



# Georgia Board of Pharmacy *NEWS*

April 2025

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## BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE CHANGES

At its meeting on April 9, 2025, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy adopted the rules listed below. These rules have been referred to the Governor's Office for active supervisory review pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 43-1C-3. By law, the Governor's Office is allowed up to 90 business days (~135 calendar days) to conduct this review.

<b>Rule</b>	<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Rule Heading</b>
R. 480-5-.03	Board Actions and Code of Conduct	Code of Professional Conduct
R. 480-7C-.01	Third-Party Logistics Providers	Definitions
R. 480-7C-.02	Third-Party Logistics Providers	Third-Party Logistics Provider Licensing Requirements
R. 480-11-.10	Pharmaceutical Compounding	Exceptions
R. 480-15-.02	Pharmacy Technicians and Other Pharmacy Personnel	Registration of Pharmacy Technicians and Continuing Education Requirements
R. 480-15-.04	Pharmacy Technicians and Other Pharmacy Personnel	Duties of the Pharmacist in Charge Related to Registered Pharmacy Technicians
R. 480-24-.02	Nursing Homes, Long Term Care Facilities and Hospice Emergency Drug Kits	Personnel
R. 480-24-.03	Nursing Homes, Long Term Care Facilities and Hospice Emergency Drug Kits	Physical Requirements

R. 480-24-.04	Nursing Homes, Long Term Care Facilities and Hospice Emergency Drug Kits	Drug Distribution
R. 480-24-.05	Nursing Homes, Long Term Care Facilities and Hospice Emergency Drug Kits	Duties of Consultant Pharmacist
R. 480-24-.06	Nursing Homes, Long Term Care Facilities and Hospice Emergency Drug Kits	Destruction of Drugs

## Pharmacy Technician CE Requirements and Renewal Guidance

The Board has received considerable public feedback regarding the continuing education (CE) requirements for pharmacy technicians during the first renewal cycle. While Georgia law now mandates that immunizing technicians complete two (2) hours of CE specifically related to immunizations, the Board has agreed to waive the broader 20-hour CE requirement outlined in Rule 480-15-.02 for this **initial renewal period only**, with the exception of the legally required immunization CE.

**The online renewal process for active pharmacy technicians is now open, with all current registrations set to expire on June 30, 2025. DO NOT WAIT until the last day to renew.** For additional information and access to the renewal portal, please visit the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy website at: <https://gbp.georgia.gov>.

## Georgia State Board of Pharmacy Rule Clarification: Compounding and Balance Requirements

Georgia State Board of Pharmacy Rule 480-10-.12(1)(e) states:

“If compounding is performed on site using components which must be weighed, a Class A balance with an assortment of metric weights or a Class I or II electronic balance must be available.”

The Board clarifies that a balance (scale) is only required if the pharmacy is actively compounding on-site using components that require weighing.

For pharmacies that do not engage in compounding or exclusively use pre-measured or commercially prepared products, this rule does not mandate the maintenance of a scale.

To stay compliant, ensure that your pharmacy only has the equipment needed for the services you provide.

For more details, please refer to the full text of Rule 480-10-.12 or contact your local Drugs and Narcotics Agent or the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy.

## Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency (GDNA) Update

Pharmacies are reminded that in the event of natural disasters or emergencies—such as being forced to relocate through no fault of their own—the Board and GDNA will act quickly to assist. Once a new location is identified, GDNA and the Board work collaboratively with the pharmacy to expedite approvals and help operations resume as soon as possible. In urgent situations beyond the control of the licensee, the agencies are prepared to respond rapidly to avoid undue hardship.

## **Earn 3.0 CE Hours by Attending the Board’s Open Session May 21, 2025**

Pharmacists and pharmacy technicians who attend the Open Session of an upcoming Georgia State Board of Pharmacy meeting—including the Rules Review Session—are eligible to receive 3.0 contact hours (0.3 CEUs) of continuing education credit in accordance with Rule 480-3-.03, Board-approved CE. These CE hours are only applicable toward Georgia licensure or registration renewal requirements and may not be accepted by other states or national certification programs. Be sure to bring your NABP e-Profile number to ensure proper credit is recorded. The Board encourages licensees and registrants to attend and stay informed about the rulemaking process and current regulatory updates impacting pharmacy practice in Georgia.

## **Board Statement on Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Pharmacy Practice**

The Georgia State Board of Pharmacy acknowledges the increasing role of artificial intelligence (AI) in pharmacy. AI has the potential to improve patient safety, streamline workflows, and enhance medication management by supporting pharmacists in tasks such as drug utilization reviews and identifying adverse drug interactions.

The Board emphasizes that while AI can be a valuable tool, its use must comply with all applicable laws and uphold ethical standards. Pharmacists remain critical to healthcare, and AI should serve only as a supplement—not a replacement—for professional judgment. The Board is committed to ongoing evaluation and guidance on AI integration to ensure responsible use that protects patient privacy and promotes equitable care.

## **Scam Call Alert**

The Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has been made aware of scam calls in which individuals impersonate Board or Georgia Drugs and Narcotics (GDNA) representatives. These scammers may spoof the Board’s phone number to appear legitimate on caller ID and may falsely claim that a pharmacist’s license is suspended, under investigation, or requires urgent payment or verification.

Please remember:

The Board or GDNA will never demand payment or personal information over the phone.

Legitimate communications from the Board will typically come via official letters or secure email, not unsolicited phone calls.

Do not share personal or financial information with unknown callers, even if the number appears to be from the Board.

If you receive a suspicious call:

Hang up immediately—do not engage.

When in doubt, contact the Board directly using the number listed on the official website.

Stay alert and share this warning with your colleagues to help protect our pharmacy community.

**Board Members**

President: Dr. Cecil Cordle, PharmD.  
Vice President: Mr. Young Chang, RPh  
Mr. Dean Stone, RPh  
Mr. Michael Brinson, RPh  
Mr. Chuck Page, RPh  
Dr. Michael Azzolin, PharmD.  
Mr. Michael Farmer, RPh  
Consumer Member: Mr. Jim Bracewell

**2025 Public Board Meetings**

May 21, 2025  
June 18, 2025  
July 23, 2025  
August 13, 2025  
September 10, 2025  
October 22, 2025  
November 19, 2025  
December 17, 2025

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