

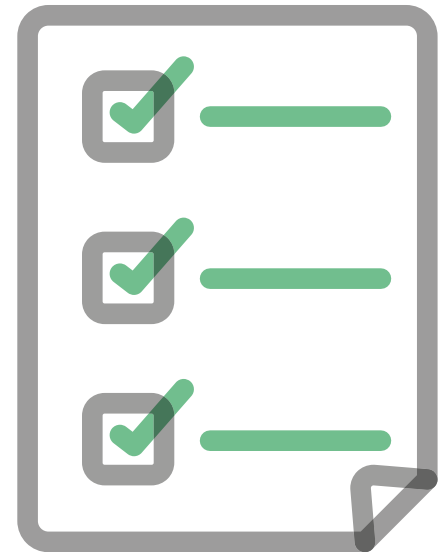


THE SCRIPT

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF PHARMACY

MS BOP UPDATES

The Board voted at the March meeting to suspend the live CE requirement for 2021. Additionally, the opioid requirement will be changing soon. The five-hour requirement will now be two. This will go into effect on May 8, 2021. Please continue to check your email from the MSBOP and follow us on social media for updates.



Gabapentin Update

The Mississippi Board of Pharmacy has declared gabapentin to be a drug of concern. All prescriptions dispensed for gabapentin shall be reported to the MSPMP effective May 1, 2021. Please notify your software vendor of this change to make the necessary updates for reporting. An updated dispenser guide will be posted to the Clearinghouse as well as pmp.mbp.ms.gov. Please email mspmpassist@mbp.ms.gov with any questions you may have.

The MS PMP is now able to collect the sold date for dispensations from your software. This information will now display between the written date and sold date on your patient's profile. The 'Sold Date' field is not required to be reported to the MSPMP. Should you not see any information in the sold dated field on your patient's PMP record, this does not mean the patient has not picked up the prescription. Another enhancement made to the MSPMP is the partial fill indicator. A "P" indicator will display next to the RX number. Upon hovering over the "P" indicator, the following text will display - "This was a partial fill."

Always call or email with any questions mspmpassist@mbp.ms.gov 601-899-0138 or visit our website at www.pmp.mbp.ms.gov.

ALL THINGS LICENSING

Thank you

We appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation over the last few months as we moved to our new licensing system. We are still perfecting our system, and with your help, we are identifying ways to make the process better. We value your input, so please feel free to share any suggestions to make the system better.



WE'VE GONE PAPERLESS!

All applications, renewals, address changes, PIC/DR changes, name changes, etc., are now submitted through the [Licensing Gateway](#). Changes that require additional documentation may now be uploaded into your [gateway portal](#). Our staff is ready to assist you should there be any problems, but please be patient. We receive numerous phone calls and emails a day and will return to you as soon as we can.

Pharmacist Fill Up

- CE Requirements have changed for 2021! See the information in the compliance section for the update.
- If you are a PIC, your facility information will be displayed under your gateway profile. To manage, click the facility permit tile to make changes.

Tech Bite

- At this time the Board has relaxed the requirement for national certification for pharmacy technicians for board registration. However, this does not supersede employment requirements.
- When uploading a picture, a "selfie" is fine as long as it is professional. Do not upload full body photos, family photos, anything with filters, or indecent photos.

Facility Highlight

- Duplicate copies of permits may be downloaded via the Gateway at anytime by the PIC, DR, or permit holder. Click on the permit tile and select "Print Wall Certificate" under PERMIT OPTIONS on the lower left.
- All DR's must register via the Gateway. The DR may assign an admin to manage certain aspects of the online record, but the admin must have their own login and password.



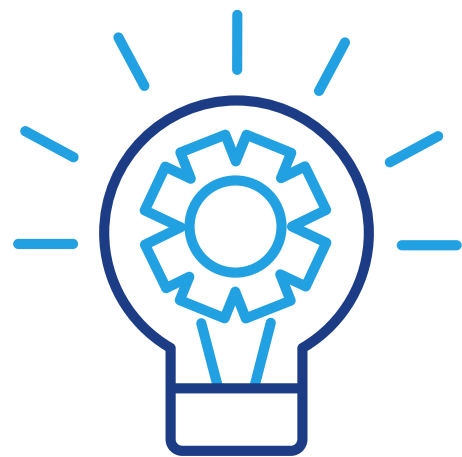
If you are a PIC and you have fingerprint cards in your possession used for new applicants, please send them back to the Board or discard them. They can no longer be used.

Student Sidebar Chatter

- The Student Extern/Intern Controlled Substance Registration is six months from the prospective graduation date. Register with the Gateway to access your registration.
- Graduating students must log into the gateway and register if you have not already done so. Use your registration number as the license number and submit. Staff will mail you a fingerprint card. Please follow the directions to the letter.



Compliance Updates



It's Inventory Time Again!

Every facility permitted by the Mississippi Board of Pharmacy shall take an annual inventory of all controlled substances on hand on May 1 but no later than May 15. A facility may conduct the controlled substance inventory at another date so long as the annual inventory is conducted during the same period each year. This inventory shall be maintained with the other controlled substance records of the facility.

Licensing System

Our new licensing system is active. Your patience through this process has been greatly appreciated. By accessing the Gateway, many tasks may be initiated/accomplished, such as: all applications, change of address, change of employment, renewals, closure of a permit, and PIC change. Pharmacists in Charge may manage the employees in their facility, indicating that an employee has terminated employment, begun employment, etc. Documents required now should be uploaded through the system and not be mailed/emailed to the office.

Pharmacists' Continuing Education for 2021

The Board has suspended the LIVE requirement for 2021 due to COVID; additionally, the Board has reduced the required number of CE hours related to opioid abuse and prevention or some other drug of abuse or other addiction-related issues from 5 hours annually to 2 hours annually. This change will go into effect on May 8, 2021.

Board of Pharmacy Impersonations

The Compliance Division is still receiving calls regarding individuals impersonating Board of Pharmacy representatives. Please do not send any information to these individuals. Please contact the Board office for verification of correspondence.



Visit the Frequently Asked Questions section of our website www.mbp.ms.gov to take advantage of a great resource for locating answers to questions and issues you may encounter. For further assistance, please feel free to email licensing@mbp.ms.gov.

A yellow spotlight beam shines from the top left corner onto the title.

Spotlight *on* Pharmacy Benefit Managers

By: Steve Parker, PBM Administrator, Mississippi Board of Pharmacy

We are receiving numerous questions regarding HB 708 and the changes to the Pharmacy Prompt Pay Act and how to file a complaint. If you have questions, please contact me at sparker@mbp.ms.gov or 601-899-8880. If you have an under-cost reimbursement issue, please follow through with the PBM appeal process and save all documentation related to the appeal including notes relating to phone calls. Please file these documents, along with your complaint.

We will also need a copy of your invoice proving your cost to move the complaint forward. I am also asked what information we ask from a PBM through the application and reporting process.

Although the application forms are public records the answers to the questions have been determined by the MS Attorney General's office to be protected and not part of public record. Below are some of the items we require them to report to us annually:

- **FINANCIAL REPORTING**

- A financial statement of the organization, including its balance sheet and income statement for the preceding year.
- If the pharmacy benefit manager is audited annually by an independent certified public accountant, a copy of the certified audit report.
- A list of the names and addresses of all insurers, providers, or payors with which the PBM had an agreement during the preceding fiscal year.
- A total number of contracts with entities doing business in Mississippi.
- A list of any acquisitions of Mississippi pharmacies or other entities completed during the fiscal year.
- Average days to pay after clean claim submission (nationally as well as specific to Mississippi).
- Average days to pay after clean claim re-submission (nationally as well as specific to Mississippi).
- Claim denial rate as a percentage of total claims (nationally as well as specific to Mississippi).
- Total revenues/fees associated with Mississippi.

- **INITIAL AND RENEWAL APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSE.**

- Specific and direct corporate contact information.
- Has the Applicant been refused registration, license, or certification to act as (or provide the services of) a Pharmacy Benefit Manager, Pharmacy Benefit Management Plan, Pharmacy Benefits Processor, Third Party Administrator, Third Party Provider, etc., or has any registration, license, or certification to act as such been denied, suspended, revoked or non-renewed for any reason by any state or federal entity?
- Has the Applicant ever been found liable in any lawsuit or arbitration proceeding involving allegations of fraud, illegal or dishonest activities in connection with the administration of pharmacy benefit management services?
- Has the Applicant had a business relationship with an insurance company, provider, or payor terminated for any alleged fraudulent, illegal, or dishonest activities in connection with the administration of pharmacy benefit management services?
- Does the applicant hold any other licenses, registrations, or permits in Mississippi?
- Is the applicant currently undergoing an examination or audit (whether routine, targeted, or otherwise) being conducted by any state or federal regulatory authority?
- Does the PBM conduct audits, and do they follow the Pharmacy Audit Integrity Act?
- If the applicant contracts with an entity for audit services, provide a copy of the contract(s) with those entities.
- The PBM Grievance policy and procedure.

(Continued)

- Does the PBM comply with the Pharmacy Prompt Pay Act?
- Does the PBM own, operate or affiliate with any pharmacy located outside the State of Mississippi that ships, mails or delivers in any manner, controlled substances, prescription, or legend drugs or devices into this State?
- Does the PBM pay any representative given discretion as to the settlement, adjustment of claims, or audit of claims, whether in direct negotiations with the claimant or in the supervision of the person negotiating, a compensation which is in any way contingent upon the amount of the settlement of such claims?
- A certified record of "Certificate of Good Standing" from the Office of the Mississippi Secretary of State.
- A Certificate of Good standing from the appropriate official State entity where the Pharmacy Benefit Manager, company or organization is domiciled.
- A report containing the details of any suspension, sanction, penalty, regulatory, consent agreement, or other similar action relating to the Pharmacy Benefit Manager, controlling company or organization, in the State of Mississippi or any other state, territory, or country.
- A list of the PBMs management and owners.
- A complete list of all BIN#'s, IIN#'s, PCN#'s, and Payer Details currently associated with your company as of the date of this application.
- A description of the geographical services area of the Pharmacy Benefit Manager.
- The number of total enrollees or lives served under all the Pharmacy Benefit Manager's contracts or agreements in Mississippi (separately) and nationwide (inclusively).
- Your contingency plan describing how contracted Pharmacy Benefit services will be provided in the event of insolvency of the PBM.
- Attach a complete chart/list of the ownership structure of the PBM.
- A copy of the PBM's standard, generic contract used for pharmacies or pharmacy services
- INITIAL APPLICATIONS ONLY - All organizational documents of Articles of Incorporation, Partnership Agreements, trade name certificates, trust agreements, and amendments to those documents.
- A signed attestation from the CEO attesting to the information being true and correct.

Again, if you have questions, please contact me at sparker@mbp.ms.gov or 601-899-8880.

Steve Parker
PBM Administrator

Stay Connected

