

State	Updates
AK	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
AL	Effective March 14th until March 31st the Board is authorizing pharmacists to process emergency prescription refills for a 30-day supply of maintenance medications so long as certain requirements are met. For more information click <a href="#">here</a> .  The Board also issued guidance in the event of reduced pharmacist staffing due to the virus. For more information click <a href="#">here</a> .
AR	The Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy released recommendations related to compounding garb shortages. For more information click <a href="#">here</a> .  The Board released a COVID-19 set of Frequently Asked Questions which covers issues such as pharmacy hours of operation, servicing patients via drive through or delivery service only, emergency refills, etc. For more information click <a href="#">here</a> .  Presently the Board did not report any other COVID-19 impacted changes.
AZ	The Board is set to discuss COVID-19 at their Board meeting on March 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2020. More information should follow.  Presently Board did not report any other COVID-19 impacted changes.
CA	Gov. Gavin Newsom declared a statewide emergency March 4, 2020, to help the state prepare for the broader spread of COVID-19.  The Board in its authority may waive certain provisions of Pharmacy Law regulations if in its opinion said waiver will aid in the protection of the public health or the provision of patient care. Determinations such as this may be made at the discretion of the Board president for a period of up to 30 days. For more information click <a href="#">here</a> .  The Board released guidance on compounding hand sanitizer to meet demand during the pandemic. For more information click <a href="#">here</a> .  The Board released the following guidance on its policy waivers:  <b><u>Waivers to General Pharmacy Law</u></b>  <b>Business and Professions Code section 4059.5</b> Waive the signature requirement for the receipt of the delivery of drugs as required in BPC 4059.5 under the following conditions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The delivery personnel confirm that the employee accepting the delivery is a pharmacist.</li><li>2. The delivery personnel input the pharmacist's name and license number conveyed to them by the pharmacist directly into their signature capture device in lieu of the pharmacist physically signing the tablet as part of the delivery process.</li></ol>

**Note:** This waiver applies only to the **signature** requirement for the pharmacist accepting delivery.

**Business and Professions Code sections 4068(a)(1), 4068(a)(5), and 4068(a)(6)** Waive provisions related to the prohibition against a prescriber to dispensing medications to an emergency room patient if the medication dispensed is a short-acting or long-acting bronchodilator.

**Business and Professions Code sections 4182(a) & (b)/BPC 4192(a) & (b)** Waive the requirement for a consulting pharmacist to perform quarterly visits to a clinic under the following conditions:

1. The consulting pharmacist, using his or her professional judgment, determines that the quarterly inspection is not required during the declared emergency. When making such a determination, it may be appropriate to consider prior consultation report findings, potential impact to patients receiving care in the clinic, etc.
2. A consulting pharmacist performs a desk audit of the clinic's procedures and records in lieu of the visit.
3. A consulting pharmacist generates a report outlining any findings resulting from the desk audit and provides that report to the professional director or his or her designee.
4. The consultant receives confirmation to his or her satisfaction, that the corrections outlined in the findings of the audit have been made.

#### **Waivers Related Specifically to Compounding**

**Business and Professions Code section 4126.8** Waive USP <797> requirements related to the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) as related to Business and Professions Code section 4126.8, in that a PPE masks and gowns may be reused by staff performing sterile compounding under the following conditions:

1. The pharmacist-in-charge has made a determination that the current and potential stock of PPE on hand is insufficient to maintain the single-use provisions established in USP 797.
2. The pharmacy has developed a policy that details the conditions under which PPE may be reused. Such policies shall be consistent with standards of practice used during emergency situations.
3. Documented training on the policy is provided to all staff.
4. Master formulas are evaluated to determine if changes are necessary to the criteria for establishing beyond-use dating.
5. Surface sampling schedule was reviewed for the possible need to increase the frequency.
6. Documentation is maintained indicating the duration of time the pharmacy is operating under the waiver approval.

	<p><b>Title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 1751.5(a)(5)</b> Waive 16 CCR section 1751.5(a)(5) to allow for hand cleaning with the use of non-persistent activity alcohol sanitizer prior to donning sterile gloves.</p>
CO	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
CT	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
DC	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
DE	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
FL	<p>Governor Ron DeSantis declared a State of Emergency on March 9, 2020. Under this pharmacists under their own professional judgment may refill prescriptions early and may dispense up to a 30-day supply of maintenance medication for chronic conditions provided certain circumstances are met. For more information click <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>The Department of Health and the Board of Pharmacy has a Business Continuity and Disaster Preparedness Plan in place. Details of this plan are not available. For information the most up to date information as well as Executive Orders that have been issued, please visit the Department of Health's website <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
GA	<p>The Board developed an emergency policy and statement which addresses <a href="#">emergency</a> refill dispensing of prescriptions (excluding controlled substances), temporary recognition of non-resident licensure, and temporary pharmacy facilities. For additional information click <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>The Board takes the position that compounding of hand sanitizer gel is permitted given that the components are all over-the-counter products. For more information click <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
HI	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
IA	<p>The Board recognizes that there may be limitations in the supply chain of protective garbing supplies. This guidance from the Board is intended to offer recommendations and strategies to conserve protective garb while maintaining the highest level of containment and limiting exposure of compounded sterile products to contaminants.</p> <p>Engaging some of these recommendations may result in being out of compliance with USP Chapter 795, 797, and 800. The Board will exercise enforcement discretion during this time of limited supplies IF your pharmacy can demonstrate it complied with best practices during a period of documented supply limitations. Pharmacies that choose to implement these recommendations should maintain a policy demonstrating compliance with best practices (e.g., if reusing face masks, you must develop a policy and procedure for identification, storage, and handling of face masks subject to reuse). For more information click <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
ID	The Board released a licensing and pharmacy related FAQ re: COVID-19. This includes information on immediate 30-day licensure and registration while paperwork is processed; those with licenses in other states can work without ID licensure for the period of a declared emergency with proof from their home state. For more information click <a href="#">here</a> .
IL	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes but did state that the declaration is valid for 30 days. Licensees and registrants are encouraged to contact the board of pharmacy as COVID-19 related challenges emerge and each situation will be reviewed and given consideration.

IN	<p>The State is considering a waiver for the 120 requirement on renewals but there is no firm guidance on this yet. Currently all boards and commissions are continued for at least 90 days.</p> <p>Presently the Board did not report any other COVID-19 impacted changes.</p>
KS	<p>The Board stated that it will continue to assess the COVID-19 situation in conjunction with the State of Kansas. Updates will be provided on the Board website.</p> <p>A memo released by the Board on COVID-19 can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
KY	<p>Governor Andy Beshear declared a state of emergency pursuant to KRS 39A.100 on March 6, 2020 after the first confirmed case of coronavirus in Kentucky.</p> <p>Please see KRS 315.500, 201 KAR 2:330 and 201 KAR 2:175 for pharmacist guidance.</p> <p>The Board has cancelled all March meetings.</p>
LA	<p>The Board of Drug and Device Distributors indicated that currently there are not changes to the Board's administrative office procedures. Valid licenses currently expire 12/31/2020; the next renewal period is 10/1 – 12/31/2020.</p> <p>The Board office is temporarily closed to visitors.</p> <p>Gov. Edwards issued Proclamation No. 25 JBE 2020: Public Health Emergency – COVID-19 on March 11, 2020; it shall remain in effect through April 9, 2020 unless terminated sooner. This pertains to emergency refills, compounding of sterile preparations, etc. For more information click <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
MA	<p>Pharmacists may process patient-specific prescriptions remotely in accordance with <a href="#">this</a> Board policy. Although the policy only addresses pharmacists, the Board is actively working on remote processing guidance for pharmacy technicians and interns.</p> <p>Massachusetts has issued a statement on compounding OTC hand sanitizer. For more information click <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
MD	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
ME	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
MI	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
MN	<p>The Board has issued a COVID-19 FAQ to try and address the influx of questions they are receiving.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. There is no minimum hourly threshold that pharmacies must remain open. Remote work to the extent it is possible is encouraged.</li><li>2. If any pharmacies are closing proper notifications should take place.</li><li>3. The Board's delivery rule (6800.300, subp. 1) has additional requirements when a filled prescription is delivered to a patient's workplace (or caregiver's place of business – for example a parent's workplace if the patient is a child). The rule requires that filled prescriptions be delivered directly to the patient or caregiver of the patient. Until further notice, the Board will waive that requirement and allow a prescription to be dropped off at a central location at the workplace – provided that the patient or caregiver has given at least verbal authorization to do so.</li></ol>

	For more information click <a href="#">here</a> .
MO	A COVID-19 related statement on pharmacy practices was issued by the Board. For more information click <a href="#">here</a> .
MS	Mississippi declared a state of emergency due to COVID-19 on March 14, 2020.  Mississippi passed a resolution permitting pharmacists to provide a one-time emergency refill of the prescribed non-controlled medication in the event that the pharmacist is unable to obtain a refill authorization from the prescriber. This effective during a state of emergency declared in Mississippi or upon the authorization of the President of the Board during a state of emergency in a nearby State. More information can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
MT	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
NC	North Carolina issued a state of emergency because of COVID-19 on March 10, 2020. Licensing requirements for out-of-state health care personnel are waived in North Carolina in order to provide health care services within the Emergency Area.
ND	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
NE	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
NH	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
NJ	New Jersey Board of Pharmacy released guidance for pharmacies that can be found <a href="#">here</a> . If a pharmacy is not able to continue to operate their business in a manner that allows it to adhere to the Board's regulations and to provide services to its patients due to an issue related to COVID-19, that pharmacy should contact the Board. Depending on each individual situation, the pharmacy may be able to request a temporary waiver of a specific regulation that would allow them to provide continuity of care for their patients. Emails should be sent to the Executive Director via email at <a href="mailto:rubinaccioa@dca.njoag.gov">rubinaccioa@dca.njoag.gov</a> .  Temporary waivers may be offered for use of personal protective equipment as a proactive measure to conserve supplies, changes in hours of operation waivers may be permitted. Pharmacists will note be required to obtain the signature of a patient or caregiver when counseling was provided or refused. Early refills and relaxed delivery protocols may also be in effect. Please see guidance for additional information and notification requirements.
NM	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
NV	Nevada Board of Pharmacy is granting waiver requests after the Governor declared a state of emergency after COVID-19. The Board may waive any of the requirements set forth in any of the regulations governing the practice of pharmacy. The Board will consider waivers if it will aid in the protection of the public health or the provision of patient care. Additional information regarding the waiver can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
NY	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
OH	Ohio Department of Health issued a checklist for Pharmacies in preparation for COVID-19. The checklist can be found <a href="#">here</a> . The Board of Pharmacy is closed to the public and is working remotely. The Board is allowing for remote order entry for all licensed pharmacy personnel. The Board also authorized the compounding and sale of certain alcohol-based hand sanitizer products by Ohio-licensed pharmacies and outsourcing facilities. Reuse of certain personal protective equipment is also now permitted. The Board's recent guidance can be found <a href="#">here</a> .

OK	Waivers for compliance and licensing requirements are being granted if they further the public interest. Waiver can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
OR	Oregon declared a state of emergency. The Board of Pharmacy released an application for Temporary Pharmacy registration for in-state pharmacy locations. It is for the purposes of creating an alternative medication pick-up or dispensing location. Oregon registered drug outlets may employ pharmacies, interns, or pharmacy technicians who do not hold a license from the Oregon Board of Pharmacy under specified conditions. Additional information can be found by clicking <a href="#">here</a> .
PA	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
RI	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
SC	South Carolina Board of Pharmacy is expediting licensure during the public health emergency to ensure South Carolinians have access to all needed healthcare resources.
SD	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
TN	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
TX	Texas Board of Pharmacy has provided guidance on sterile compounding during COVID-19. This guidance can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
UT	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
VA	Pharmacists may exercise professional judgment regarding dispensing early refills for Schedule VI drugs. For Schedule III-V, pharmacists may dispense a one-time early refill. Pharmacists may dispense a one-time early refill for Schedule II under specified conditions. Additional guidance can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
VT	The Office of Professional Regulation is allowing continuing education renewal extensions of up to 180 days in light of COVID-19. Click <a href="#">here</a> for more information.  Pharmacists may disregard individual fill quantities up to the total prescribed quantity or ninety days which occurs first. In a declaration of state of emergency remote consulting by a provider who has not had any prior relationship with a patient may be legitimate under specified conditions. Additional guidance issued by the Board of Pharmacy can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
WA	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
WI	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
WV	No waivers are being granted and renewals will be processed as usual; however, the Board has issued information on laws that may be relevant during the COVID-19 pandemic and can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
WY	The Board did not report any COVID-19 impacted changes.
Federal	The FDA released a policy for temporary compounding of alcohol-based sanitizer products during the pandemic. Click <a href="#">here</a> for more information.  NABP is closely monitoring the effects of Coronavirus on exams, scheduled surveys and inspections, and the Annual Meeting. An update for members and customers can be viewed <a href="#">here</a> .  On March 16, 2020, the DEA released a COVID-19 Information Page on the Diversion Control Divisions Web Site. This page contains important guidance concerning COVID-19 and the national drug supply, electronic prescribing of controlled substances, telemedicine, medicated assisted treatment, and other important federal and state information. For more information click <a href="#">here</a> .

	Direct all policy questions concerning COVID-19 to the Policy email box at <a href="mailto:Natural.Disaster@usdoj.gov">Natural.Disaster@usdoj.gov</a> .
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