

House Bill 112: Profession of Pharmacy

Ashley Schaber, PharmD, MBA, BCPS
Chair, Alaska Board of Pharmacy





ALASKA BOARD OF PHARMACY

2023 STRATEGIC PLAN

The Alaska Board of Pharmacy endeavors to promote, preserve, and protect the public health, safety, and welfare by and through the effective control and regulation of the practice of pharmacy.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

GOALS

STRATEGIES



COMMUNICATION

1. Engage in effective communication and promote transparency of public information.

- 1.1 Improve customer service by providing timely and informative updates to applicants and licensees.
- 1.2 Maximize communication channels through the Board of Pharmacy website and List Service.
- 1.3 Maintain accuracy of website content and ensure accessibility of up-to-date resources



ADMINISTRATION

2. Adhere to and strive for improved organizational efficiencies without compromising quality of record keeping.

- 2.1 Avoid delays in application processing by maintaining adequate staffing and exploring flexible retention strategies.
- 2.2 Maintain a proactive approach to licensing by consulting historical knowledge, researching national trends, and encouraging innovation in the planning process.
- 2.3 Automate licensure through online applications.
- 2.4 Exercise fiscal discipline through effective budget management.
- 2.5 Embrace innovation by exploring integration and/or delegation opportunities to support core administration functions.



LICENSURE

3. Ensure competency and qualifications prior to licensure and renewal.

- 3.1 Adhere to established licensing standards by reviewing education, experience, and examination requirements.
- 3.2 Take a proactive approach to application and form revision subsequent to regulation changes.
- 3.3 Review professional fitness questions for applicability and update applications accordingly
- 3.4 Develop a license application for manufacturers.



REGULATION & ENFORCEMENT

4. Grow the economy while promoting community health and safety.

- 4.1 Routinely review effectiveness of regulations that reduce barriers to licensure without compromising patient health and safety.
- 4.2 Combat the opioid crisis by effective administration of the state's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), including collaboration with providers and key stakeholders.
- 4.3 Establish disciplinary guidelines to ensure established safety protocols and competencies are met.
- 4.4 Advocate for legislation as the pharmacy profession evolves and new opportunities for improved patient safety arise.
- 4.5 Anticipate changes to the Drug Supply Chain Security Act and respond proactively.

For more information, please visit the following resources:

Board of Pharmacy Homepage: pharmacy.alaska.gov
Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP): pdmp.alaska.gov

Email: pharmacy@alaska.gov
Phone: 907-465-1073

Background of HB 112

- Result of multi-year, multi-chair review of statutes and regulations to ensure the Alaska Board of Pharmacy can continue to meet its mission
- HB 112 addresses changes by:
 - Streamlining licensure process while improving public safety
 - Compliance with the Drug Supply Chain and Security Act
 - Alignment with other professional boards in Alaska and pharmacy boards in other states
 - Clarification of pharmacists' roles in epinephrine access
- Collaborative effort between the Alaska Board of Pharmacy and the Alaska Pharmacists Association

Goal: Streamline licensure process while improving public safety

- Eliminates unnecessary forms currently required in statute
- Clarifies that only pharmacists who dispense controlled substances are required to register with the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)
- Adds national criminal background check

Goal: Compliance with Drug Supply Chain and Security Act

- The federal Drug Supply Chain and Security Act (DSCSA) further secures the U.S. drug supply through a system to prevent harmful drugs from entering the supply chain, detect harmful drugs if they do enter, and enable rapid response when such drugs are found
 - Boards of Pharmacy play a key role in this process through appropriate licensing of drug distributors and pharmacies
- HB 112 ensures the AK Board of Pharmacy powers and duties support the DSCSA related to manufacturers, out-of-state pharmacies, and internet pharmacies to ensure Alaskans receive safe medications

Goal: Alignment

- Replaces one of the two public member seats with a pharmacy technician seat
- Allows the board to adopt language for retired pharmacist status
- Clarifies the board executive administrator's salary, allowing flexibility for a pharmacist to serve in this role in the future

Goal: Epinephrine Access

- Moves epinephrine training program to be under Board of Pharmacy oversight
- Clarifies that a pharmacist can administer epinephrine to a person or prescribe epinephrine auto-injectors to someone who has completed the training program
- Increases epinephrine access for Alaskans with anaphylactic emergencies

Support

- The Board of Pharmacy respectfully requests your support of HB 112, allowing us to further promote, preserve, and protect the public health, safety, and welfare of Alaskans by and through the effective control and regulation of the practice of pharmacy.
- Thank you for your time!

