

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, which the Board of Pharmacy has responsibilities for.

❖ *Results of outcomes*

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

- Pharmacists licensed, 997;
- Pharmacists newly licensed, 38;
- Pharmacy technicians licensed, 193;
- Pharmacy technicians newly licensed, 30;
- Pharmacist law exams administered, 13;
- Multistate pharmacy jurisprudence exam certified, 20;
- Pharmacy technician exams administered, 34;
- Resident pharmacies licensed, 139;
- Resident pharmacies newly licensed, 4;
- Nonresident pharmacies licensed, 163;
- Nonresident pharmacies newly licensed, 38;

General information

James T. Carder, Executive Director

Agency contact

James T. Carder, Executive Director
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1720 S. Poplar St. Suite 4
Casper, WY 82601

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 technicians-in-training, pharmacies, controlled substance registrants, manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, oxygen manufacturers and distributors

Budget information

Administration (001)	\$ 87,086
Licensing Board (060)	155,377
Total	\$242,463

Agency to which board 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

- Controlled substance registrant renewals, 2,059
 - Manufacturers, distributors/wholesalers (prescription drugs and oxygen), 413;
 - Controlled substance manufacturers, distributors/wholesalers, 178;
 - Retail pharmacy inspections, 127;
 - Distributor/wholesaler inspections, 2;
 - Oxygen manufacturer/distributor inspections, 8;
 - Hospital inspections, 9;
 - Other site inspections (clinics, state), 6;
 - Pharmacy/pharmacist investigations completed, 13;
 - Investigations completed for other boards, 11
 - Investigations coordinated with police/sheriff, 5;
- and
- Administrative sanctions, 4.

The board responds to drug diversions identified by pharmacists 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, 77 pharmacy alerts were initiated by this office, which represents a 40 percent increase over FY98.

Legislation affecting the Board of Pharmacy was introduced during this session of the Legislature and was passed. A rule-making hearing was held on April 21, 1999, and a rule-making order was issued on April 3 and signed into law on June 10 by Gov. Jim Geringer. The legislation that passed changed the definition of practicing pharmacy, removed licensing exemption for hospitals with pharmacies, established a letter of admonition for pharmacist and pharmacy technicians, clarified that patient records maintained by a pharmacy could be shared with practitioners involved with the patient's care and established late fees. The rule making order signed into law established a Wyoming Dangerous Substance List, increased continuing education requirements for pharmacists, established continuing education requirements for pharmacy technicians, clarified requirements for identifying proxies who pick up prescriptions, established a late fee for pharmacy technicians, established requirements for reinstatement of a lapsed pharmacy technician license, and established a procedure for pharmacies to petition the board for an increase in their pharmacist/pharmacy technician ratio.

The board did procure and establish a local area network at the board's office. Databases were constructed and the following categories of licensees or registrants were established: Pharmacist, Pharmacy Technicians, Pharmacy Technicians-In-Training, Resident/Nonresident Pharmacies, Controlled Substance Registrants, Prescription Drug Manufacturers, Distributors, and Wholesalers. The only database that has not been completed is

Pharmacy Interns. To date, approximately 3,000 database files have been created.

❖ *Strategic plan changes*

The Board of Pharmacy will continue to enhance the computerized database that was initiated during fall of 1998, advertise and select a second inspector and continue to review current rules and regulations with the goal of developing a set of rules and regulations that will best protect the public in Wyoming.