

e-News October 2024

Ohio eLicense License Lookup Feature Down

The license lookup feature of the Ohio eLicense system is currently down. This means the public will not be able to utilize this feature to verify licensure as required by Ohio law (www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/verify).

Please be advised that there are two alternative methods for verifying Ohio Board of Pharmacy licensure:

- 1. The Board's own License Lookup page: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/Lookup (NOTE: You must know the individual or business license number).
- 2. The Board's licensing roster which is available for download by visiting: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/list

The Board will send out an update when the eLicense lookup feature is back in operation.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day - October 26, 2024

On Saturday, October 26, the Drug Enforcement Administration will host DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day at locations across the country. DEA and its partners will collect tablets, capsules, patches, and other solid forms of prescription drugs.

The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the public about the potential for abuse of medications. For more information, please visit: www.DEATakeBack.com.

The Board has also published several resources regarding the disposal of drugs in Ohio. The resources can be found on the Board's website or by following this link: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/disposal.

REMINDER: Submit Your Accessible Services by November 21, 2024

OAC 4729:5-2-05 requires all outpatient pharmacies located in Ohio to submit notification to the Ohio Board of Pharmacy of the types of language translation services, hearing impairment services, and vision impairment services they offer to patients using the Board's accessible services reporting webpage. Pharmacies are required to use this webpage to notify the Board of these accessible services. To submit the services offered by your pharmacy, visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/ASreport

For more information, definitions of the types of accessible services offered, and a step-by-step guide on how to submit and edit your pharmacy's accessible services, visit: https://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/accessreport. If you have any additional questions, please contact the Board via contact@pharmacy.ohio.gov.

IMPORTANT DEADLINE: While the rule is effective August 23, 2024, the requirement to submit notification of accessible services does not take effect until November 21, 2024 (90 days from the effective date of the rule). Therefore, outpatient pharmacies in Ohio will have until November 21, 2024, to submit initial notification of accessible services to the Board.

REMINDER FOR LARGE CHAINS: For companies that must report for multiple pharmacy locations, you can bulk report for all your pharmacy licenses using the webpage. **NOTE:** After your initial bulk submission to report accessible services, you will be unable to make changes for your pharmacies using bulk editing. Any further accessible services updates will have to be made individually for each pharmacy location.

Board Issues Resolutions to Address IV and Peritoneal Dialysis Solution Shortage

The Ohio Board of Pharmacy is aware of the impact Hurricane Helene had to Baxter International's North Cove manufacturing facility in Marion, North Carolina. According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), this facility is one of the largest manufacturers of intravenous and peritoneal dialysis solutions in the United States.

As FDA seeks solutions at the national level, the Ohio Board of Pharmacy is using its enforcement discretion to help Ohio healthcare facilities address patient needs during this challenging time. As of October 11, 2024, the Board has issued the following resolutions:

- Purchase of IV and Peritoneal Dialysis Solutions from Non-Ohio Licensed Out-of-State Facilities (Approved 10/9/2024 / Updated 10/11/2024)
- Non-Patient Specific Drug Compounding by In-State Pharmacies for Hospitals and EMS (Approved 10/11/2024)
- Extension of IV Fluid Hang Times Inside an ISO Class 5 PEC (Approved 10/11/2024)

The resolutions have been incorporated into a single document, which can be accessed here: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/IVshortage.

For more information from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration about these shortages, please visit: **Hurricane Helene: Baxter's manufacturing recovery in North Carolina | FDA**

Pharmacist Continuing Education Reporting Requirements Guidance Updated for 2025 Reporting Period

ORC **4729.12** requires pharmacists to obtain a minimum of 3.0 continuing education units (CEUs) (30 hours) every two years in conjunction with their license renewal. To assist pharmacists in meeting this requirement, the Board updated its guidance for the 2025 reporting period. The guidance can be accessed here: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/CE.

BOARD STAFF DO NOT ASK FOR MONEY OVER THE PHONE OR VIA EMAIL TO RESOLVE PENDING INVESTIGATIONS. WHEN IN DOUBT, PLEASE CONTACT THE BOARD IF YOU BELIEVE YOU ARE THE TARGET OF A SCAM.

The Ohio Board of Pharmacy continues to learn that licensees are being targeted by scammers who claim to work for various governmental agencies (Board of Pharmacy, DEA, FBI, Department of Justice, etc.) to obtain money from the target. The Board strongly encourages licensees to be alert to avoid scammers.

Scammers may try to initiate contact via phone calls, emails, faxes, and letters purporting to originate from various state and federal agencies that include allegations of drug trafficking and threats of suspension against the target's license.

Board of Pharmacy investigators will not ask for fine payment or personal/sensitive information over the phone and will never contact licensees via fax. As a reminder, administrative fines issued by the Board are not paid via gift cards or cryptocurrency. If the Board of Pharmacy is conducting an investigation and that individual faces action against their license, they will receive an official notice of opportunity for a hearing either via certified mail, personal service, or electronic registered mail.

If you are contacted by a scammer, please report this information using the Board's online complaint form: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/complaint. Additionally, reports should be made to your local law enforcement agency.

If you receive any suspicious calls or correspondence purporting to be from the Board of Pharmacy, we encourage you to call (614-466-4143) or email (contact@pharmacy.ohio.gov) the Board to confirm its legitimacy.



People call, text, and chat the 988 Lifeline to talk about a lot of emotional needs—not just thoughts of suicide. Whatever your reason, the #988Lifeline is there to help. There is hope.

Ohio Board of Pharmacy

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