



COVID-19 Response Efforts - December 17, 2020

The State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy is committed to protecting the health and safety of Ohioans during the COVID-19 outbreak. The Board posted a document on its website that provides COVID-19 guidance and response efforts, including the issuance of waivers to assist licensees in addressing operational needs. **Waivers can be found starting on page 5 of this document:**

www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVID.

For more information on the state's efforts to address coronavirus, visit www.coronavirus.ohio.gov or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH.

New Resolution on Basic Life Support Certification for Vaccine Administration

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy has adopted the following resolution:

In order to ensure pharmacists and pharmacy interns can meet the basic-life support (BLS) training requirements set forth ORC 4729.41 of the Revised Code, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy temporarily suspends in-person training requirements for obtaining BLS in paragraph (M) of rule [4729:1-3-02](#) and (A)(3) of rule [4729:2-3-03](#) of the Administrative Code.

This resolution is being issued in accordance with a Board resolution adopted on May 5, 2020. This resolution shall remain in effect until rescinded by the Board.

As a result of the adoption of this resolution, pharmacists and pharmacy interns may obtain online BLS certification from the following organizations approved by the Board in order to administer vaccinations in accordance with the Ohio vaccination process.

1. The American Red Cross;
2. The American Heart Association; or
3. The American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI)

REMINDER: Ohio's process (as established in law) requires pharmacists and pharmacy interns to obtain BLS certification per ORC 4729.41 (B)(2). As a reminder, BLS requires knowledge and skills in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), using automated external defibrillators (AED) and relieving airway obstructions in patients. Therefore, online BLS trainings taken in accordance with this resolution must include all three of those components.

As stated previously in this guidance, the federal process, established under the PREP Act, only requires the following to provide COVID-19 immunizations:

The licensed pharmacist and licensed or registered pharmacy intern must have a current certificate in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

According to HHS, this requirement is satisfied by, among other things, a certification in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation by an online program that has received accreditation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the ACPE, or the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education.

Text of the resolution has been incorporated into the following FAQ documents:

- Pharmacist and pharmacy intern administration of childhood vaccines during COVID-19 can be accessed here: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/CV2020.
 - Pharmacist and pharmacy intern administration of COVID-19 vaccines can be accessed here: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVIDvaccine.
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Effective 12/16/2020

[Section 4729.515](#) of the Ohio Revised Code, effective 12/16/2020, authorizes a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs (TDDD) to acquire a supply of naloxone, and to maintain the supply at an alternative location, to use in emergency situations or to distribute through an automated mechanism.

To assist licensees in complying with Ohio law, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy has developed the following guidance document: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/NaloxoneAccess
