



MARCH 2018 NEWSLETTER

AVAILABILITY OF NEWSLETTERS

Please post or make this newsletter available to all pharmacy employees. It will also be available on the Board of Pharmacy website at: www.mbp.ms.gov.

THE MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF PHARMACY IS GOING GREEN!

In an effort to reduce paper and continue being good stewards of our state resources, the MBP is going green. All renewal notifications and reminders will now be delivered via email. **We will no longer be mailing hard copy renewals in bulk as we have in the past.** Should you need a hardcopy renewal, please contact our office and we will be happy to assist you. All notifications will be emailed from Licensing@mbp.ms.gov.

This is a great time to update your email address with the Board Office. **It is your responsibility to notify the MBP when your contact information changes including an update to your email address.** To update your email address, please send an email to Licensing@mbp.ms.gov that includes: Name/Facility Name, Permit/License/Registration Number, and current Email Address.

Pharmacist Licensed in this State must keep the Board informed as to his/her current mailing address and place of employment.

PHARMACY TECHNICIANS

ARTICLE VIII, RESPONSIBILITY OF PHARMACIST/PHARMACIST CARE, paragraph 1., C., (6), of the Pharmacy Practice Regulations requires that Pharmacy Technicians in the dispensing area be readily identifiable. The supervising Pharmacist may be subject to disciplinary action by the Board for failing to assure that all Pharmacy Technicians are identified. In addition, Pharmacy Technicians may also be individually subject to disciplinary action by the Board for failure to wear a name tag while on duty identifying him or her as such.

The Pharmacy Technician/Pharmacist Ratio remains 3:1 and applies to all locations permitted by the Board.

Those technicians that obtained a **new** registration on or after April 1, 2011, must successfully pass the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board Exam (PTCB) or the ExCpt Exam prior to their first renewal of the registration. Thereafter, this Certification must be maintained as specified or required by the examining authority. If a Pharmacy Technician has failed to renew their Registration as a result of failure to pass the required certification exams they can no longer perform technician duties. In addition to the Certification requirements, the Technician is still required to maintain a Pharmacy Technician Registration issued by the Board.

Both an active Pharmacy Technician Registration issued by the Mississippi Board of Pharmacy and an active national certification must be maintained for a pharmacy technician to be allowed to perform technician duties. Be sure to verify the expiration date of the national certification. This can be verified on the License Verification tab of the Mississippi Board of Pharmacy website (<https://elicense.mbp.state.ms.us/portal.aspx>). If Inactive status is viewed, this individual may not have a current national certification and shall not conduct any pharmacy technician functions until Active status is obtained. Please direct inquiries to the Licensing Division at Licensing@mbp.ms.gov or 601-899-8880.

Any Pharmacy Technician registration that has not been renewed by March 31, 2018, becomes null and void after that date and the Technician shall not perform Pharmacy Technician duties in the pharmacy dispensing or drug storage area until such time as the registration is renewed.

Each Pharmacy Technician registered by the Board must notify the Board in writing within ten (10) days of change of employment or change of address. The notification shall contain his/her name, new mailing address, registration number, the name of the pharmacy where formerly employed, and the name of the pharmacy where currently employed or the current employment status (including the fact that you may not be working as a Technician.)

If a Technician fails to notify the Board office of changes in his/her employment status and the Technician attempts to renew an expired registration, the Board will assess back fees. There are no exceptions granted to this policy.

ANNUAL CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE INVENTORY

As required by regulation, every pharmacy in Mississippi that maintains and dispenses controlled substances shall conduct an annual controlled substance inventory between May 1 and May 15, or at some other time to conform with DEA regulations. The required inventory must be taken each year and applies to all facilities that maintain and dispense controlled substances including institutional facilities. The perpetual inventory maintained by institutional facilities does not satisfy nor take the place of the inventory requirements. If you have questions concerning alternative inventory dates, please contact the Board Compliance Division. The controlled substance inventory should be conducted before opening or after the closing of business. **Please do not attempt to conduct the inventory during open business hours.** The controlled substance inventory document must contain the following information: the name, address, and DEA registration number of the facility, the date taken, whether the count was taken at the beginning or close of business, and the signature of the person responsible for the count. If you choose to utilize a computer-generated inventory, you must reconcile and confirm on hand counts of controlled substances with the inventory. Please include prescription items containing pseudoephedrine or ephedrine and butalbital. A copy of the annual controlled substance inventory should be maintained with the other controlled substance records of the facility and accessible to Pharmacy Board personnel on request.

REPORTING OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE LOSSES

ARTICLE XXV, INVENTORY REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, paragraph 1., of the Pharmacy Practice Regulations requires that if a facility has a loss of controlled substances by **Burglary** that such incident shall be reported directly to the Board **Immediately** at 601-899-8880. In addition, please contact Lt. John Harless with the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics regarding a **Burglary** or **Attempted Burglary, Immediately On Discovery**, at 601-466-5471 or 1-800-844-6272, **regardless of time, Day or Night.** Investigation of these burglaries is a priority of the Bureau as there is a possibility that these burglaries may be connected. This does not preclude reporting of the Burglary to your local law enforcement agency or to the U. S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

USP 795 AND 797 COMPLIANCE

The Regulations regarding USP 795 and USP 797 have now been final for over a year. Our Compliance Agents are inspecting facilities for compliance with USP 795 and 797. If you are compounding, please review USP 795 and USP 797 to ensure you are following these standards.

REGULATIONS

From time to time, The Board will revise and/or amend regulations. Please refer to the website for the current regulations. (<http://www.mbp.ms.gov/Pages/Regulations.aspx>)