

Mandatory Registration with the District of Columbia Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (DC PDMP) Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is a Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)?

The PDMP is an electronic database used to monitor and collect data on the dispensation of prescription data for Schedule II, III, IV and V controlled substances, as well as products containing Butalbital and Cyclobenzaprine. The District of Columbia PDMP (DC PDMP) is designed for DC licensed prescribers and dispensers to use as a tool to support informed patient care and to reduce addiction and overdose trends within the District/Maryland/Virginia (DMV) area. There is no cost for registering or accessing the database.

2. How do I find laws and regulations that govern the PDMP in the District of Columbia?

District of Columbia PDMP laws and regulations can be found on the DC PDMP website - <https://dchealth.dc.gov/PDMP>

3. Which drugs are monitored?

Substances included in the PDMP are schedule II, III, IV and V controlled substances, as well as products containing Butalbital and Cyclobenzaprine. (Gabapentin will be added as a covered substance in summer 2019.)

4. Is there a requirement to register with the PDMP?

Yes, all prescribers and dispensers who are licensed in DC are required to register with the DC PDMP. According to DC Law L22-0288, any prescriber who is currently licensed, or becomes licensed before March 31, 2019, in the District to prescribe a controlled substance or other covered substance in the course of his or her professional practice, and any dispenser who is currently licensed, in the District to dispense a controlled substance or other covered substance to an ultimate user or his or her agent shall register with the PDMP.

5. When is the deadline to register with the DC PDMP for prescribers and dispensers who are already licensed in DC?

The deadline to register is July 31, 2019.

6. Is there a cost to register for the DC PDMP?

No, registration is free for DC PDMP users.

7. Are prescribers and dispensers required to query the DC PDMP?

No, prescribers and dispensers who are licensed in DC are only required to register with the PDMP. There is no mandate to use, query, or check the PDMP.

8. How do I register for the DC PDMP?

The registration web site is: <https://districtofcolumbia.pmpaware.net/login>.

Licensed prescribers will need the following information to complete their registration:

- DEA Number
- NPI
- DC Health Professional License Number (including any letters and numbers)
- DC Controlled Substance Registration Number (if applicable)

Licensed pharmacists will need the following information to complete their registration:

- DC Health Professional License Number (including any letters and numbers)
- Employer DEA Number
- Employer NPI

Special Cases:

- Medical Residents or Prescribers without a DEA Number
 - Register as a “Prescriber without DEA”
- Pharmacists without an Employer DEA or NPI Number
 - Register as a “Non-Dispensing Pharmacist”
- Optometrists
 - DC Health Professional License Number (including any letters and numbers)
 - NPI if applicable (not required)
- Veterinarians
 - Enter a string of seven (7) zeros (0000000) in place of an NPI number

After filling out your information successfully, you will be required to verify your email address. Please click the link in the automatically generated email to complete your registration. If you do not see the email in your inbox, it may have gone to your spam or junk folder. Your registration will not be considered complete until you verify your email address by clicking the link.

9. If I am a DC licensed practitioner with a DEA number but do not have a CS Registration, do I need to apply for a Controlled Substance Registration to register with the DC PDMP?

No, practitioners with a DEA number who do not prescribe in the District do not need a Controlled Substance License to register for the PDMP.

10. Do licensed prescribers who do not usually prescribe, such as pathologists and radiologists, need to register for the PDMP?

Yes, all prescribers who are licensed in DC are required to register with the PDMP.

11. Do prescribers and pharmacists who practice in other states and jurisdictions have to register with the DC PDMP?

Yes, all prescribers and dispensers who are licensed in DC must register with the DC PDMP, including those who practice in other states and jurisdictions. Please note that even if you have registered with a PDMP in another state, you still have to complete the registration process for the DC PDMP.

12. Are retired practitioners required to register with the DC PDMP?

If a retired prescriber or dispenser still maintains a DC professional license, he or she must register for the DC PDMP. Those without a DEA number or NPI may register as a "Prescriber without a DEA" or "Non-Dispensing Pharmacist."

13. Are optometrists required to register with the DC PDMP?

Yes, since optometrists are licensed to prescribe substances covered in the PDMP, they are required to register with the DC PDMP. Optometrists do not need a DEA number or controlled substance license to register. They only need their DC professional license number and NPI (if applicable).

14. If I access PDMP information through a health information exchange (HIE) such as CRISP, does that mean I am registered for the DC PDMP?

The DC PDMP is separate from health information exchanges like CRISP. Please ensure that you are registered with the DC PDMP in addition to any HIEs you may use in your practice.

15. Where can I find general Frequently Asked Questions about the DC PDMP?

More questions and answers can be found on the DC PDMP website:
<https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/prescription-drug-monitoring-program>

16. Where can I find proof of my DC PDMP registration for my own records?

If you ever need to prove that you registered for the DC PDMP, once you are logged into the system, you can click on your name in the top right corner, then click “My Profile” from the drop down list, and then click the “Download PDF” icon under the DC Health logo. That PDF will include your registration information.

17. Who do I contact for questions about the PDMP?

All questions and press inquiries regarding the PDMP must be submitted in writing. Interested parties may send inquiries by email to doh.pdmp@dc.gov or by regular mail to:

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
Health Regulation and Licensing Administration
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Washington, DC 20002