



THE SCRIPT

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF PHARMACY

Issue XXV

July 2025

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Our next regularly scheduled board meetings for 2025 will be held on:

- July 10
- September 18
- November 20

at the Board of Pharmacy's office located at 6311 Ridgewood Road, Suite E 401 Jackson, MS. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m.

PHARMACY PRACTICE ACT CHANGES

The 2025 Legislative Session resulted in the reauthorization of the MS Pharmacy Practice Act with HB 856. You can read the act as a whole [here](#) or see a highlight of substantive updates [here](#).

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**WE'RE
HIRING!**

PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER COMPLIANCE DIRECTOR

About the Position

This position will oversee PBM compliance, policy development, and administrative actions as directed by legislative authority regarding PBM activities, as outlined in the MS Pharmacy Benefit Prompt Pay Act, the Pharmacy Benefit Audit Integrity Act, and other applicable state and federal laws and regulations. The individual will serve as the agency's primary point of contact with internal and external stakeholders for PBM matters.

Preferred Qualifications

Pharmacist Candidates: State licensure as a pharmacist with 5 years of experience. Candidates should possess a high level of knowledge of the PBM landscape with related experience.

Non-Pharmacist Candidates: Typically requires a bachelor's degree with 8 years of experience, including 5 years of supervisory experience. An advanced degree may be used as a substitute for years of experience and/or supervisory experience. Pharmacy or PBM-related experience preferred.

[Click here to learn more about the position and apply before July 18, 2025.](#)

FAREWELL MESSAGES

As I depart from my position as attorney for the Mississippi Board of Pharmacy, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all the staff members who have made my journey enjoyable and memorable. I also want to thank each Board member that has served during my period of employment. My interactions with you have enlightened my understanding of the practice of pharmacy. While I know it is not feasible for most, I would like to encourage all pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to try to attend a board meeting if the opportunity arises. Most board meetings are educational, entertaining, funny, sad, and generally short. You should endeavor to get to know how the governing body for the profession of pharmacy in this great State works. My desire is for the pharmacy community of Mississippi to grow and prosper.

David Scott, Legal Counsel



Wow!! Leave it to the powers that be to assign one of my most difficult tasks as one of my last assignments. How do you choose what remarks to make about an almost 27-year affiliation with an organization? I think I will focus on thoughts of gratitude and thankfulness.

The list of gratitude and thankfulness has to include the small-town pharmacists that were my inspiration, the professors and faculty at the Ole Miss School of Pharmacy that enabled that inspiration to come to fruition as well as all the Board Members, Executive Directors, Compliance Agents and Board Staff that have inspired, educated and trained me throughout the years.

It also includes my friends and colleagues in local, state, regional, and national organizations, law enforcement, and other regulatory agencies with whom I have had interactions. Thank you all for allowing me to learn from you and participate in discussions and debates.

To my registrants that have had to endure inspections and other interactions with me, I thank you for being receptive to comments made. I hope I have helped you understand regulations and patient safety more completely.

And, most importantly, I must thank my family and friends, without whom this endeavor would not have been possible.

Thank you, each and every one, for leading me to my best possible career (short of ice cream taste tester or golf course tester!). Take care of yourselves and stay safe!

Raymond



COMPLIANCE CHECK



ARE YOU RENEWAL READY?

Pharmacist licenses, Pharmacy, Controlled Substance Registrations, Compounding Certificates, Institutional Emergency Kit, and Drug Facility permits are all scheduled to be renewed by December 31, 2025. The renewal portal will open in mid-August. Go ahead and prepare for your renewal NOW!

We recommend submitting your renewal application no later than December 1, 2025 to allow time for review and any needed follow-up prior to December 31, 2025.

PREPARE

- **Pharmacist:** Know your username and log in for the Gateway. Have CE documentation for January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 readily available should you be audited.
- **Pharmacies:** Be prepared to submit renewal documents (PIC attestation, MS or home state Secretary of State certificate, inspection within past 24 months, reverse distributors, etc)
- **Controlled Substance Registrations:** Update your DEA registration on file (if applicable)
- **Compounding Certificates:** Submit a detailed compounding inspection performed within the past 24 months.
- **Emergency Kits (IEMK's):** Submit the list of medications contained in your kit(s) and your services offered.

COMBAT METHAMPHETAMINE EPIDEMIC ACT OF 2005 (CMEA)

If your pharmacy dispenses ephedrine and/or pseudoephedrine (list chemicals) as behind the counter products without a prescription, please review the CMEA requirements. DEA requires self-certification and training be done for each retail location where these list chemicals are sold without a prescription.

(References: DEA Pharmacist Manual, CMEA, Title 21 CFR 1314)

- [https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/GDP/\(DEA-DC-046R1\)\(EO-DEA154R1\)_Pharmacist's_Manual_DEA.pdf](https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/GDP/(DEA-DC-046R1)(EO-DEA154R1)_Pharmacist's_Manual_DEA.pdf)
- [CMEA Main Page](#)
- <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-21/chapter-II/part-1314/subpart-B/section-1314.35>

MISSISSIPPI

PREScription MONITORING PROGRAM

Update



ERROR CORRECTION

All errors in the PMP are required to be corrected. Please ensure your pharmacy is receiving your daily report from PMP Clearinghouse that contains the submission information. Please refer to the [Data Submission Guide](#) should you need assistance.

-TAKE NOTE -

Controlled substances II-V are to be reported to the MS PMP with the prescriber's valid DEA number. **Please ensure your facility is not sending these prescriptions without the DEA number (example: only NPI, state license etc.)** In the future, any controlled substance prescription sent to the MS PMP database without a valid DEA number will receive a warning and eventually a rejection. Should you have any questions, please email the [MS PMP](#).

CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY



For 1 hour of free ACPE continuing education credit for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians, please visit [Talem Health Website](#). This CE was developed in partnership with the National Association of State Controlled Substance Authorities and 12 prescription monitoring programs. This program will provide insight into how pharmacy staff's data entry process affects prescription monitoring program data, clinical decision making, and downstream data analysis.

REMINDER

- Report any suspicion of diversion to the appropriate authority or contact the PMP directly if unsure.
- Individuals needing a copy of their PMP report must contact the MS PMP and follow the steps.
- PMP reports cannot be shared.
- **Users are prohibited from forwarding PMP reports to any entity or individual**
- Notify the MS PMP if your permit is inactive or closed, or if your pharmacy's DEA number changes.

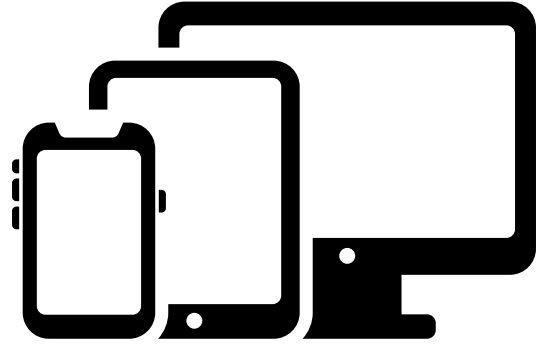
For questions, reach out at 601-899-0138, mspmpassist@mbp.ms.gov, or visit www.pmp.mbp.ms.gov.

ALL THINGS LICENSING



DEVICES MATTER

When using the online system, **on a cell phone or tablet** (any device other than a desktop or laptop), make sure to use the drop-down menu (scroll feature). We are finding that all the application options or other capabilities may not be visible on certain devices. We have had individuals submit the wrong application due to not fully being able to see that the scroll bar is available and functional on their electronic device. If you encounter any such issue, please feel free to contact our Licensing Division. We are more than happy to assist you.



RENEWALS:

The pharmacy technician renewal period concluded on March 31, 2025.

However, the option to renew is still available. Any renewals submitted after this date will include a late fee.



The portal is now closed for the Durable Medical Equipment Suppliers (DME) renewal period. Renewals completed after June 30, 2025, will include a late fee. If you do not wish to renew and/or need to close the facility's permit, please log into the Gateway and submit a "Close Facility" application request at no charge. You will be required to upload supporting documentation regarding the closure request for staff approval.

Our Licensing Division is readily available to assist with any renewal questions and/or Gateway issues. Do not hesitate to contact us.

DON'T FORGET

DBA NAMES

When completing renewal or amendment applications, **leave the DBA name field blank if your facility does not have a DBA name or DBA name change**. In addition, please do not re-enter the facility's legal name as the DBA name.

ALL THINGS LICENSING



PHARMACIST FILL UP

Reminder: To obtain a wallet card, you may log into your Gateway profile, download the card, and print it if desired. Requests for duplicate wall certificates can be made by logging into your Gateway profile and submitting a duplicate certificate application request. There is a \$25.00 processing fee.

Your profile can be updated at any time on the Gateway. For name changes, submit a name change request and upload the required documentation for staff approval. All employment and address changes can also be made on the Gateway. For assistance with the online system, contact our Licensing Division at (601) 899-8880.

TECH BITE

Changes and updates can be made to your profile any time by logging into the Gateway and submitting the desired change request. For name changes, submit a name change request and upload the required documentation for staff approval. All employment and address changes can also be made on the Gateway. For assistance with the online system, contact our Licensing Division at (601) 899-8880. If you have not already done so, please create a profile with NABP at www.nabp.pharmacy. This account is FREE and will assign you a NABP e-Profile ID number, which you will need to report to our office by telephone or email (licensing@mbp.ms.gov).

Student Sidebar Chatter

Changes and updates can be made to your profile at any time by logging into the Gateway and submitting the desired change request. For name changes, submit a name change request and upload the required documentation for staff approval. All employment and address changes can also be made on the Gateway. For assistance with the online system, contact our Licensing Division at (601) 899-8880.

Your student intern/extern-controlled substance registration card should expire one (1) year from your anticipated graduation date. If this date does not correlate with this guideline, please contact our licensing division for correction. If you have not already done so, please create a profile with NABP at www.nabp.pharmacy. This account is FREE and will assign you a NABP e-Profile ID number, which you will need to report to our office by telephone or email (licensing@mbp.ms.gov).

***Please notify the Board should you withdraw from pharmacy school. Student Intern/Extern registrations will become inactive upon withdrawal. Should you want to apply for a pharmacy technician registration, you will be required to petition the Board for permission to do so.**

FACILITY HIGHLIGHT

Changes to your permit (i.e., PIC/DR changes, address changes, business name changes, and/or ownership changes) can be made by logging into the Gateway and submitting a “Facility Amendment” application. Supporting documentation uploaded may be required for staff approval. For DR changes, make sure to mail your fingerprint card to the address indicated on the instruction sheet as soon as possible. Failure to do so will result in the expiration of your application. For assistance with the online system, contact our Licensing Division at 601-899-8880.

PIC/DR changes must be completed in a timely manner to prevent any interruption in operation. Make sure that there are two emails listed on the record (one for the PIC/DR and one for an admin, if the PIC/DR vacates his/her position). This will ensure that all renewal notices and notices regarding the PIC/DR change application process and any other application will be received by the facility.

**MAKE SURE EACH USER HAS HIS/HER OWN PROFILE, USERNAME AND PASSWORD.
PROFILES/PASSWORDS SHOULD NOT BE SHARED. THE LICENSING DIVISION WILL NOT GIVE ACCESS TO A PROFILE TO ANYONE EXCEPT THE PROFILE OWNER.**

This protects the user as well as the integrity of the information in our system. If more than one user accesses the same profile through means of shared credentials, it puts the individual whose name is on the profile as well as the data accessed to be open to vulnerabilities. If any malicious activities occur, identifying which users are responsible for the act(s) may pose a challenge. Again, this is to protect the user as well as the entity(s) that the users are accessing.

NOTE: In cases where there is a DR change, a new profile must be created for the new incoming DR. The previous DR’s profile cannot be edited to change the name to reflect the incoming DR’s name.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please be on the lookout for upcoming videos or tutorials that will be posted on our Facebook page, users’ Gateway profile, and YouTube to provide guidance on how to navigate through the License Gateway and information on questions that users may have.

Spotlight on Pharmacy Benefit Managers

CVS SETTLEMENT FROM MARCH 27, 2025, BOARD MEETING

Per the settlement notification, the window for filing an initial individual appeal remains open until August 24, 2025, for eligible claims adjudicated between January 1, 2023, and March 27, 2025. Individual claim appeals should be made via the CVS Caremark Pharmacy Portal at rxservices.cvscaremark.com.

Pertinent Timelines of Action for this Notification

	Pharmacy Action	CVS Caremark Timeline
Filing a Claim Appeal Report	5/24/2025	120 days post receipt
Filing an Individual Appeal	8/24/2025	60 days post receipt
Reviewing Previously Filed Appeals	No action required	7/25/2025
Payment of \$200 to affected pharmacies	No action required	4/26/2025

ESI SETTLEMENT

The Express Scripts settlement deadline for filing claims was April 21, 2025. For pharmacies that filed a Claim Appeals Report and have not received payment, ESI has 90 days to provide payment for approved reports. If you have any questions or have not received payment 90 days post-submission, please reach out to Board PBM staff at pbmadmin@mbp.ms.gov or call 601-899-8880.

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