

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-10A-.08 NOTIFICATION TO PATIENTS, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter “Board”) proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-10A-.08 NOTIFICATION TO PATIENTS (hereinafter “proposed amendments”).

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy’s web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to April 15, 2026. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. You may email your comments to james.joiner@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ O.C.G.A. § 26-4-60.

At its meeting on October 22, 2025, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on October 22, 2025, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.



J. Clinton Lemer, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-10A-.08 NOTIFICATION TO PATIENTS**

- Purpose:** To repeal the Rule. The State Board of Pharmacy has determined that requiring pharmacies to provide notification to patients prior to utilization of central filling services increases regulatory burden on the practice of pharmacy in Georgia, in exchange for minimal, if any, benefit to patients or enhancement to safety.
- Main Features:** Repeal of the Rule in its entirety.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-10A-.08 NOTIFICATION TO PATIENTS**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-10A-.08. ~~Notification to Patients~~[Repealed]

~~An originating pharmacy that utilizes central filling services must, prior to outsourcing the prescription, notify patients that prescription filing may be outsourced to another pharmacy.~~

~~The patient shall have the choice to not have the prescription outsourced.~~

~~Notification may be provided through the use of a sign located in the originating pharmacy which is clearly visible to and readable by the public.~~

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 26-4-60.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-11-.04 FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter “Board”) proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-11-.04 FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT (hereinafter “proposed amendments”).

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy’s web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

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The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-86, and 26-4-110.

At its meeting on November 19, 2025, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on November 19, 2025, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Clinton Joiner, II", written over a horizontal line.

J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-11-.04 FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT**

Purpose: To amend requirements for pharmacies to have laminar flow hoods, where not otherwise required for compliance with USP.

Main Features: Deletion of language requiring pharmacies to have laminar flow hoods as a general requirement.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-11-.04 FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-11-.04. Facilities and Equipment

(1) Facilities.

- (a) Pharmacies engaging in compounding shall have an adequate area for the orderly compounding of prescriptions, including the placement of equipment and materials. The drug compounding area for sterile preparations shall be separate and distinct from the area used for the compounding of non-sterile drug preparations. The area(s) used for compounding of drugs shall be maintained in a good state of repair.
- (b) Bulk drugs and other chemicals or materials used in the compounding of prescription drug orders must be stored in adequately labeled containers in a clean, dry area or, if required, under proper refrigeration.
- (c) Adequate lighting and ventilation shall be provided in all drug-compounding areas. Potable water shall be supplied under continuous positive pressure in a plumbing system free of defects that could contribute to contamination of any compounded drug preparation. Adequate washing facilities, easily accessible to the compounding area(s) of the pharmacy shall be provided. These facilities shall include, but not be limited to, hot and cold water, soap or detergent, and air dryers or single-use towels.
- (d) Sewage, trash, and other refuse in and from the pharmacy and immediate drug compounding area(s) shall be disposed of in a safe and sanitary manner.

(2) Equipment.

- (a) Equipment used in the compounding of drug preparation shall be of appropriate design, appropriate capacity, and suitably located to facilitate operations for its intended use and for its cleaning and maintenance. Equipment used in the compounding of drug preparations shall be of suitable composition so that surfaces that contact components, in-process materials, or drug preparations shall not be reactive, additive, or absorptive so as to alter the safety, identity, strength, quality, or purity of the drug preparation beyond that desired.
- (b) Equipment and utensils used for compounding shall be cleaned and sanitized immediately prior to use to prevent contamination that would alter the safety, identity, strength, quality, or purity of the drug preparation beyond that desired. In the case of equipment, utensils, and containers/closures used in the compounding of sterile drug preparations, cleaning, sterilization, and maintenance procedures as set forth in Board Rules.
- (c) Equipment and utensils used for compounding drugs must be stored in a manner to protect them from contamination. Immediately prior to the initiation of compounding operations, they must be inspected by the pharmacist and determined to be suitable for use.
- (d) Automatic, mechanical, electronic, or other types of equipment other than commercial scale manufacturing or testing equipment, may be used in the compounding of drug preparations. If such equipment is used, it shall be routinely inspected, calibrated (if necessary), or checked to ensure proper performance.

(3) Physical requirements for pharmacies compounding sterile parenteral preparations.

- (a) A pharmacy compounding or preparing sterile parenteral preparations shall have a designated area for preparing compounded, sterile parenteral preparations as defined in

USP 797. This area shall be physically separate from other areas and should be designed to avoid unnecessary traffic and airflow disturbances. It shall be used only for the preparation of sterile parental preparations.

- (b) Equipment and supplies for compounding sterile parenteral preparations. A pharmacy compounding sterile parenteral preparations shall have the following minimum equipment and supplies:

~~1. Laminar airflow hood (ISO 5) located within a clean room, or barrier isolator as described in USP 797;~~

~~2.~~1. Infusion pumps, if appropriate;

~~3.~~2. Sink, in working condition, with hot and cold running water, which is convenient to the compounding area for the purpose of hand scrubs prior to compounding;

~~4.~~3. Facility for light/dark field examination;

~~5.~~4. Appropriate disposal containers for used needles, syringes, etc., and if applicable, cytotoxic waste from the preparation of chemotherapy agents;

~~6. A Class II, vertical flow biological safety cabinet or appropriate barrier isolator, if chemotherapy agents are routinely prepared;~~

~~7.~~5. Refrigerator/freezer in working condition;

~~8.~~6. If compounding onsite using components which must be weighed, Class A Balance with an assortment of metric weights or a Class I or II Electronic Balance;

~~9.~~7. Disposable needles, syringes and other supplies needed for aseptic admixture;

~~10.~~8. Disinfectant cleaning solutions;

~~11.~~9. Handwashing agent with bactericidal action;

~~12.~~10. Disposable, lint free towels or an automatic hand dryer;

~~13.~~11. Appropriate filters and filtration equipment;

~~14.~~12. Disposable masks and sterile, disposable gloves, gowns, hair and shoe covers and goggles when indicated;

~~15.~~13. An oncology drug spill kit, if chemotherapy agents are routinely prepared.

~~16.~~14. For the purpose of emergency or immediate patient care, compounded sterile preparations are exempted from the requirements as outlined in USP 797.

- (4) Minimum equipment for pharmacies compounding non-sterile preparations.

(a) A compounding pharmacy must have all equipment required of a pharmacy in Chapter 480-10 of the Board Rules.

(b) Additionally, a compounding pharmacy must have the appropriate equipment for use in compounding as defined in USP Chapters 795 and 797.

- (5) References. In addition to references required of a pharmacy, pharmacies compounding sterile pharmaceuticals shall also have a current edition of or electronic access to an established reference on IV stability and incompatibility, such as, Handbook on Injectable Drugs or King's Guide to Parenteral Admixtures, current Federal requirements for sterile compounding and other reference material including but not limited to:

(a) "USP Pharmacists Pharmacopeia",

- (6) Variances.

(a) The pharmacist-in-charge may submit to the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy a typed request for a variance to the provisions relating to minimum equipment requirements. The

reasons for the request for a variance must be included in the submitted request. A variance shall be granted by the Board only when, in the judgment of the Board, there are sound reasons for doing so that relate to the necessary or efficient delivery of health care. After consideration by the Board, the requestor will be notified of the Board's decision in writing.

- (b) If approved, said letter(s) will serve as proof of the Board's approval for the variance indicated in the letter, and must be posted next to the inspection report.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-86, and 26-4-110.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-13-.01 DEFINITIONS, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter "Board") proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-13-.01 DEFINITIONS (hereinafter "proposed amendments").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy's web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

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The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-80, 26-4-83, 26-4-84, and 26-4-110.

At its meeting on October 22, 2025, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on October 22, 2025, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.



J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-13-.01 DEFINITIONS**

Purpose: To amend the definition of "in-patient" to remove potential regulatory barriers to "hospital-at-home" healthcare models. To amend the definition of "hospital" to remove an erroneous reference to a nonexistent "Department of Human Resources." To amend the definition of "hospital pharmacy license" to enhance rule clarity by removing permissive language determined by the Board to be inappropriate for this definitional Rule. This language has been substantially relocated to Rule 480-13-.06. To amend the definition of "standard ward inventory" to enhance clarity by removal of extraneous, commentary, and advisory language determined by the Board to be inappropriate for this definitional Rule. This language has been deleted. To make multiple non-substantive amendments to definitions throughout this Rule to improve formatting uniformity within this Rule and between Rule Chapters.

Main Features: The main features of this amendment are substantially described in the Rule Purpose.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-13-.01 DEFINITIONS**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-13-.01 Definitions

~~For purposes of these Rules and Regulations, the following definitions apply~~As used in this chapter, the term:

- (1) ~~“Hospital” means an institution which is primarily engaged in providing to inpatients, by or under the supervision of physicians, diagnostic services and therapeutic services for medical diagnosis, treatment, and care of injured, disabled, or sick persons or rehabilitation services for the rehabilitation of injured, disabled, or sick persons.~~
 - (a) ~~As the following are defined in O.C.G.A. § 31-6-2, this term includes: public, private, psychiatric, rehabilitative, geriatric, osteopathic, micro-hospitals, general cancer hospitals, and other specialty hospitals.~~Hospital. As defined by the Department of Human Resources;
- (2) ~~“Hospital pharmacy.” Hospital pharmacy is defined as~~means that portion of a hospital facility which is engaged in the manufacture, production, sale and distribution of drugs, medications, devices, and other materials used in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of injury, illness and disease (hereinafter referred to as "drugs"); and which is registered with the State Board of Pharmacy pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 26-4-110;
- (3) ~~“Hospital pharmacy license.” Hospital pharmacy license shall mean~~means a pharmacy license issued by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy to ~~said~~hospital pharmacies, which license is subject to special hospital pharmacy regulations as set forth herein, but exempt from other certain regulations and requirements pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. §§~~Sections~~ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, and 26-4-110 ~~whereas the licensee shall be subject to special hospital pharmacy regulations as set forth herein, but exempt from other certain regulations and requirements. To obtain the hospital pharmacy license, there must be employed a Director of Pharmacy.~~
 - (a) ~~“The Board authorizes the holder of a hospital pharmacy license to service patients of Nursing Homes, Long Term Care Facilities or Hospices as long as these entities are under the same ownership as the hospital pharmacy; however, such entities can only be serviced by the hospital pharmacy subject to the requirements as set forth by Georgia State Board of Pharmacy Rules 480-24, the rule for providing services to nursing homes, long term care facilities, and hospices. The hospital pharmacy is prohibited from maintaining standard ward (Floor Stock) inventories in such entities, but, it would allow the hospital pharmacy to supply emergency kits.~~
- (4) ~~In-patient.” In-patient shall mean~~means a patient who has been admitted to a hospital by order of a physician or other authorized healthcare practitioner for the purpose of receiving hospital medical, nursing, and related services, and whose care is the continuous responsibility of the hospital.~~who is confined to the hospital;~~
 - (a) An in-patient may receive such care:
 1. Within the hospital facility while occupying a hospital bed and receiving room, board, and treatment; or
 - ~~1.~~2. Through a hospital-at-home program approved or authorized under applicable law and regulation, whereby the hospital furnishes inpatient services in the patient’s home, via in-person and telemedicine care, including 24-hour nursing availability,

physician oversight, and access to diagnostic, therapeutic, and emergency resources equivalent to those provided on-site.

~~(4)~~(5) “Out-patient.” ~~Out patient shall mean~~means a patient who is not an in-patient, including patients on leave of absence;

~~(5)~~(6) “Remote ~~Location~~location”. ~~Remote location shall mean~~means a location away from the hospital or hospital pharmacy located within the United States where a pharmacist reviews and enters patient specific prescription drug orders for a hospital's patients.

~~(6)~~(7) “Remote ~~Order order Entry~~entry”. ~~Remote order entry shall mean~~ means the entry of information into a hospital’s patient record system made by a a pharmacist licensed in this state, who is an employee or contractor of either a pharmacy licensed in this state or a pharmacy that holds a Georgia nonresident pharmacy permit issued pursuant to Code Section 26-4-114.1, Remote Order Entry Pharmacist from a remote location anywhere in the United States indicating that the pharmacist has reviewed the patient specific drug order for a hospital patient, and has approved or disapproved the administration of the drug ~~for to~~ said patient, ~~and has entered the information in the hospital's patient record system.~~

~~(7)~~(8) “Remote Order Entry Pharmacist”. ~~A remote order entry pharmacist shall mean~~means a pharmacist licensed in this state ~~a pharmacist who is licensed to practice pharmacy in the State of Georgia,~~ who is at a remote location ~~located~~ within the United States, who is an employee or contractor of a pharmacy licensed in this state or a pharmacy that holds a nonresident pharmacy permit issued pursuant to Code Section 26-4-114.1, and who is under contract with or employed by the hospital to review and enter patient specific prescription drug orders for hospital patients when the hospital pharmacy is closed.

~~(8)~~(9) “Standard ward inventory.” ~~means a stock of legend drugs kept at one or more locations within the hospital, for which the Director of Pharmacy has established a list of the kind and quantity of legend drugs to be always kept at such location(s). The Director of Pharmacy or his/her pharmacist designee may, in the best interest of the patients served, establish one or more lists of the kind and quantity of legend drugs to be kept at one or more locations at all times within said hospital and such stocks of legend drugs shall be known as standard ward inventory. The use of standard ward inventory shall be minimized. A copy of the list of items on standard ward inventory must be kept by the Director of Pharmacy or his/her pharmacist designee. A standard ward inventory may be placed on an emergency vehicle licensed with the State Department of Human Resources. A contract or agreement must be signed between the hospital and the ambulance service and filed with the Department of Human Resources Licensure Division and the Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency (GDNA) before any legend drugs may be placed on said licensed vehicle. An agreement can be made with only one hospital.~~

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-80, 26-4-83, 26-4-84, 26-4-110.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-13-.05 PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter "Board") proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-13-.05 PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS (hereinafter "proposed amendments").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy's web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

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At its meeting on November 19, 2025, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

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For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.



J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-13-.05 PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Purpose:** To amend requirements for pharmacies to have laminar flow hoods, where not otherwise required for compliance with USP.
- Main Features:** Deletion of language requiring pharmacies to have laminar flow hoods as a general requirement.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-13-.05 PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-13-.05. Physical Requirements. ~~Amended~~

- (1) Area. A hospital pharmacy shall have within the hospital which it serves, sufficient floor space allocated to it to ~~insure~~ensure that drugs are prepared in sanitary, well-lighted and enclosed places, and which meet the other requirements of this section and the Georgia Pharmacy Laws. The hospital pharmacy space requirements should be a minimum of 10 square feet per hospital bed, which includes all areas assigned and under the direct control of the Director of Pharmacy.
- (a) The pharmacy of substance abuse treatment or mental health facility shall be exempt from the minimum square footage requirement provided that the pharmacy receives a satisfactory inspection from the Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency that shows that the pharmacy space is sufficient to supply the needs of the patients and that all aspect of the management and operations of the pharmacy comply with the law and the rules of the Board to ensure that the health, safety, and welfare of the patients served by the pharmacy are protected. No application for licensure of a pharmacy of a substance abuse treatment or mental health facility seeking an exemption shall be approved without a satisfactory inspection.
- (b) "Mental health facility" shall mean a specialized hospital, inpatient unit, or other institution that is licensed to provide twenty-four (24) hour care and has as its primary function the diagnosing and treating of patients with psychiatric disorders.
- (c) "Substance abuse treatment facility" shall mean a specialized hospital, inpatient unit, or other institution that is licensed to provide twenty-four (24) hour care and has as its primary function the diagnosing and treating of patients with substance use disorders.
- (2) Equipment and supplies. Each hospital pharmacy shall have sufficient equipment and physical facilities for proper compounding, dispensing, and storage of drugs, including parenteral preparations. The equipment and physical facilities shall include the following:
- (a) Compounding and dispensing area:
1. A refrigerator in operating condition with a thermometer, preferably a biological refrigerator;
 2. A sink in operating condition with hot and cold running water;
 3. A Class A Balance and an assortment of metric weights if utilizing a Class A Balance or a Class I or II Electronic Balance, if compounding onsite using components which must be weighed;
 4. Graduates of assorted sizes;
 5. Mortar and pestle;
 6. Two (2) spatulas and a counting tray;
 7. Typewriter, word processor, or computer with a label printer;
 8. Pill tile; and
 9. Other equipment as deemed necessary by the Director of Pharmacy.
- (b) Parenteral solution additives area as required in 480-13-.06(2)(a);
- ~~1. Laminar flowhood; and~~
- ~~2.1.~~ Facility for light-dark field examination.
- (c) Storage and receiving area;
- (d) Manufacturing and packaging area; and

- (e) Office space area.
- (3)
- (a) The pharmacy of a substance abuse treatment or mental health facility shall be exempt from sections (2)(a)(3.), (2)(b)(1.), and (2)(b)(2.) of this Rule, under the following terms and conditions provided:
 - 1. The Director of Pharmacy attests that the pharmacy will purchase only commercially prepared medications and intravenous preparations;
 - 2. The Director of Pharmacy attests that no compounding will occur on-site;
 - 3. The pharmacy includes the attestations in its application for licensure as a hospital pharmacy; and
 - 4. The pharmacy receives a satisfactory inspection from the Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency that shows that in the absence of the equipment, the pharmacy is sufficient to supply the needs of the patients and that all aspect of the management and operations of the hospital pharmacy comply with the law and rules of the Board to ensure that the health, safety, and welfare of the patients served by the pharmacy are protected.
 - (b) No application for licensure of a pharmacy of a substance abuse treatment or mental health facility seeking an exemption shall be approved without a satisfactory inspection.
 - (c) "Mental health facility" shall mean a specialized hospital, inpatient unit, or other institution that is licensed to provide twenty-four (24) hour care and has as its primary function the diagnosing and treating of patients with psychiatric disorders.
 - (d) "Substance abuse treatment facility" shall mean a specialized hospital, inpatient unit, or other institution that is licensed to provide twenty-four (24) hour care and has as its primary function the diagnosing and treating of patients with substance use disorders.
- (4) Each hospital pharmacy shall maintain a reference library which includes, at a minimum, the following:
- (a) Copy of and/or electronic or computer access to the latest edition of the Georgia Pharmacy Practice Act, the Georgia Controlled Substances Act and the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy;
 - (b) Copies of and/or electronic or computer access to current reference materials appropriate to the practice of the hospital pharmacy;
 - (c) Copy of and/or electronic or computer access to the latest edition of the American Society of Health-system Pharmacists Formulary Service;
 - (d) Compatibility charts;
 - (e) Current drug interaction references;
 - (f) Current antidote information;
 - (g) Copy of and/or electronic access or computer access to the latest edition of text and reference works covering theoretical and practical pharmacy, reference materials on general, organic, pharmaceutical and biological chemistry, toxicology, pharmacology, sterilization and disinfection.
- (5) Storage. All drugs shall be stored in the hospital pharmacy within designated areas which are sufficient to insure proper sanitation, temperature, light, ventilation, moisture control,

segregation, and security. Drug storage cabinets and unit dose carts at the nursing station shall be locked when the station is not in attendance by nursing personnel.

- (6) Controlled drug storage for Schedule II drugs. An enclosed controlled room with limited access capable of showing forced entry is preferable. However, a safe or metal cabinet adequately locked that is permanently affixed to the structure is acceptable.
- (7) Unattended areas. Whenever any area of a hospital pharmacy is not under the personal and direct supervision of authorized personnel, such areas shall be locked.
- (8) Security. All areas occupied by a hospital pharmacy shall be capable of being locked by key or combination, so as to prevent access by unauthorized personnel by force. The Director of Pharmacy shall designate in writing, by name and specific area, those persons who shall have access to particular areas within the pharmacy. These areas shall meet the security requirements of Federal and State Laws and Regulations. Only those persons so authorized shall be permitted to enter these areas.
- (9) Variances.
 - (a) The Director of Pharmacy may submit to the Board a typed request for a variance to the provisions relating to minimum equipment requirements. The reasons for the request for a variance must be included. A variance may be granted by the Board only when, in the judgment of the Board, there are sound reasons for granting the variance which relate to the necessary or efficient delivery of health care. After consideration by the Board, the Director of Pharmacy will be notified of the Board's decision in writing.
 - (b) If approved, said letter(s) will serve as proof of the Board's approval for each variance(s) indicated in the letter, and shall be posted next to the Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency inspection report.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-80, and 26-4-110.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-13-.06 DRUG DISTRIBUTION CONTROL, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter "Board") proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-13-.06 DRUG DISTRIBUTION CONTROL (hereinafter "proposed amendments").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy's web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to April 15, 2026. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. You may email your comments to james.joiner@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, and 26-4-110.

At its meeting on November 19, 2025, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on November 19, 2025, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.



J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-13-.06 DRUG DISTRIBUTION CONTROL**

- Purpose:** To amend requirements for pharmacies to have laminar flow hoods, where not otherwise required for compliance with USP. To restore language relating to pharmacy service of commonly owned facilities, which was removed from Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 480-13-.01.
- Main Features:** Deletion of language requiring pharmacies to have laminar flow hoods as a general requirement. Insertion of language relating to service of commonly owned facilities which was removed from Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 480-13-.01.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-13-.06 DRUG DISTRIBUTION CONTROL**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-13-.06. Drug Distribution Control

- (1) General. A drug distribution system is the entirety of that mechanism by which a prescription drug order is executed, from the time the practitioner transmits the order either orally or in writing to an authorized health professional to the time the ordered drug is administered to the patient or delivered to the patient for self-administration.
- (2) Responsibility. The Director of Pharmacy shall be responsible for the safe and efficient distribution, control, and accountability for drugs, including IV solutions and irrigation solutions. The other professional staff of the hospital shall cooperate with the Director of Pharmacy in meeting this responsibility and in ordering, administering, and accounting for the pharmaceutical materials to achieve this purpose. The Director of Pharmacy shall establish written procedures for the distribution of parenteral medications to achieve this goal. Accordingly, the Director of Pharmacy shall be responsible for, at a minimum, the following:
 - (a) The compounding, admixture, and quality control of large volume parenterals is the responsibility of a pharmacist and shall be prepared ~~under a Laminar Flow Hood or utilizing such other equipment to protect the integrity of the product, within the pharmacy department~~ in such a way as to meet the requirements of USP 797. Individuals who prepare or administer large volume parenterals must have special training to do so. These functions of IV admixture compounding shall be done primarily by the pharmacy department with exceptions allowed for specialty-care areas such as Intensive Care Units, Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories Intensive Care Units, etc., during emergency situations, or during unattended hours of the pharmacy department. When any part of the above functions (preparing, sterilizing, and labeling parenteral medications and solutions) is performed within the hospital but not under direct pharmacist supervision, the Director of Pharmacy shall be responsible for providing written guidelines and for approving the procedures to assure that all pharmaceutical requirements are met;
 - (b) All drugs must be identified up to the point of administration;
 - (c) It shall be the responsibility of the pharmacist on duty to sign the invoice(s), including signature, legible Georgia pharmacist license number, and date, for all controlled substances upon receipt and verification;
 - (d) The pharmacy must receive a direct copy, electronic or mechanical copy of a practitioner's order before the first dose of medication is dispensed except as defined by hospital stat order policy;
 - (e) Utilization of a pharmacy-generated patient profile. The patient profile shall be the official record of medications dispensed to the patient. The patient profile or the ability to generate such profile electronically shall be under the control of the Director of Pharmacy for a period of two (2) years. The patient profile shall contain at a minimum:
 1. Given and last name of the patient;
 2. Age;
 3. Sex;
 4. Provisional diagnosis;
 5. Room number;

6. Drug product dispensed, date dispensed, strength, dosage form, quantity and directions, and identification of dispensing pharmacist;
 7. Identification or differentiation of controlled substances;
 8. Intravenous therapy;
 9. Selected medical data;
 10. Drug history interview (when possible); and
 11. Sensitivities and allergies to drugs and foods;
- (f) Manufacture of drugs, if applicable;
 - (g) Establishment of specifications or use of compendia specifications for procurement of drugs, chemicals, devices and biologicals, subject to approval of the appropriate committee of the hospital;
 - (h) Participation in the development of a drug formulary for the hospital;
 - (i) filling and labeling all containers from which drugs are to be administered, after visual screening to determine that same are neither adulterated nor misbranded;
 - (j) Maintaining and making available a sufficient inventory of antidotes and other emergency drugs. Current antidote information, telephone numbers of regional poison control center(s) and other emergency assistance organizations, and other material and information as may be deemed necessary shall be maintained;
 - (k) Records of all transactions of the hospital pharmacy as may be required by law, and as may be necessary to maintain accurate control over the accountability for all pharmaceutical drugs, devices and materials. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the use of computer hard copy, where such copy meets all other requirements of the law;
 - (l) Participation in those aspects of the hospital patient care evaluation program which relate to pharmaceutical drug, device and material utilization and effectiveness; and
 - (m) Efficient messenger and delivery service to connect the pharmacy with appropriate parts of the facility throughout the normal workday.
- (3) Labeling.
- (a) For use inside the hospital, all drugs dispensed by a hospital pharmacy, including those for standard ward inventory, shall be dispensed in appropriate containers and adequately labeled so as to identify at a minimum, brand name or generic name, strength, lot number, and expiration date.
 - (b) For use outside the hospital, all drugs dispensed by a hospital pharmacy to patients about to be discharged or on leave of absence shall be labeled with the following information:
 1. Name, address, and telephone number of the hospital pharmacy;
 2. Date and identifying serial number;
 3. Patient's given and last name;
 4. Name of drug, (brand or generic) and strength;
 5. Directions for use by patient;
 6. Name of prescribing practitioner;
 7. Required precautionary information regarding controlled substances; and
 8. Such other and further accessory cautionary information as may be required or desirable for proper use by and safety of the patient.

- (c) Drugs added to parenteral solutions. Wherever any drugs are added to parenteral solutions, whether within or outside the direct and personal supervision of a licensed pharmacist, such admixture shall be labeled with a distinctive supplementary label indicating the name and amount of the drug added, date and time of addition, expiration date and time if applicable, and the identity of the person so adding.
- (4) Discontinued drugs. The Director of Pharmacy shall develop and implement policies and procedures to insure that outdated drugs and containers with worn, illegible, or missing labels are returned to the pharmacy for proper disposition.
 - (a) Full doses of controlled substances prepared for administration and not given must be destroyed by a licensed pharmacist or a licensed nurse and one witness. Any portions of controlled substances discontinued and taken from a medication delivery device shall be destroyed by a licensed pharmacist or a licensed nurse and one witness. The two persons witnessing the destruction must sign the destruction record at the time of destruction. The destruction record shall be returned to the pharmacy and must be signed by the pharmacist who is ultimately responsible for the accuracy of the information contained therein.
 - (b) In accordance with the policies and procedures developed by the Director of Pharmacy, discontinued non-controlled substances dispensed to hospital patients shall be returned to the pharmacy and evaluated by the licensed pharmacist to assure the integrity of the medication. If the integrity can be assured, the medication may be returned to the hospital's drug distributions system for re-issue. When the integrity cannot be assured, the medication must be separated immediately from the regular drug inventory and destroyed or transferred to a reverse distributor with a current license issued by the Board. The following method of destruction of non-controlled substances is approved by the Board for medications dispensed to hospital patients or patients residing in nursing homes or long term care units which are part of a hospital facility;
 1. Placed in a secure storage area at the facility separated from other medications. The drugs may be destroyed at the facility by the pharmacist and another licensed healthcare practitioner designated by the facility. However, before the destruction can take place, it must be verified that an inventory has been taken and recorded. The facility must maintain a written record of the destruction and the inventory for a two year period. This record shall include at a minimum the date, time, and personnel involved with the destruction and the method of destruction; or
 2. If the drugs are to be transferred to a reverse distributor with a current license issued by the Board, a record of the following must be maintained by the hospital pharmacy for a minimum of two years:
 - (i) An inventory of the drugs to be transferred including the names of the drugs; the dosage form(s) of the drugs and the quantity of the drugs; the inventory shall be verified by a pharmacy representative and a representative of the reverse distributor;
 - (ii) The date and time the drugs were taken from the pharmacy;
 - (iii) The name, Board permit number, address and telephone number of the destruction firm removing the drugs;

- (iv) The name and signature of the responsible person representing the reverse distributor who is physically removing the drug(s);
 - (v) The name and signature of the pharmacist representing the pharmacy transferring the drug(s) to the reverse distributor.
- (c) The following methods of destruction of controlled substances are approved by the Board of Pharmacy:
1. A securely attached wooden or metal cabinet within a locked limited-access area shall be used to store the drugs until the drugs are destroyed. When controlled drugs are discontinued or the patient expires, the medication shall be pulled from the active stock immediately and inventoried and verified by a pharmacist along with another licensed healthcare professional. The inventory must be recorded into a permanent record and the drugs shall then be placed in the aforementioned cabinet. This medication shall remain within the locked cabinet until such time as it is removed for destruction.
 2. The pharmacist shall establish a form, which shall include the following data:
 - (i) Date of discontinuance or inventory date;
 - (ii) Name of patient;
 - (iii) Name of pharmacy;
 - (iv) Identifying serial numbers;
 - (v) Name and strength of the drug; and
 - (vi) Quantity of the drugs in container(s) at the time of inventory.
 3. A licensed pharmacist or licensed nurse and one witness must destroy the drugs.
 4. Inventory of the drugs included in the final destruction must be taken with one copy retained by the facility. The inventory shall be certified by the two witnesses present at the destruction in the following format:

"We, whose signatures appear below, certify that these controlled substances have been reconciled, accounted for, and destroyed at ____ (location) on ____ (date) at ____ o'clock."

Name of drug
Strength of drug
Dosage form
Quantity of drug

(Signature and Title)

(Signature and Title)

(Signature and Title)

5. The Board and/or the GDNA may prohibit any pharmacist or hospital pharmacy from utilizing this method.
- (d) A method of off-site destruction allowable by the Board is as follows:

1. The drugs to be destroyed shall be immediately removed from the active stock and stored in a separate and secure location in the pharmacy until the drugs are transferred. When the drugs are transferred to a reverse distributor licensed by the Board, an inventory must be recorded and include the following information: the names of the drugs, the dosage forms of the drugs and the quantities of the drugs taken and witnessed by an authorized representative of the hospital pharmacy and the responsible person representing the reverse distributor.
 2. A receipt including the date and time the drugs were taken from the pharmacy; the name, Board permit number, address and telephone number of the reverse distributor removing the drugs; the inventory of the drugs; the name, signature and title of the responsible person representing the reverse distributor; and the name, signature and title of the pharmacy representative transferring the drugs. This receipt/record must be maintained by the hospital pharmacy for a minimum of two years.
- (5) Prescription drug orders. Drugs may be dispensed from the hospital pharmacy only upon written orders, direct or mechanical copies thereof, of authorized practitioners.
- (a) Authorization. The appropriate committee of the hospital shall, from time to time as appropriate, designate those practitioners who are authorized to issue prescription drug orders to the pharmacy.
 - (b) Abbreviations. Orders employing abbreviations and chemical symbols shall be utilized and filled only if such abbreviations and symbols appear on a published list of accepted abbreviations developed by the appropriate committee of the hospital.
 - (c) Requirements - Prescription drug orders for drugs, devices or materials for use by in-patients. Prescription drugs orders for use by in-patients shall, at a minimum, contain:
 1. Patient name and room number;
 2. Drug name, strength, directions for use; and
 3. Date and practitioner's signature.
 - (d) Requirements - Prescription drug orders for drugs, devices or materials for use by outpatients. Prescription drug orders for drugs, devices or materials for use by outpatients shall, at a minimum, contain all of the information required by Rule 480-13-.06(5)(c), and in addition include:
 1. Quantity to be dispensed;
 2. Practitioner's address and Drug Enforcement Administration identification code, if applicable, and
 3. Patient's address, if applicable.
- (6) Accountability of controlled drugs.
- (a) Proof of use of controlled drugs on standard ward inventory. Proof of use of controlled substances and such other drugs as may be specified by the appropriate committee of the hospital, shall be submitted to the pharmacy, on forms provided by the pharmacy. Proof of use forms shall specify at a minimum:
 1. Name of drug, strength, and dosage form;
 2. Dose administered;
 3. Name of authorized practitioner. This shall include, at a minimum, the initial and last name;

4. Given and last name of the patient;
 5. Date and time of administration to the patient;
 6. Signature of the individual administering, which shall include at a minimum, the initial, last name, and title;
 7. Documentation of the destruction of any and all unused portions by two signature verifications;
 8. Proof of receipt of the medications that bears identifying serial numbers; and
 9. Date the medication was issued and the date that the proof of use form was returned to the pharmacy.
- (b) Anesthesia departments that obtain controlled drugs from the hospital pharmacy must show accountability of the controlled drugs by proof of use as defined above.
- (c) Use of computer generated hard copy is permitted where such copy meets all other requirements of the law.
- (d) Any hospital pharmacy licensed by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy and in which controlled substances are administered to patients, may make on-premises destruction of small quantities of controlled substances prepared for parenteral and oral administration provided:
1. The controlled substance is either a whole dose or a partial dose of a single-dosage unit; and
 2. The single-dosage unit from which the ordered dose was prepared is the nearest possible size to the dose ordered.
- (e) Perpetual inventory of Schedule II substances shall be required and accountability of said drugs shall be by a proof of use form.
- (7) Recall. The Director of Pharmacy shall develop and implement a policy and procedure to assure that all drugs within the hospital included on a recall are returned to the pharmacy for proper disposition.
- (8) Suspected adverse drug reactions. All suspected adverse drug reactions shall be reported immediately to the ordering authorized practitioner, the pharmacy, and to the appropriate committee of the hospital. An appropriate entry on the patient's medical record shall also be made.
- (9) Records and reports. The Director of Pharmacy shall maintain access to and submit, as appropriate, such records and reports as are required to insure the patient's health, safety and welfare. Such records shall be readily available and subject to inspections by the Board of Pharmacy, the GDNA or its employees. These shall include, at a minimum, the following:
- (a) Patient profile;
 - (b) Proof of use;
 - (c) Reports of suspected adverse drug reactions;
 - (d) Inventories of night cabinets and emergency kits/crash carts;
 - (e) Inventories of the pharmacy;
 - (f) Biennial controlled substances inventories;
 - (g) Alcohol and flammables reports; and
 - (h) Such other records and reports as may be required by state Law and the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Pharmacy.

(10) Standard ward inventory (floor stock). The pharmacy department may distribute drugs within a hospital for the purpose of establishing and/or maintaining a standard ward inventory. Such drugs may be distributed only upon a signed requisition from a nurse or other authorized representative of said hospital or by an inventory replacement system. These drugs may be administered only pursuant to a practitioner's order. This practitioner's order will be forwarded to the pharmacy and these medications will be recorded on the pharmacy patient profile. A record of administration of drugs administered to patients in ancillary areas such as but not limited to the operating room, emergency room, anesthesiology, and x-ray shall be forwarded to the pharmacy and these medications shall be recorded on the patient profile. A survey of usage trends of each standard ward inventory shall be prepared monthly. Such records shall be retained for a period of two years.

(11) Emergency room dispensing. An authorized practitioner may, when drugs or controlled substances are not otherwise available from a licensed pharmacy, dispense an emergency amount of medication, but only sufficient quantities until such time as medication can be obtained from a pharmacy licensed as a retail pharmacy. Nurses or other unauthorized personnel may not dispense medication from the emergency room. The total act of dispensing shall be performed by an authorized practitioner in accordance with Pharmacy Laws, Rules and Regulations. Such medications shall be labeled as required in Section 480-13-.06(3)(b).

~~(11)~~(12) Service of facilities under common ownership. A hospital pharmacy may service the patients of Nursing Homes, Long Term Care Facilities, or Hospices as long as these entities are under the same ownership as the hospital pharmacy; however, such entities may only be serviced by the hospital pharmacy subject to the requirements set forth in Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. Ch. 480-24. A hospital pharmacy may supply emergency kits in the serviced facility, but is prohibited from maintaining standard ward inventories (floor stock) in any such facility.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, and 26-4-110.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-37-.03 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter “Board”) proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-37-.03 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS (hereinafter “proposed amendments”).

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy’s web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to April 15, 2026. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. You may email your comments to james.joiner@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-80, and 26-4-110.

At its meeting on November 19, 2025, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on November 19, 2025, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.



J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-37-.03 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS**

- Purpose:** To authorize Georgia licensed practical nurses to access and remove controlled substances from a RAMS. To update Rule formatting to comply with Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 590-2-1-.02.
- Main Features:** Amendment of Rule language to permit licensed practical nurses to access and remove dangerous drugs and controlled substances from a RAMS. Amendment of Rule numbering throughout the Rule to comply with Georgia regulatory formatting rules.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-37-.03 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-37-.03. Minimum Requirements

Minimum Requirements. A pharmacy may use a RAMS provided that:

- (1) ~~(a)~~ The pharmacy has a policy and procedure manual at the skilled nursing facility or hospice that includes:
 - (a) ~~1.~~—The type or name of each RAMS including a serial number or other identifying nomenclature;~~;~~
 - (b) ~~2.~~—A method to ensure security of a RAMS to prevent unauthorized access. Such method may include the use of electronic passwords, biometric identification (optic scanning or fingerprint) or other coded identification;~~;~~
 - (c) ~~3.~~—A process of filling and stocking a RAMS with drugs; an electronic or hard copy record of medication filled into the system including the product identification, lot number, and expiration date;~~;~~
 - (d) ~~4.~~—Documentation of inventory procedures including removal of any discontinued/outdated medications;~~;~~
 - (e) ~~5.~~—Compliance with a Continuous Quality Improvement Program;~~;~~ and
 - (f) ~~6.~~—A method to ensure that patient confidentiality is maintained.
- (2) ~~(b)~~ No more than a 30-day supply of each individual medication may be stocked in a RAMS at one time.
- (3) ~~(e)~~ All drugs in a RAMS must inventoried no less than once every 30 days and documentation must be maintained of the inventories including the removal of any discontinued/out of date medications.
- (4) ~~(d)~~ All the registered pharmacists, licensed pharmacy interns or registered pharmacy technicians involved in the process of stocking, entering information into RAMS, or inventorying the RAMS must be identified. No person shall be permitted to perform a function related to the machine that they are not authorized to do in the pharmacy. Specifically, where direct supervision is required in the pharmacy, such supervision must occur in duties related to the RAMS.
- (5) ~~(e)~~ Patient confidentiality must be maintained.
- (6) ~~(f)~~ The PIC, or a pharmacist designated by the PIC, must be able to revoke, add, or change access to RAMS at any time.
- (7) Except as otherwise provided by this Rule, (g)—~~O~~only a Georgia registered nurse or a Georgia licensed practical nurse may ~~be assigned to~~ access and remove dangerous drugs or controlled substances from a RAMS.
- ~~(8)~~ ~~(h)~~ ~~Only a Georgia registered nurse may access and remove controlled substances from a RAMS.~~
- ~~(9)~~(8) ~~(i)~~—The system ensures that each prescription is dispensed in compliance with the definition of dispense and the practice of the profession of pharmacy.
- ~~(10)~~(9) ~~(j)~~—The system shall maintain a readily retrievable electronic record to identify all pharmacists, pharmacy interns, or registered pharmacy technicians involved in the processing of the prescription order.

~~(11)~~(10) ~~(k)~~—A RAMS shall provide the ability to comply with product recalls generated by the manufacturer, distributor, or pharmacy. The system shall have a process in place to isolate affected lot numbers including an intermix of drug product lot numbers.

~~(12)~~(11) ~~(l)~~—The stocking or restocking of a dangerous drug or controlled substances shall be completed by:

- (a) ~~1.~~—A Georgia licensed pharmacist;³
- (b) ~~2.~~—A Georgia licensed pharmacy intern/extern under the direct on-site supervision of a Georgia licensed pharmacist;³ or
- (c) ~~3.~~—A Georgia registered pharmacy technician only under the following circumstances:
 1. ~~a.~~—If the remote automated medication system utilizes radio frequency identification or bar coding in the filling process, the pharmacy shall retain an electronic record of the filling activities of the pharmacy technician; or
 2. ~~b.~~—If the remote automated medication system does not utilize radio frequency identification or bar coding in the filling process, a pharmacist shall supervise continuously the filling activities of the pharmacy technician through a two-way audiovisual system.

~~(13)~~(12) ~~(m)~~—A RAMS must use at least two separate verifications, such as bar code verification, electronic verification, weight verification, radio frequency identification (RFID) or similar process to ensure that the proper medication is being dispensed from a RAMS.

~~(14)~~(13) ~~(n)~~—All medication shall be packaged and labeled in compliance with Board rules and laws for patient specific labeled medication and/or unit of use medication.

~~(15)~~(14) ~~(o)~~—The licensed pharmacist responsible for filling, verifying, or loading the RAMS shall be responsible for their individual action.

~~(16)~~(15) ~~(p)~~—A prescription drug dispensed by the RAMS pursuant to the requirements of this rule shall be deemed to have been certified by the pharmacist.

~~(17)~~(16) ~~(q)~~—A licensed pharmacist may remove discontinued and/or outdated medications from the RAMS and return such medications to the licensed pharmacy for proper disposition. A registered or licensed practical nurse may remove discontinued and/or outdated medications and place them in the designated secured return bin in a RAMS.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-80, and 26-4-110.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-48-.01 DEFINITIONS, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter “Board”) proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-48-.01 DEFINITIONS (hereinafter “proposed amendments”).

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy’s web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to April 15, 2026. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. You may email your comments to james.joiner@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, 26-4-110, 26-4-114.1.

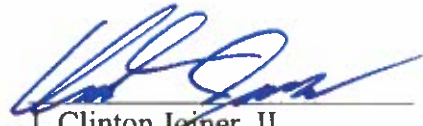
At its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.



J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.01 DEFINITIONS**

Purpose: To repeal the Rule. Chapter 480-48 is being repealed and replaced with a single set of rules applicable to allow forms of delivery.

Main Features: Repeal of the Rule in its entirety.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.01 DEFINITIONS**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-48-.01 ~~Definitions~~[Repealed]

~~For purposes of this chapter of the Rules and Regulations, the following definitions apply:~~

- ~~(a) — "Board" shall mean the Georgia Board of Pharmacy.~~
- ~~(b) — "Delivery by Mail" or "delivered by mail" or "delivery by mail" shall mean delivery to a patient or the patient's designee by the United States Postal Service or by a commercial common carrier from the pharmacy which fills the prescription.~~
- ~~(c) — "Delivery by Pharmacy" shall mean delivery directly to a patient or patient's designee from the pharmacy by contract or private carrier or by an employee of the pharmacy.~~
- ~~(d) — "Mail order pharmacy" shall mean a pharmacy that uses delivery by mail as a means of delivery of a prescription drug to a patient or the patient's designee.~~
- ~~(e) — "Pharmacy" means a pharmacy holding a current Board issued license to operate a pharmacy in Georgia and nonresident pharmacy permit holders.~~

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, 26-4-110, 26-4-114.1.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-48-.02 CONDITIONS FOR USE OF DELIVERY BY MAIL, AND NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter “Board”) proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-48-.02 CONDITIONS FOR USE OF DELIVERY BY MAIL (hereinafter “proposed amendments”).

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy’s web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to April 15, 2026. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. You may email your comments to james.joiner@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, 26-4-110, 26-4-110.1, 26-4-114.1.


At its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.



J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.02 CONDITIONS FOR USE OF DELIVERY BY MAIL**

Purpose: To repeal the Rule. Chapter 480-48 is being repealed and replaced with a single set of rules applicable to allow forms of delivery.

Main Features: Repeal of the Rule in its entirety.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.02 CONDITIONS FOR USE OF DELIVERY BY MAIL**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-48-.02. ~~Conditions for Use of Delivery by Mail~~Repealed

~~(1) — Any pharmacy can regularly employ the U.S. Postal Service or a common commercial carrier to deliver a drug which requires a prescription to a patient only after the patient has requested that a pharmacy deliver by mail his/her filled prescription drugs. Any pharmacy providing delivery by mail to its patients is required to follow applicable Georgia laws and rules.~~

~~(2) — A mail order pharmacy located outside this state is required to follow all applicable pharmacy and drug rules and laws of the state in which the pharmacy is physically located.~~

~~(3) — A mail order pharmacy shall ensure that all prescription medications are delivered to the patient in accordance with standards of the manufacturer, United States Pharmacopeia, Federal Food and Drug Administration and other recognized standards. A pharmacy shall ensure integrity of any drug requiring temperature control other than "room temperature storage" that is delivered by mail order and provide a notification to the patient of the timeliness in addressing the proper storage of the medication.~~

~~(a) — The shipping method may include the use of temperature tags, time temperature strips, insulated packaging, or a combination of these.~~

~~(b) — The notification method may be by verbal, written, electronic, or other technological means. If verbal, then the pharmacy must document the notification and maintain such documentation.~~

~~(4) — Any pharmacy using delivery by mail to deliver dispensed prescription drugs shall comply with the following conditions:~~

~~(a) — Any pharmacy that uses delivery by mail is accountable to the Board to arrange for the appropriate mailing/shipping process.~~

~~(b) — A mail order pharmacy shall provide a method by which a patient or patient's caregiver can notify the mail order pharmacy as to any irregularity in the delivery of their medication to include but not be limited to:~~

~~1. — Timeliness of delivery;~~

~~2. — Condition on the prescription drug upon delivery; and~~

~~3. — Failure to receive the proper prescription drug.~~

~~(c) — Medications designated as requiring special handling by this rule must be signed for upon delivery by the patient or patient's designee. In the event that the medication cannot be delivered, the package will not be left behind and shall be returned to the mailing or shipping service to be held for pickup until signed for by the patient or the patient's designee, or redelivered to the patient if so requested by the patient or the patient's caregiver. The Board has designated the following drugs as requiring special handling:~~

~~1. — All Schedule II, III, IV, and V controlled substances~~

~~(d) — A mail order pharmacy shall provide a process by which, if the delivery of a prescription medication is in any way compromised, the pharmacy will replace the patient's medication, to be delivered by next day delivery or the mail order pharmacy will immediately contact the patient's prescriber to arrange for a prescription for a minimum seven (7) day supply of the medication to be dispensed to the patient by a licensed pharmacy of the patient's choice.~~

~~(e) — A pharmacy that employs delivery by mail must provide written information, set forth in Board Rule 480-31-.01, for each drug that is delivered, and a method of electronic or telephonic communications for a pharmacist or a Georgia-licensed pharmacy intern under direct supervision of the pharmacist to provide consultation or counseling in accordance with the obligations of O.C.G.A. § 26-4-85. All such counseling will be documented in the pharmacy's patient records. It is sufficient proof to show counseling was refused if a patient or patient's caregiver does not contact the pharmacy.~~

~~(f) — The pharmacy shall provide information to the patient on the procedure that the patient should follow if any prescription drug does not arrive in a timely manner, or if the integrity of the packaging or medication has been compromised during shipment and delivery by mail.~~

~~(g) — A pharmacy using delivery by mail shall document in its records when the prescription drug was sent to the patient.~~

~~(h) — A pharmacy using delivery by mail shall document the instances when prescription drugs have been compromised during shipment and delivery by mail or when drugs do not arrive in a timely manner, and shall maintain such documentation for two (2) years. In addition, the mail order pharmacy shall maintain reports of patient complaints and internal/external audits about timeliness of deliveries, condition of the medication when received by patient including medication that was compromised in delivery, misfills of prescriptions, and the failure of a patient to receive medication. Such records shall be provided to the Board, upon request.~~

~~(i) — A pharmacy or a pharmacist shall refuse to deliver by mail a prescription drug which, in the professional opinion of the pharmacy or pharmacist may be clinically compromised by delivery by mail.~~

~~(j) — A mail order pharmacy shall make available to the patient or the patient's caregiver contact information of the Board of Pharmacy.~~

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, 26-4-110, 26-4-110.1, 26-4-114.1.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-48-.03 DELIVERY BY PHARMACY, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter "Board") proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-48-.03 DELIVERY BY PHARMACY (hereinafter "proposed amendments").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy's web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to April 15, 2026. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. You may email your comments to james.joiner@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-110.

At its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.



J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.03 DELIVERY BY PHARMACY**

Purpose: To repeal the Rule. Chapter 480-48 is being repealed and replaced with a single set of rules applicable to allow forms of delivery.

Main Features: Repeal of the Rule in its entirety.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.03 DELIVERY BY PHARMACY**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-48-.03: ~~Delivery by Pharmacy~~[Repealed]

~~Any pharmacy may provide for delivery by pharmacy upon the request of the patient or the patient's designee. The Board will hold the pharmacy responsible for any problems in the service of delivery by pharmacy. In order for a delivery to be considered delivery by pharmacy, the delivery must be on a continuous route from the pharmacy to the patient or the patient's designee. All medications shall be maintained within the temperature ranges recommended by the manufacturer until the delivery has been completed. All deliveries of controlled substances must be signed for upon delivery by the patient or patient's designee.~~

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-110.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-48-.01 DEFINITIONS, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter "Board") proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-48-.01 DEFINITIONS (hereinafter "proposed amendments").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy's web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to April 15, 2026. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. You may email your comments to james.joiner@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, and 26-4-110.

At its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.



J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.01 DEFINITIONS**

Purpose: To replace the existing Chapter 480-48 to provide a single set of rules applicable to all forms of delivery in Georgia.

Main Features: Provide definitions for terms used in this chapter.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.01 DEFINITIONS**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-48-.01 Definitions

As used in this Chapter, the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) Except as otherwise provided herein, all terms used in this Chapter shall have the meaning provided in O.C.G.A. § 26-4-5.
- (2) "Pharmaceutical Autonomous Delivery System" ("PADS") means a conveyance utilizing an unmanned autonomous aerial or ground vehicle for the delivery of controlled substances or dangerous drugs without direct human operation.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, and 26-4-110

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-48-.02 CONDITIONS FOR USE OF DELIVERY, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter “Board”) proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-48-.02 CONDITIONS FOR USE OF DELIVERY (hereinafter “proposed amendments”).

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy’s web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to April 15, 2026. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. You may email your comments to james.joiner@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, and 26-4-110.

At its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.



J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.02 CONDITIONS FOR USE OF DELIVERY**

Purpose: To replace the existing Chapter 480-48 to provide a single set of rules applicable to all forms of delivery in Georgia.

Main Features: Sets forth requirements for all Georgia licensees who desire to provide drug delivery service to their patients.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.02 CONDITIONS FOR USE OF DELIVERY**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-48-.02 Conditions for Use of Delivery

- (1) A pharmacy may deliver prescriptions to a location determined by the patient or the patient's designee.
- (2) A pharmacy may employ various methods, or combinations of methods, to deliver prescriptions, including but not limited to:
 - (a) the United States Postal Service;
 - (b) commercial common carriers;
 - (c) private contract carriers;
 - (d) pharmacy personnel;
 - (e) PADS; or
 - (f) Such other delivery method as may be authorized by rule or law.
- (3) Opportunity for Patient Counseling. For each prescription delivered, pharmacies shall provide patients with a working telephone number to speak with a licensed pharmacist who is physically located in the United States or a US territory and is an employee or contractor of the dispensing pharmacy.
- (4) Pharmacies shall provide patients with the telephone number and website for the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy. Pharmacies shall be responsible for updating this information within 90 days of any change.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, and 26-4-110

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-48-.03 PRESCRIPTION INTEGRITY, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter "Board") proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-48-.03 PRESCRIPTION INTEGRITY (hereinafter "proposed amendments").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy's web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to April 15, 2026. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. You may email your comments to james.joiner@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, and 26-4-110.

At its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.



J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.03 PRESCRIPTION INTEGRITY**

- Purpose:** To replace the existing Chapter 480-48 to provide a single set of rules applicable to all forms of delivery in Georgia.
- Main Features:** Sets forth drug integrity requirements applicable to delivery of drugs in Georgia.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.03 PRESCRIPTION INTEGRITY**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-48-.03 Prescription Integrity

- (1) Pharmacies shall ensure that prescription medications are delivered in a manner that preserves their integrity by maintaining appropriate storage and handling conditions for compounded preparations and in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications for commercially available products.
- (2) When delivering prescription medications that require refrigeration or frozen storage conditions, pharmacies must implement at least one of the following methods to ensure proper temperature control:
 - (a) Delivery of the medication to the patient or the patient's designee within one hour from the time it departs the pharmacy;
 - (b) Use of temperature control tags capable of detecting both hot and cold temperature excursions; or
 - (c) Such other method, supported by documented testing or validation, demonstrated to maintain a drug at appropriate storage conditions.
- (3) Pharmacies shall maintain all documentation required by this Rule in a readily retrievable format and shall be able to provide such documentation on-site to the Board or GDNA upon request.
- (4) Pharmacies shall ensure appropriate shipping conditions for drugs that must be maintained at controlled temperatures or other conditions.
- (5) If a prescription is lost or if the drug's integrity is compromised at no fault of the patient before the patient receives it, the pharmacy shall:
 - (a) Replace the medication via next-day delivery at no cost to the patient; or
 - (b) Contact the patient's prescriber to arrange for a prescription for a minimum of seven (7) days' supply of the medication to be dispensed to the patient by a licensed pharmacy of the patient's choice.
- (6) No pharmacy shall be liable pursuant to paragraph 4 herein for drugs lost or compromised as a result of the patient's own action, inaction, or neglect.
- (7) The pharmacy shall provide information to the patient on the procedure to follow if any prescription does not arrive in a timely manner, or if the integrity of the packaging or medication is suspected of being compromised during delivery.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, and 26-4-110.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-48-.04 PRESCRIPTION SECURITY, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter "Board") proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-48-.04 PRESCRIPTION SECURITY (hereinafter "proposed amendments").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy's web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to April 15, 2026. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. You may email your comments to james.joiner@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, and 26-4-110.

At its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.



J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.04 PRESCRIPTION SECURITY**

Purpose: To replace the existing Chapter 480-48 to provide a single set of rules applicable to all forms of delivery in Georgia.

Main Features: Sets forth drug security requirements applicable to delivery of drugs in Georgia.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.04 PRESCRIPTION SECURITY**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-48-.04 Prescription Security

(1) Schedule II, III, IV, and V controlled substance prescriptions may be delivered, provided the package is signed for by the patient or the patient's designee. If a delivery requiring signature pursuant to this section is unsuccessful, the package shall not be left unattended and must be returned to the pharmacy or shipping service to be held for pickup until properly signed for or redelivered upon the patient's request.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, and 26-4-110.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-48-.05 RECORD KEEPING, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter "Board") proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-48-.05 RECORD KEEPING (hereinafter "proposed amendments").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy's web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to April 15, 2026. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. You may email your comments to james.joiner@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, and 26-4-110.

At its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.



J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.05 RECORD KEEPING**

- Purpose:** To replace the existing Chapter 480-48 to provide a single set of rules applicable to all forms of delivery in Georgia.
- Main Features:** Sets forth record keeping requirements applicable to delivery of drugs in Georgia.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.05 RECORD KEEPING**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-48-.05 Record Keeping

(1) Pharmacies shall maintain the following documentation for delivered prescriptions.

(a) Method of delivery;

(b) Delivery address;

(c) Recipient's signature (if required by Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 480-48-.04;

(d) Date of shipment or release to a driver/carrier for delivery;

(e) Date of delivery to patient's specified location.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, and 26-4-110.

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, OR REPEAL RULE
RULE 480-48-.06 NOT APPLICABLE TO WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION, AND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (hereinafter “Board”) proposes to adopt a new rule, or amend or repeal a rule of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, to wit: Rule 480-48-.06 NOT APPLICABLE TO WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION (hereinafter “proposed amendments”).

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy’s web page at www.gbp.georgia.gov.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to April 15, 2026. Written comments should be addressed to the Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. You may email your comments to james.joiner@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed amendments will be considered for adoption by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM on April 22, 2026 at Office of the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, East Tower, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30334. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy has the authority to adopt the proposed amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, and 26-4-110.

At its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rule amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22.

Also, at its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 16-13-22 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this chapter will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of pharmacy.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 24th day of February 2026.



J. Clinton Joiner, II
Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

Posted: February 25, 2026.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.06 NOT APPLICABLE TO WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION**

Purpose: To replace the existing Chapter 480-48 to provide a single set of rules applicable to all forms of delivery in Georgia.

Main Features: Sets forth the conditions under which licensed pharmaceutical wholesalers are exempt from the requirements of this Chapter.

**TEXT OF PROPOSED GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY RULE
RULE 480-48-.06 NOT APPLICABLE TO WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION**

NOTE: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Text of the proposed rule is attached hereto.

Rule 480-48-.06 Not Applicable to Wholesale Distribution

(1) In the wholesale distribution of controlled substances or dangerous drugs, nothing in this Chapter shall be construed as to authorize any practice prohibited by federal or state law or regulation; nor shall this Chapter be construed as to prohibit any practice authorized by federal or state law or regulation.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 26-4-5, 26-4-27, 26-4-28, 26-4-60, 26-4-80, 26-4-85, and 26-4-110.