



CRNA DEA Registration Guidance

Updated 4/30/2026

Effective June 9, 2026, [HB 52](#) (136th General Assembly) eliminates the current requirement that a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) practice **under the supervision** of a physician, podiatrist, or dentist. Instead, it will require a CRNA to **practice in collaboration** with such a provider.

NOTE: A certified registered nurse anesthetist is still not permitted to prescribe a drug for use outside of the healthcare facility (e.g., outpatient prescription) where the nurse practices.

To assist CRNAs in complying with state and federal laws regarding the requirement to hold a DEA registration, the Board of Pharmacy prepared this guidance document.

For any additional questions regarding CRNA scope of practice, please contact the Ohio Board of Nursing: <https://nursing.ohio.gov/help-center>

For information about registering with the DEA, visit:

<https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drugreg/registration.html>

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1) Are CRNAs in Ohio permitted to prescribe controlled substances for outpatient use (outside the location where the CRNA practices)?

No. Ohio law (current and effective on June 9, 2026) prohibits CRNAs from prescribing a drug for use outside the location where the CRNA practices.

Q2) Are CRNAs able to obtain a mid-level practitioner controlled substance registration from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)?

Yes. CRNAs are a “licensed health professional authorized to prescribe drugs” or “prescriber” under section 4729.01 of the Revised Code and may obtain a mid-level DEA registration to prescribe controlled substances, but only to the extent of the nurse's authority under section [4723.43](#) of the Revised Code.

REMINDER: Ohio law prohibits CRNAs from prescribing a drug for use outside the location where the CRNA practices.

Q3) I am a CRNA and work in a hospital setting, am I able to use the DEA registration of the hospital to prescribe and administer controlled substances?

Yes. Pursuant to federal regulations, CRNAs that are employed by or serve as agents (e.g., contractors) of a hospital or other institutional facility may not be required to obtain a mid-level registration from the Drug Enforcement Administration to prescribe and administer controlled substances and may utilize the institutional DEA registration of the facility where they are employed or contracted. Specifically, federal regulations authorize the following:

21 CFR §1301.22 Exemption of agents and employees; affiliated practitioners.

...

(c) An individual practitioner who is an agent or employee of a hospital or other institution may, when acting in the normal course of business or employment, administer, dispense, or prescribe controlled substances under the registration of the hospital or other institution which is registered in lieu of being registered him/herself, provided that:

(1) Such dispensing, administering or prescribing is done in the usual course of his/her professional practice;

(2) Such individual practitioner is authorized or permitted to do so by the jurisdiction in which he/she is practicing;

(3) The hospital or other institution by whom he/she is employed has verified that the individual practitioner is so permitted to dispense, administer, or prescribe drugs within the jurisdiction;

(4) Such individual practitioner is acting only within the scope of his/her employment in the hospital or institution;

(5) The hospital or other institution authorizes the individual practitioner to administer, dispense or prescribe under the hospital registration and designates a specific internal code number for each individual practitioner so authorized. The code number shall consist of numbers, letters, or a combination thereof and shall be a suffix to the institution's DEA registration number, preceded by a hyphen (e.g., APO123456-10 or APO123456-A12); and

(6) A current list of internal codes and the corresponding individual practitioners is kept by the hospital or other institution and is made available at all times to

other registrants and law enforcement agencies upon request for the purpose of verifying the authority of the prescribing individual practitioner.

NOTE: In addition to federal regulations, the Board of Pharmacy has authorized this practice in OAC [4729:5-3-15](#).

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- The decision to utilize the institutional DEA registration is that of the registration holder. Therefore, hospitals and other institutional facilities may still require CRNAs to obtain their own DEA registrations.
- Use of an institution's DEA registration does not permit CRNAs from prescribing a drug for use outside the location where the CRNA practices.
- Please be advised that CRNAs operating in clinics and dental practices **do not** fall under this institutional exemption.
- If a CRNA maintains their own supply of controlled substances (ex. provides mobile anesthesia services to clinics), that supply of controlled substances must be maintained at a location licensed as a [Category 3 Terminal Distributor of Dangerous Drugs](#).
- This guidance is subject to change upon further review by the DEA.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

1. DEA Practitioner Manual (Revised 2023) -
[https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/GDP/\(DEA-DC-071\)\(EO-DEA226\)Practitioner's Manual \(final\).pdf](https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/GDP/(DEA-DC-071)(EO-DEA226)Practitioner'sManual(final).pdf)
2. DEA Controlled Substance Registration page:
<https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drugreg/registration.html>