now recorded and posted to the [Board's YouTube channel](#), allowing pharmacists, technicians, students, and members of the public to stay informed, regardless of their ability to attend meetings in person. The Board hopes this initiative encourages greater participation in the regulatory process while providing an additional educational resource for licensees throughout Alabama.

The Board also continued its commitment to meeting pharmacists where they practice. Board members and staff participated in several professional meetings, including the Alabama Pharmacy Association Annual Convention & Trade Show and the Alabama Society of Health-System Pharmacists Summer Meeting, where they presented updates on recent regulatory changes, answered questions from pharmacists across the state, and discussed emerging issues affecting pharmacy practice.

*Access the National
Pharmacy Compliance News*

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



Topics included the following:

- Federal cannabis rescheduling efforts
- Emerging peptide products
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) access
- Alternative funding programs
- Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination® updates
- Institutional pharmacy emergency dispensing
- Current rulemaking initiatives

Modernizing Alabama Pharmacy Regulations

Implementation of Act 2025-372 continued throughout the second quarter, as the Board finalized several administrative rule changes and advanced additional proposals through the rulemaking process. Numerous amendments became effective this past spring, including updates addressing Board organization, continuing education requirements, pharmacy permits,

licensing fees, nondisciplinary penalties, and administrative procedures.

The Board also continued developing Alabama's first comprehensive civil penalty schedules. These schedules are intended to create greater consistency, fairness, and transparency by establishing standardized civil penalties

across various license and permit types.

As always, stakeholder participation remains an essential part of Alabama's rulemaking process. Pharmacists and permit holders are encouraged to review proposed rules, attend public hearings, and submit comments before regulations are finalized.

Addressing Compounding Practice Challenges

One practice area that received significant national attention during the second quarter involved compounded glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) medications and peptide products. As nationwide shortages of several GLP-1 medications continued to resolve, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued updated guidance regarding compounding activities under Sections 503A and 503B of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

Pharmacists involved in compounding should remain familiar with current federal guidance, particularly regarding products that are no longer considered to be in shortage.

The Alabama Board of Medical Examiners also recently issued guidance regarding non-FDA-approved "research-grade" peptides. The guidance reminds health care providers that prescription products should

be obtained through appropriately permitted entities and emphasizes that non-approved peptide products should not be prescribed, dispensed, administered, or supplied to patients.

Similarly, compounders are reminded that retatrutide has not been approved by FDA and therefore may not be compounded under current law.

Strengthening Public Safety

Throughout the second quarter, the Board continued collaborating with numerous state agencies on initiatives designed to improve patient safety and reduce unlawful pharmaceutical activity.

One notable enforcement effort was Operation Southern Shield, a statewide initiative led by the Alabama Attorney General's Office, in partnership with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency. The operation resulted in dozens of search warrants and the seizure of nearly 123,000 doses of illegal kratom products from retail and wholesale locations throughout

Alabama. Since 2016, products containing mitragynine or 7-hydroxymitragynine have been classified as Schedule I controlled substances (CS) in Alabama due to their potential for abuse and serious health risks.

The Board also continues receiving reports of fraudulent pharmacy operations and credential misuse schemes.

Recent scams have involved recruiters advertising pharmacist positions requiring little more than allowing a pharmacy to use an Alabama pharmacist license for inspection or credentialing

purposes. Licensees should exercise caution before accepting these arrangements, as allowing another entity to operate using one's professional credentials may expose the pharmacist to significant legal and disciplinary liability.

Likewise, pharmacists should remain vigilant for "pop-up" pharmacies that appear briefly, submit fraudulent third-party claims, and disappear before legitimate operations are established.



Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

The Alabama Department of Public Health continues improving the PDMP through collaboration with pharmacists across the state.

Pharmacies may receive requests to correct reporting errors, with the most common issues involving the following:

- Invalid or missing Drug Enforcement Administration numbers
- Missing patient addresses
- Missing National Drug Codes
- Incomplete reporting of compounded CS

Prompt correction of these issues helps maintain accurate prescribing information and improves the effectiveness of the PDMP as a patient safety tool.

The Board also continues discussing future opportunities to improve pharmacist workflow through expanded PDMP access. While broader delegate access would require legislative changes, discussions among health care stakeholders remain ongoing.

Legislative Update

The 2026 Regular Legislative Session concluded with several measures affecting pharmacy practice. Most notably, legislation continuing the Alabama State Board of Pharmacy through October 2027 was enacted. The legislation also updated

procedures for filling Board vacancies and modified the nominating authority for the at-large pharmacist position.

Several additional pharmacy-related proposals, including bills involving hemp-derived products, ivermectin dispensing, pharmacy

benefit manager terminology, and off-label prescribing protections, did not become law during this session.

The Board will continue monitoring legislation affecting pharmacy practice and provide updates as future sessions begin.

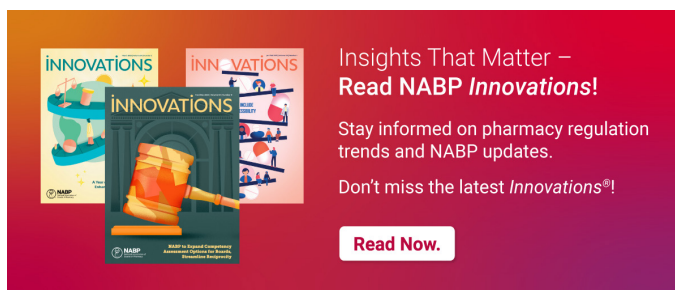
Compliance Corner

A few reminders can help licensees avoid common compliance issues:

- Pharmacy technicians must complete a Board-approved training program within six months of initial registration.
- Employment changes must be updated through the Alabama Board of Pharmacy Licensure Gateway within 10 days.

- Applicants should carefully answer every question on licensure applications. Failure to disclose arrests, even when charges were dismissed or resolved through diversion, can delay registration and require additional Board review.

Thank you for your continued dedication to serving the citizens of Alabama.



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