Board of Pharmacy News Roundup – September 2026

Welcome to the monthly News Roundup from the California State Board of Pharmacy. To receive more details on any of the information reported here, click on the Board's website, www.pharmacy.ca.gov.

Upcoming Meetings:

Join us:

- Board meeting Thursday, September 17th at 9:00am,
- Licensing meeting Wednesday, September 23rd at 9:am,
- Enforcement meeting Thursday, October 1st at 9:00am.

ALL meetings are open to the public; all are encouraged to attend. Please check https://www.pharmacy.ca.gov/ for meeting agendas, dates and times.

Regulations:

Several amendments to the Board's regulations, located in title 16 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), recently took effect. More information, including the Order of Adoption for each regulation, is posted under "Approved Regulations" on the Board's website, www.pharmacy.ca.gov.

CCR section 1793.65, Pharmacy Technician Certification Programs
This amended regulation extends the sunset date for the currently approved pharmacy technician certification programs until June 30, 2027. Effective July 8, 2026.

CCR section 1713, Automated Patient Dispensing Systems (APDS) Consultation
This amended regulation provides clarification for consultation requirements for first-time dispenses from an APDS. This regulation mirrors the statutory language in Business and Professions Code section 4427.6 and resolves a conflict that previously existed between the statute and the regulation. Effective April 1, 2026.

CCR section 1708.2, Discontinuance of Business
This amended regulation requires a closing pharmacy to ensure arrangements are in place to facilitate the continuity of patient care. This ensures that patients have seamless and continued access to their medications and other health care services. Effective April 1, 2026.

Nonresident Pharmacies Policy Statement

As part of the Board's actions during the April 29-30, 2026, Board meeting, the Board approved a policy statement to provide guidance and important information regarding recent changes to Pharmacy Law that impact **nonresident pharmacies**. Read the full policy statement here.

As noted in the policy statement:

- Effective **July 1, 2026**, a nonresident pharmacy is required to designate a California licensed pharmacist employed and working at the nonresident pharmacy to serve as the pharmacist-in-charge (PIC).
- On and after that date, a nonresident pharmacy may not ship prescriptions, or provide any pharmacy-related service, to California patients unless the PIC is licensed in California.
- During the transition to the new PIC licensure requirement, the Board does not intend to proactively restrict or interrupt the provision of otherwise lawful pharmacy services by a nonresident pharmacy whose PIC has not yet obtained California licensure. The Board seeks to promote compliance through education where possible and will consider good faith efforts undertaken to comply with the new California licensure requirement in its assessment of potential violations of Pharmacy Law.

You can designate a California licensed pharmacist at your pharmacy who can serve as the PIC for purposes of California licensure, or it may be necessary for a pharmacist at your pharmacy to seek licensure as a pharmacist in California to serve in this role. The California Pharmacist Examination for Licensure Application and Instructions are available **here**. Below are upcoming California Practice Standards and Jurisprudence Examination (CPJE) Test Dates (Check here for additional dates):

- September 26, 2026
- October 13, 2026

Board staff are available to answer any questions regarding the application process and to expedite the application if helpful to assist in meeting the examination schedule at intern-examstatus@dca.ca.gov.

Additional information about Assembly Bill 1503 is available on the Board's website, including a special edition newsletter.

Alert: Beware of Scammers

The Board of Pharmacy has recently experienced an increase in reports from licensees who are receiving scam calls.

Here are a few of the techniques used by the scam caller:

- Requests for money to be transferred electronically,
- Faxes information to licensee that includes official looking logos,
- Provides a private phone number to licensee to use to call back,
- Caller ID number matches the Board of Pharmacy (BOP) phone number, (916) 518-3100,
- Claims to be a BOP investigator,
- Tells the pharmacist or technician that they are the subject of an investigation in another state,
- Confirms license number and NPI,
- Transfers call to someone claiming to be an investigator,
- Provides a case ID number,
- Mentions police found a large quantity of controlled substance medications in a vehicle associated with the licensee,
- Claims BOP will immediately suspend the license,
- Tells licensee to stop working and leave work immediately,
- Tells licensee to hire a criminal attorney,
- Demands tens of thousands of dollars to be sent to unsuspend their license.

What can you do to protect yourself and your pharmacy?

To check the identity of a caller who claims to be conducting a DCA investigation, call DCA directly at (800) 952-5210.

If a scam caller claims to represent the DEA or the FBI, report the call to the DEA's Extortion Scam reporting program or the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center.

If a scam caller's phone number appears to be a Board of Pharmacy or DCA telephone number, report the scam using the Federal Communications Commission's consumer complaint form.

New Training Course Joins Other Recent Updated Courses

A new online training course is available on PharmEd in addition to recent updated courses. The Assembly Bill 1503: Removing Barriers and Improving

Patient Safety course provides an overview of the statutory changes enacted by the Board's sunset measure and describes the Board's implementation efforts.

The Pharmacy Law and Pharmacist-in-Charge: Overview and Responsibility have been updated for 2026, and all classes are offered at no charge. Click here to see the list of all CE courses.

Pharmacist-in-Charge

Under AB 1503, new provisions reinforce the decision-making autonomy of the PIC related to staffing decisions. Read the full policy statement here.

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