

Board of Pharmacy

❖ *Mission and philosophy*

The Board of Pharmacy is that state agency charged with the responsibility of protecting the health and welfare of residents of Wyoming with regard to pharmaceutical services. By statute, the board regulates the practice of pharmacy in the state. This includes licensing of pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and nonresident pharmacies and licensing/inspection of resident pharmacies. By the same statute, the board licenses manufacturers, distributors and wholesalers who ship prescription drugs into, out of or within the state of Wyoming, and the board inspects resident manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers and oxygen manufacturers/distributors. The foregoing responsibilities are provided for in the Wyoming Pharmacy Act (W.S. 33-24-101 to 33-23-301)

The board is designated by statute as the agency responsible for the registration of the manufacture, distribution and dispensing of controlled substances within the state. This includes the registration of all practitioners with statutory authority to administer or prescribe controlled substances, pharmacies (retail and hospital), resident manufacturers, distributors/wholesalers and nonresident manufacturers and distributors/wholesalers who ship into the state. In addition to registration, the board conducts inspections of these sites relative to their handling of controlled substances. The foregoing responsibilities are provided for in the Wyoming Controlled Substances Act (W.S. 35-7-1001 to 35-7-1101)

The board investigates consumer complaints (as well as board identified concerns) regarding possible violations of the Wyoming Pharmacy Act, Wyoming Controlled Substance Act and related rules and regulations. The board administers disciplinary action as warranted.

The board promulgates rules and regulations further defining those areas defined by statute for which the Board of Pharmacy has responsibility.

❖ *Results of outcomes*

The following statistics relate to licensing/investigative actions taken by the board during this reporting period:

- Pharmacists licensed, 1,014;
- Pharmacists newly licensed, 28;
- Pharmacy technicians licensed, 226;
- Pharmacy technicians newly licensed, 46;
- Multi-state pharmacy jurisprudence exams certified, 37;
- Pharmacy technician exams administered, 46;
- Resident pharmacies licensed, 143;
- Resident pharmacies newly licensed, seven;
- Nonresident pharmacies licensed, 201;
- Nonresident pharmacies newly licensed, 52;
- Controlled substance registrant renewals, 1,798;

General Information

James T. Carder, Executive Director

Agency Contact

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Year established

1886

Statutory references

W.S. 33-24-101 to 33-24-301
W.S. 35-7-1001 to 35-7-1101

Number of authorized personnel

Four full-time

Organizational structure,

Wyoming State Board of Pharmacy

Clients served

Pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, pharmacy interns, pharmacy technician-in-training, pharmacies (retail and institutional), controlled substance registrants, manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, oxygen manufacturers and distributors, nursing homes

Budget information

Administration (001)	\$89,456
Licensing Board (060)	185,301
Total	\$274,757

Agency to which group reports

Department of Administration and Information

Number of members

Three board members, RPh
Three ex-officio board members, MD,DDS,DVM

Meeting frequency

Three meetings per year minimum

- Manufacturers, distributors/wholesalers (prescription drugs and oxygen), 468;
- Controlled substance manufacturers, distributors/wholesalers, 175;
- Retail pharmacy inspections, 165;
- Distributor/wholesaler inspections, four;
- Oxygen manufacturer/distributor inspections, 13;
- Hospital inspections, 23;
- Other site inspections (clinics, state), eight;
- Pharmacy/pharmacist/pharmacy technician investigations completed, 24;
- Investigations completed for other boards, nine;
- Investigations coordinated with police/sheriff, two; and
- Administrative sanctions, six.

The board responds to drug diversions identified by practitioners in the state by participation in the "Pharmacy Alert" program offered by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). The Pharmacy Alert program utilizes fax transmission to all pharmacies in the state. This type of information distribution is used for sharing information on individuals with drug-seeking behavior and/or fraudulent prescriptions. During this reporting period, 97 pharmacy alerts were initiated by this office, which represents a 26 percent increase over FY99.

The board adopted new/amended rules in September 1999 and again in January 2000. The rules adopted in September involved establishing various fees for examinations, licensing and renewals; establishing late fees; establishing rules governing emergency drugs in nursing homes; reinstatement procedures for revoked/suspended pharmacists' or pharmacy technicians' licenses; and designating ephedrine, in combination with other drugs, as a dangerous drug in Wyoming. The rules adopted in January 2000 dealt with collaborative practice.

The board did complete its major task of establishing a computerized database for all licensees and registrants during this fiscal year and did hire a second inspector who works part-time for the board.

❖ *Strategic plan changes*

The Board of Pharmacy plans a major rule-making notice that will encompass establishing institutional pharmacy practice rules in addition to other updates in the board's rules.