



Prescription Monitoring Program State Profiles - Arkansas

Research current through December 2014.

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ARKANSAS

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- Status of Program: Operational
- Status of Program – operational
- Housing Entity – Department of Health
- Advisory Commission – yes
- Funding – legislative appropriations; transfers from the Board of Pharmacy fund; grants, gifts, or donations received by the Board
- Drugs Monitored – Schedules II – V
- Who’s Required to Report Dispensing Information – practitioner who dispenses; practitioner includes physicians, dentists, veterinarians, advanced practice nurses, physician assistants, pharmacists, scientific investigators or other persons licensed, registered, or otherwise permitted to prescribe, dispense, distribute, conduct research with respect to, or to administer a controlled substance in the course of professional practice or research
- Exemptions from Reporting – licensed hospital pharmacy for the purpose of outpatient services, inpatient hospital care, or at the time of discharge from a hospital, except for a pharmacy owned by a hospital that has a retail pharmacy permit when the pharmacy is distributing controlled substances directly to the public; a wholesale distributor of Schedule II-V substances; a practitioner or other authorized person who administers a controlled substance
- Nonresident Pharmacies Required to Report - yes
- Veterinarians Required to Report – yes
- Data Collection Interval – weekly/7 days
- Notice to Consumers – no
- Interstate Sharing – with other PMPs
- Persons Authorized to Receive Information – state medical examiner; local, state, and federal law enforcement and prosecutorial officials; licensing/regulatory boards; patient or parent of minor child; prescribers; dispensers; DHS or the Crimes Against Children Division of the State Police
- Delegates Allowed – no
- De-identified Data Provided – yes
- Unsolicited Reports – to prescribers and pharmacists
- Training Required – no
- Mandatory Enrollment – no
- Mandatory Access - no

West's Arkansas Code Annotated (2014)
Title 20. Public Health and Welfare
Subtitle 2. Health and Safety (Chapters 6 to 44)
Chapter 7. State Board of Health--Department of Health
Subchapter 6. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Act

§ 20-7-604. Requirements for the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

(a) The State Board of Health shall create the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program upon the Department of Health's procuring adequate funding to establish the program.

(b)(1) Each dispenser shall submit to the department information regarding each controlled substance dispensed.

(2) A dispenser located outside Arkansas and licensed and registered by the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy shall submit to the department information regarding each controlled substance prescription dispensed to an ultimate user whose address is within Arkansas.

(3) The board shall create a controlled substances database for the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

(c) Each dispenser required to report under subsection (b) of this section shall submit to the department by electronic means information that shall include without limitation:

(1) The dispenser's identification number;

(2) The date the prescription was filled;

(3) The prescription number;

(4) Whether the prescription is new or is a refill;

(5) The National Drug Code number for the controlled substance that is dispensed;

(6) The quantity of the controlled substance dispensed;

(7) The number of days' supply dispensed;

(8) The number of refills ordered;

(9)(A) A patient identifier.

(B) A patient identifier shall not be a social security number or a driver's license number;

(10) The patient's name;

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- (11) The patient's address;
- (12) The patient's date of birth;
- (13) The patient's gender;
- (14) The prescriber's identification number;
- (15) The date the prescription was issued by the prescriber; and
- (16) The source of the payment for the prescription.

(d) Practitioners are encouraged to access or check the information in the controlled substance database created under this subchapter before prescribing, dispensing, or administering medications.

(e) This subchapter does not prohibit licensing boards from requiring practitioners to access or check the information in the controlled substance database as a part of a review of the practitioner's professional practice.

(f) Each dispenser shall submit the required information in accordance with transmission methods and frequency established by the department.

(g) The department shall create a process for patients to address errors, inconsistencies, and other matters in their record as maintained under this section, including cases of breach of privacy and security.

(h) The department shall limit access to only those employees whose access is reasonably necessary to carry out this section.

West's Arkansas Code Annotated (2014)
Title 20. Public Health and Welfare
Subtitle 2. Health and Safety (Chapters 6 to 44)
Chapter 7. State Board of Health--Department of Health
Subchapter 6. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Act

§ 20-7-605. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Advisory Committee--Creation--Members

(a) The Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Advisory Committee shall be created by the State Board of Health upon the Department of Health's procuring adequate funding to establish the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

(b) The mission of the advisory committee is to consult with and advise the Department of Health on matters related to the establishment, maintenance, operation, and evaluation of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

(c) The committee shall consist of:

(1) One (1) representative designated by each of the following organizations:

(A) The Arkansas Academy of Physician Assistants;

(B) The Arkansas Association of Chiefs of Police;

(C) The Arkansas Drug Director;

(D) The Arkansas Medical Society;

(E) The Arkansas Nurses Association;

(F) The Arkansas Optometric Association;

(G) The Arkansas Osteopathic Medical Association;

(H) The Arkansas Pharmacists Association;

(I) The Arkansas Podiatric Medical Association;

(J) The Arkansas Prosecuting Attorneys Association;

(K) The Arkansas Sheriffs' Association;

(L) The Arkansas State Dental Association;

(M) The Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association;

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(N) The State Board of Health;

(O) The Arkansas Public Defender Commission; and

(P) A mental health provider or certified drug and alcohol counselor; and

(2) One (1) consumer appointed by the Governor.

West's Arkansas Code Annotated (2014)
Title 20. Public Health and Welfare
Subtitle 2. Health and Safety (Chapters 6 to 44)
Chapter 7. State Board of Health--Department of Health
Subchapter 6. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Act

§ 20-7-606. Confidentiality

(a) Prescription information submitted to the Department of Health under this subchapter is confidential and not subject to the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, § 25-19-101 et seq.

(b)(1) The controlled substances database created in this subchapter and all information contained in the controlled substances database and any records maintained by the department or by an entity contracting with the department that is submitted to, maintained, or stored as a part of the controlled substances database is privileged and confidential, is not a public record, and is not subject to subpoena or discovery in a civil proceeding.

(2) Information in the controlled substances database may be accessed by:

(A) A certified law enforcement officer pursuant to a criminal investigation but only after the law enforcement officer obtains a search warrant signed by a judge that demonstrates probable cause to believe that a violation of federal or state criminal law has occurred, that specified information contained in the database would assist in the investigation of the crime, and that the specified information should be released to the certified law enforcement officer;

(B) A regulatory body engaged in the supervision of activities of licensing or regulatory boards of practitioners authorized to prescribe or dispense controlled substances; or

(C) A person or entity investigating a case involving breaches of privacy involving the database or its records.

(D) The Department of Human Services or the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of State Police if:

(i) The purpose of the database access is related to an investigation under the Child Maltreatment Act, § 12-18-101 et seq., and not pursuant to a criminal investigation by a certified law enforcement officer; and

(ii) The Department of Human Services has obtained a court order to access the database under § 12-18-604.

(c) This section does not apply to information, documents, or records created or maintained in the regular course of business of a pharmacy, medical, dental, optometric, or veterinary practitioner, or other entity covered by this subchapter, and all information, documents, or records otherwise available from original sources are not immune from discovery or use in a

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civil proceeding merely because the information contained in the records was reported to the controlled substances database under this subchapter.

(d) The department shall establish and enforce policies and procedures to ensure that the privacy and confidentiality of patients are maintained and that patient information collected, recorded, transmitted, and stored is protected and not disclosed to persons except as listed in § 20-7-607.

(e) The Prescription Drug Monitoring Program shall establish and maintain a process for verifying the credentials and authorizing the use of prescription information by individuals and agencies listed in § 20-7-607.

West's Arkansas Code Annotated (2014)
Title 20. Public Health and Welfare
Subtitle 2. Health and Safety (Chapters 6 to 44)
Chapter 7. State Board of Health--Department of Health
Subchapter 6. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Act

§ 20-7-607. Providing prescription monitoring information

(a)(1) The Department of Health may review the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program information, including without limitation a review to identify information that appears to indicate whether a person may be obtaining prescriptions in a manner that may represent misuse or abuse of controlled substances.

(2) If information of misuse or abuse is identified, the department shall notify the practitioners and dispensers who prescribed or dispensed the prescriptions.

(b) The department shall provide information in the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program upon request and at no cost only to the following persons:

(1) A person authorized to prescribe or dispense controlled substances for the purpose of providing medical or pharmaceutical care for his or her patients or for reviewing information regarding prescriptions that are recorded as having been issued or dispensed by the requester;

(2) A patient who requests his or her own prescription monitoring information;

(3) A parent or legal guardian of a minor child who requests the minor child's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program information;

(4)(A) A designated representative of a professional licensing board of the professions of the healing arts representing health care disciplines whose licensees are prescribers pursuant to an investigation of a specific individual, entity, or business licensed or permitted by that board.

(B) Except as permitted by subsection (a)(2) of this section, the department shall provide information under subsection (b)(4)(A) of this section only if the requesting board states in writing that the information is necessary for an investigation;

(5) The State Medical Examiner as authorized by law to investigate causes of deaths for cases under investigation pursuant to his or her official duties and responsibilities;

(6) Local, state, and federal law enforcement or prosecutorial officials engaged in the administration, investigation, or enforcement of the laws governing controlled substances required to be submitted under this subchapter pursuant to the agency's official duties and responsibilities; and

(7) Personnel of the department for purposes of administration and enforcement of this subchapter.

(c) Information collected under this subchapter shall be maintained for three (3) years.

(d) The department may provide information to public or private entities for statistical, research, or educational purposes after encrypting or removing the patient's name, street name and number, patient identification number, month and day of birth, and prescriber information that could be used to identify individual patients or persons who received prescriptions from dispensers, or both.

West's Arkansas Code Annotated (2014)
Title 20. Public Health and Welfare
Subtitle 2. Health and Safety (Chapters 6 to 44)
Chapter 7. State Board of Health--Department of Health
Subchapter 6. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Act

§ 20-7-608. Information exchange with other prescription drug monitoring programs

- (a) The Department of Health may provide prescription monitoring information to other states' prescription drug monitoring programs, and the information may be used by those programs consistent with this subchapter.
- (b) The department may request and receive prescription monitoring information from other states' prescription drug monitoring programs and may use the information under this subchapter.
- (c) The department may develop the capability to transmit information to other prescription drug monitoring programs and receive information from other prescription drug monitoring programs employing the standards of exchangeability.
- (d) The department may enter into written agreements with other states' prescription drug monitoring programs for the purpose of describing the terms and conditions for sharing of prescription information under this subchapter.

West's Arkansas Code Annotated (2014)
Title 20. Public Health and Welfare
Subtitle 2. Health and Safety (Chapters 6 to 44)
Chapter 7. State Board of Health--Department of Health
Subchapter 6. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Act

§ 20-7-610. Authority to seek funding

(a) The Department of Health may make application for, receive, and administer grant funding from public or private sources for the development, implementation, or enhancement of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

(b) A fee shall not be levied against practitioners for the purpose of funding or complying with the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

West's Arkansas Administrative Code (2014)
Title 007. Department of Health
Division 07. Pharmacy Services
Rule 4. Regulations Pertaining to Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

007.07.4-IV. Requirements for the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

(a) The State Board of Health shall create the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program upon the Department of Health's procuring adequate funding to establish the program.

(b)(1) Each dispenser shall submit to the department information regarding each Schedule II, III, IV, or V controlled substance dispensed.

(2) A dispenser located outside Arkansas and licensed and registered by the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy shall submit to the department information regarding each Schedule II, III, IV, or V controlled substance prescription dispensed to an ultimate user whose address is within Arkansas.

(3) The board shall create a controlled substances database for the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

(c) Each dispenser required to report under subsection (b) of this section shall submit to the department by electronic means information that shall include without limitation the following:

(1) The dispenser's identification number;

(2) The date the prescription was filled;

(3) The prescription number;

(4) Whether the prescription is new or is a refill;

(5) The National Drug Code number for the controlled substance that is dispensed;

(6) The quantity of the controlled substance dispensed;

(7) The number of days' supply dispensed;

(8) The number of refills ordered;

(9)(A) A patient identifier.

(B) A patient identifier shall not be a social security number or a driver's license number;

(10) The patient's name;

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- (11) The patient's address;
- (12) The patient's date of birth;
- (13) The patient's gender;
- (14) The prescriber's identification number;
- (15) The date the prescription was issued by the prescriber; and
- (16) The source of the payment for the prescription.

(d) Practitioners are encouraged to access or check the information in the controlled substance database created under this section before prescribing, dispensing, or administering medications.

(e) This section does not prohibit licensing boards from requiring practitioners to access or check the information in the controlled substance database as a part of a review of the practitioner's professional practice.

(f)(1) Each dispenser shall submit the required information in accordance with the Standard for Prescription Monitoring Programs of the American Society for Automation in Pharmacy (ASAP) Version 4 Release 2 September 2011, incorporated by reference.

(2) Data shall be submitted via CD-ROM, a secure File Transfer Protocol (FTP), Virtual Private Network (VPN), https: or other methods approved by the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

(3) A dispenser shall report the controlled substance dispensing information records required under Arkansas Code Annotated §§ 20-7-601 to -614 and these regulations weekly for the previous week, Sunday through Saturday. If controlled substances were not dispensed for the reporting period, the dispenser shall submit a Zero Report in accordance with ASAP Version 4 Release 2 September 2011.

(4) The department or the department's contractor shall notify a dispenser of an error in data reporting. Upon receiving notification of an error in data reporting, the dispenser shall take appropriate measures to correct the error and transmit the corrected data to the department or the department's contractor within 14 days of being notified of the error.

(g) The department's process for patients to address errors, inconsistencies, and other matters in their record as maintained under this section, including in cases of breach of privacy and security shall comply with Sections 261 through 264 of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996, Public Law 104-191 (the Administrative Simplification provisions) and regulations 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164 (“the HIPAA Security and Privacy Rule”) and the HITECH (Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health) Act as enacted by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 (Pub. L. 111-5), pursuant to Title XIII of Division A and Title IV of Division B.

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(h) The department shall limit access to only those employees whose access is reasonably necessary to carry out this section.

West's Arkansas Administrative Code (2014)
Title 007. Department of Health
Division 07. Pharmacy Services
Rule 4. Regulations Pertaining to Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

007.07.4-V. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Advisory Committee

(a) The State Board of Health shall create the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Advisory Committee upon the Department of Health's procuring adequate funding to establish the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

(b) The mission of the advisory committee is to consult with and advise the Department of Health on matters related to the establishment, maintenance, operation, and evaluation of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

(c) The committee shall consist of:

(1) One (1) representative designated by each of the following organizations:

(A) The Arkansas Academy of Physician Assistants;

(B) The Arkansas Association of Chiefs of Police;

(C) The Arkansas Drug Director;

(D) The Arkansas Medical Society;

(E) The Arkansas Nurses Association;

(F) The Arkansas Optometric Association;

(G) The Arkansas Osteopathic Medical Association;

(H) The Arkansas Pharmacists Association;

(I) The Arkansas Podiatric Medical Association;

(J) The Arkansas Prosecuting Attorneys Association;

(K) The Arkansas Sheriffs Association;

(L) The Arkansas State Dental Association;

(M) The Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association;

- (N) The State Board of Health;
- (O) The Arkansas Public Defender Commission; and
- (P) A mental health provider or certified drug and alcohol counselor; and
- (2) One (1) consumer appointed by the Governor.

West's Arkansas Administrative Code (2014)
Title 007. Department of Health
Division 07. Pharmacy Services
Rule 4. Regulations Pertaining to Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

007.07.4-VI. Confidentiality

(a) Prescription information submitted to the Department of Health pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated §§ 20-7-601 to -614 and these regulations is confidential and not subject to the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, § 25-19-101 et seq.

(b)(1) The controlled substances database and all information contained in the controlled substances database and any records maintained by the department or by an entity contracting with the department that is submitted to, maintained, or stored as a part of the controlled substances database is privileged and confidential, is not a public record, and is not subject to subpoena or discovery in a civil proceeding.

(2) Information in the controlled substances database may be accessed by:

(A) A certified law enforcement officer pursuant to a criminal investigation but only after the law enforcement officer obtains a search warrant signed by a judge that demonstrates probable cause to believe that a violation of federal or state criminal law has occurred, that specified information contained in the database would assist in the investigation of the crime, and that the specified information should be released to the certified law enforcement officer;

(B) A regulatory body engaged in the supervision of activities of licensing or regulatory boards of practitioners authorized to prescribe or dispense controlled substances; or

(C) A person or entity investigating a case involving breaches of privacy involving the database or its records.

(c) This section does not apply to information, documents, or records created or maintained in the regular course of business of a pharmacy, medical, dental, optometric, or veterinary practitioner, or other entity covered by Arkansas Code Annotated §§ 20-7-601 to -614 and these regulations, and all information, documents, or records otherwise available from original sources are not immune from discovery or use in a civil proceeding merely because the information contained in the records was reported to the controlled substances database under Arkansas Code Annotated §§ 20-7-601 to -614 and these regulations.

(d) The department shall establish and enforce policies and procedures to ensure that the privacy and confidentiality of patients are maintained and that patient information collected, recorded, transmitted, and stored is protected and not disclosed to persons except as listed in Section VII - Providing Prescription Monitoring Information. The department's policies shall comply with Sections 261 through 264 of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996, Public Law 104-191 (the Administrative Simplification provisions) and regulations 45

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CFR Parts 160 and 164 (“the HIPAA Security and Privacy Rule”) and the HITECH (Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health) Act as enacted by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 (Pub. L. 111-5), pursuant to Title XIII of Division A and Title IV of Division B.

(e) The Prescription Drug Monitoring Program shall establish and maintain a process for verifying the credentials and authorizing the use of prescription information by individuals and agencies listed in Section VII -- Providing Prescription Monitoring Information. The application to access prescription information shall include information as needed by the department to verify the applicant's authority to use prescription information in compliance with Section VII.

West's Arkansas Administrative Code (2014)
Title 007. Department of Health
Division 07. Pharmacy Services
Rule 4. Regulations Pertaining to Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

007.07.4-VII. Providing Prescription Monitoring Information

(a)(1) The Department of Health may review the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program information, including without limitation a review to identify information that appears to indicate whether a person may be obtaining prescriptions in a manner that may represent misuse or abuse of controlled substances.

(2) If information of misuse or abuse is identified, the department shall notify the practitioners and dispensers who prescribed or dispensed the prescriptions.

(b) The department shall provide information in the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program upon request and at no cost only to the following persons:

(1) A person authorized to prescribe or dispense controlled substances for the purpose of providing medical or pharmaceutical care for his or her patients or for reviewing information regarding prescriptions that are recorded as having been issued or dispensed by the requester;

(2) A patient who requests his or her own prescription monitoring information;

(3) A parent or legal guardian of a minor child who requests the minor child's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program information;

(4)(A) A designated representative of a professional licensing board of the professions of the healing arts representing health care disciplines whose licensees are prescribers pursuant to an investigation of a specific individual, entity, or business licensed or permitted by that board.

(B) Except as permitted by subsection (a)(2) of this section, the department shall provide information under subsection (b)(4)(A) of this section only if the requesting board states in writing that the information is necessary for an investigation;

(5) The State Medical Examiner as authorized by law to investigate causes of deaths for cases under investigation pursuant to his or her official duties and responsibilities;

(6) Local, state, and federal law enforcement or prosecutorial officials engaged in the administration, investigation, or enforcement of the laws governing controlled substances required to be submitted under Arkansas Code Annotated §§ 20-7-601 to -614 and these regulations pursuant to the agency's official duties and responsibilities; and

(7) Personnel of the department for purposes of administration and enforcement of Arkansas Code Annotated § 20-7-607 and this section.

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(c) Information collected under Arkansas Code Annotated §§ 20-7-601 to -614 and these regulations shall be maintained for three (3) years.

(d) The department may provide information to public or private entities for statistical, research, or educational purposes after encrypting or removing the patient's name, street name and number, patient identification number, month and day of birth, and prescriber information that could be used to identify individual patients, persons who received prescriptions from dispensers, or both.

West's Arkansas Administrative Code (2014)
Title 007. Department of Health
Division 07. Pharmacy Services
Rule 4. Regulations Pertaining to Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

007.07.4-VIII. Information Exchange with Other Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs

- (a) The Department of Health may provide prescription monitoring information to other states' prescription drug monitoring programs, and the information may be used by those programs consistent with Arkansas Code Annotated §§ 20-7-601 to -614 and these regulations.
- (b) The department may request and receive prescription monitoring information from other states' prescription drug monitoring programs and may use the information pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated §§ 20-7-601 to -614 and these regulations.
- (c) The department may develop the capability to transmit information to other prescription drug monitoring programs and receive information from other prescription drug monitoring programs employing the standards of exchangeability.
- (d) The department may enter into written agreements with other states' prescription drug monitoring programs for the purpose of describing the terms and conditions for sharing of prescription information consistent with Arkansas Code Annotated §§ 20-7-601 to -614 and these regulations.

West's Arkansas Administrative Code (2014)
Title 007. Department of Health
Division 07. Pharmacy Services
Rule 4. Regulations Pertaining to Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

007.07.4-X. Authority to Seek Funding

(a) The Department of Health may make application for, receive, and administer grant funding from public or private sources for the development, implementation, or enhancement of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

(b) A fee shall not be levied against practitioners for the purpose of funding or complying with the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.