



**STATE OF
OHIO**
BOARD OF PHARMACY

E-News Update March 2022

Pharmacy Pilot and Research Projects

Effective today, the Board is accepting applications for pharmacy pilot and research projects as outlined under OAC [4729:5-3-20](#). This is an opportunity for licensees seeking the approval of a project for innovative system applications in the practice of pharmacy that are not currently permitted under Board of Pharmacy rules. These projects should expand pharmaceutical care services that contribute to positive patient outcomes.

Additional information and the form required for submission of a proposal can be found on the Board's website: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/research.

OARRS 2021 Annual Report

As the only statewide electronic database that stores all controlled substance dispensing and personal furnishing information, OARRS helps prescribers and pharmacists avoid potentially life-threatening drug interactions as well as identify individuals fraudulently obtaining controlled substances from multiple healthcare providers.

The [OARRS 2021 Annual Report](#) provides data on opioid pain relievers and other controlled substances dispensed by Ohio pharmacies or personally furnished by prescribers in 2021. Highlights from the Report include:

- A record use of OARRS. 63,000 pharmacists and prescribers have instant access to OARRS as part of their workflow thanks to the significant onboarding effort throughout the state.
- The number of opioid doses and prescriptions dispensed to Ohio patients continued to decrease. Total doses of opioids decreased from a high of 793 million in 2012 to 319 million in 2021, a 60 percent decrease. The total number of opioid prescriptions decreased by 7.1 million between 2012 and 2021, a 56 percent decrease.
- The number of benzodiazepine doses and prescriptions dispensed to Ohio patients continued to decrease. Total doses of benzodiazepines decreased from a high of 297 million in 2012 to 159 million in 2021, a 46 percent decrease. The total number of benzodiazepine prescriptions decreased by 1.93 million between 2012 and 2021, a 39 percent decrease.

To learn more about OARRS, please visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/oarrs.

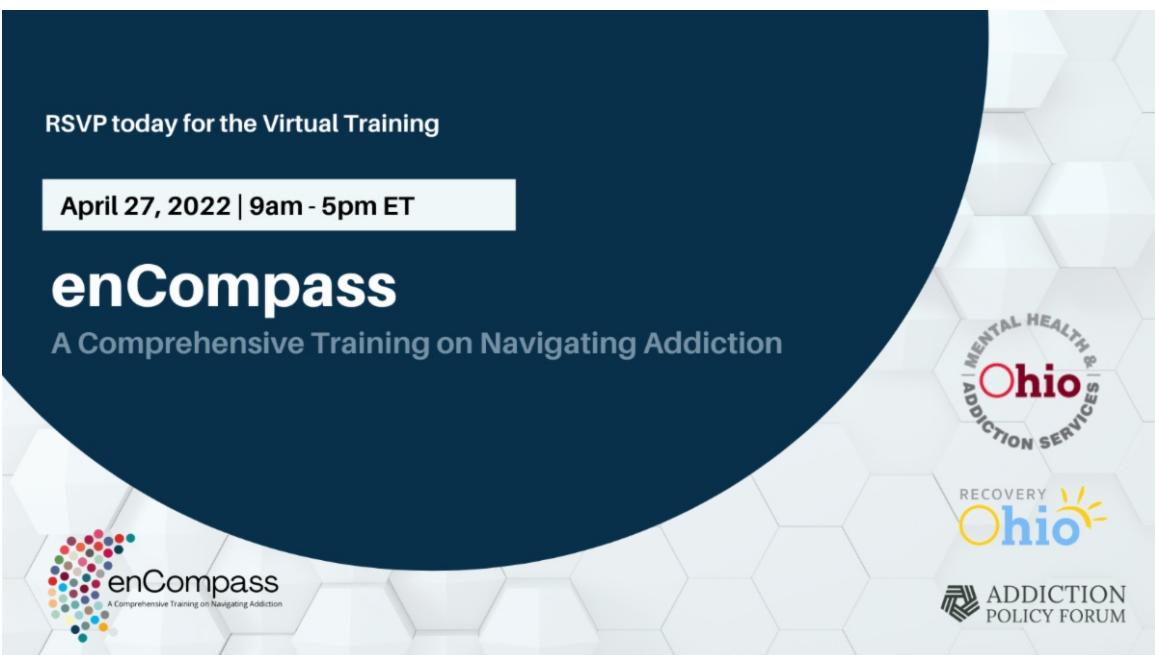
Pharmacist Exam Application Information for 2022 Graduates

With pharmacy schools preparing for graduation, [the Board has published detailed instructions for pharmacy interns on how to apply for a pharmacist license in the State of Ohio](#). Interns are also encouraged to check the status of their license by visiting www.elicense.ohio.gov. Graduates with an Active intern license will still be permitted to work under that license until their pharmacist license is granted.

2022 enCompass Training

RecoveryOhio, Addiction Policy Forum, and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services have created a free and virtual statewide enCompass Training. This training is for adults who want to learn more about navigating addiction and sharpen their

skills when responding and supporting someone struggling with an addiction. To register for the training, visit <https://www.addictionpolicy.org/encompass>.



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