



# Board of Pharmacy

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## e-News April 2025 Vol. 2

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### Verify Your Seller: It's the Law

The Board continues to be concerned with reports and investigations of clinics and other licensees purchasing counterfeit drugs for administration to patients. All pharmacies, clinics, and other healthcare facilities, even those not licensed by the Ohio Board of Pharmacy, are required by law to purchase from licensed drug distributors (such as wholesalers, manufacturers, and outsourcing facilities) and, with limited exceptions, pharmacies.

To ensure that a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs (TDDD) is purchasing from an authorized seller, OAC [4729:5-3-04](#) requires the TDDD to verify the seller is licensed by the Ohio Board of Pharmacy prior to initial purchase and then annually thereafter. Verification should be conducted using [Ohio's eLicense system](#) and must be documented by the licensee (e.g., saving the license verification electronically from eLicense).

As a reminder, licensees **cannot** purchase drugs from the following sources:

- Facebook and other social media sites.
- Internet sellers, unless they are appropriately licensed with the Ohio Board of Pharmacy.
- Other clinics or prescribers, unless both clinics are under the same ownership (this would be considered an intracompany transfer – see OAC [4729:5-3-09](#)).

Purchasing from unlicensed sources endangers the health and safety of your patients and is considered a violation of Ohio law. The Board takes such violations seriously and, in doing so, may subject the licensee to administrative action, including [immediate license suspension](#), and/or criminal sanctions.

To assist our licensees in avoiding the purchase of counterfeit medications, the Board developed the following resource: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/counterfeitpc](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/counterfeitpc).

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### Outpatient Pharmacy Delivery Rules Effective 6/30/2025

Effective 6/30/2025, the Board's new Outpatient Pharmacy Delivery Services rule, OAC [4729:5-5-26](#), goes into effect. The rule applies to all outpatient pharmacies, including non-resident pharmacies, providing delivery services. To assist licensees in complying with this new rule, the Board has made updates to the following inspection guides:

- [Outpatient Pharmacy - Inspection Guide](#)
- [Non-Resident Terminal Distributor of Dangerous Drugs - Inspection Guide](#)

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### Hospice Programs May Now Operate as Institutional Facilities

After a review by the Board at its April 2025 meeting, it has been determined that hospice programs may now operate as institutional facilities. Previously, only the following were considered institutional facilities by the Board:

*A facility providing **inpatient hospice care** operated by a hospice care program licensed under section **3712.04** of the Revised Code.*

Now the institutional facility rules can be applied to all hospice programs licensed under section 3712.04 of the Revised Code. This should provide additional flexibility for hospice staff to take care of patients. For more information on institutional facility rules, please review the Board's Institutional Pharmacy and Facility Inspection Guide (<https://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/ipfinspect>).

Please be advised that hospice programs that are currently operating under the Board's Non-Limited Facility rules (**OAC 4729:5-22**) may still operate under these rules until the Board can make updates to the **rules**. For more information on the Non-Limited Facility rules, visit: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/NLFinspect](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/NLFinspect)

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## New Pharmacy Compliance Specialist Position Available

The Ohio Board of Pharmacy has posted a new position as a Pharmacy Board Specialist for the Southwest Region of Ohio. To review and apply for the position, click here: [https://dasstateoh.taleo.net/careersection/oh\\_ext/jobdetail.ftl?job=2500034U&tz=GMT-04%3A00&tzname=America%2FNew\\_York](https://dasstateoh.taleo.net/careersection/oh_ext/jobdetail.ftl?job=2500034U&tz=GMT-04%3A00&tzname=America%2FNew_York)

Specialists play a critical role in fulfilling the mission of the Board of Pharmacy by being actively involved in the progressive changes within the pharmacy profession. Specialists have the ability to work within an agency that is making positive strides to move the pharmacy profession to a new level of patient care as well as ensuring processes are in place to protect the public.

Qualifications for the position are:

- License to practice pharmacy as pharmacist as issued by State Board of Pharmacy pursuant to Sections 4729.01 to 4729.29 of the Ohio Revised Code;
- 5 years' experience as a registered pharmacist including 3 years of tertiary-level based hospital (ER, OR, ICU, Lab, etc.) experience involving sterile drug compounding, complex automated drug delivery systems, electronic record keeping systems and use of positive identification, or other comparable institutional facility or diversified specialty pharmacy experience; or
- Equivalent of Minimum Class Qualifications For Employment noted in the job posting.

**The final candidate selected for this position is required to live in or relocate to Butler, Clinton, Hamilton, or Warren County within 180 days from effective date of hire.** If you are selected for the Pharmacy Compliance Specialist position, you will be required to complete a 16-week training. This training will take place in Columbus, Ohio and also in the field. Traveling to and from training will be required.

**Application Period Closes: April 23, 2025**

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## Inspection Guide Update & New Sample Compliance Forms Available

The Board has made some updates to the terminal distributor of dangerous drugs (TDDD) inspection guides on our website. All of our inspection guides can be found here: <https://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/Inspection>

The updates are as follows:

- The General Recordkeeping section was updated in all TDDD inspection guides to add a link to a [sample form](#) to help licensees comply with the record keeping requirements for occasional wholesale sales or intra-company transfers.
- The Drug Disposal section was updated in all TDDD inspection guides to add a link to a [sample form](#) to help licensees comply with the record keeping requirements for the disposal of non-controlled dangerous drugs from inventory.
- The Applicability section of the Institutional Pharmacy and Facility inspection guide was updated to clarify that all hospice care programs licensed in accordance with section [3712.04](#) of the Revised Code are considered an institutional facility (see previous article above).
- The outpatient pharmacy and non-resident TDDD inspection guides were updated to add a new section for compliance with the Board's Outpatient Pharmacy Delivery Services Rule, OAC [4729:5-5-26](#) (effective 6/30/2025).

Should you have any questions about these updates, licensees can email [contact@pharmacy.ohio.gov](mailto:contact@pharmacy.ohio.gov).

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## FDA Warns Consumers Not to Use Counterfeit Ozempic (Semaglutide) Found in U.S. Drug Supply Chain

FDA was notified by Novo Nordisk on April 3, 2025, that several hundred units of counterfeit Ozempic (semaglutide) injection 1mg were in the U.S. drug supply chain. The counterfeit products were distributed outside the Novo Nordisk authorized supply chain in the U.S. FDA seized the identified counterfeit products on April 9, 2025.

FDA is aware of six adverse event reports associated with this lot, however none of them appear to be associated with the counterfeit product. All six adverse events were reported by Novo Nordisk.

For more information, visit: <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-warns-consumers-not-use-counterfeit-ozempic-semaglutide-found-us-drug-supply-chain>

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## DEADLINE IS APRIL 30, 2025: Applications Open for the Ohio Board of Pharmacy's Rules Review Committee

The Ohio Board of Pharmacy's Rules Review Committee is responsible for reviewing all rules prior to their legislatively mandated five-year review date. The Committee is composed of twelve Ohio licensed pharmacists in good standing and will meet this fall for a half-day virtual meeting (via Microsoft Teams).

For more information about the Committee, including how to apply, visit: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/RR25](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/RR25)

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## Be Vigilant - Watch Out for Scammers!

**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](http://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](mailto: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.***

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Ohio Board of Pharmacy  
**Mike DeWine**, Governor | **Steven W. Schierholt**, Executive Director

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