

Wyoming Board of Medicine

Serving the public and practitioners since 1905

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Mark Gordon
Governor

October 25, 2019

Dear Doctor:

In the 2019 session of the Wyoming Legislature, new laws were enacted regarding the prescribing of controlled substances. These laws went into effect on July 1, 2019. One law requires physicians who are licensed in Wyoming, and are authorized by the Wyoming Board of Pharmacy to prescribe controlled substances, to complete at least one (1) hour of CME related to the responsible prescribing of controlled substances or the treatment of substance abuse disorders every two (2) years. According to the records of the Wyoming Board of Pharmacy, this requirement applies to you because you hold a Wyoming controlled substance registration.

The one (1) hour of CME will count toward the existing requirements for physicians to earn sixty (60) hours of CME credit every three (3) years. Physicians holding a Wyoming controlled substance registration, who are otherwise exempt from the sixty (60) hour requirement, will still be required to earn the controlled substance CME mandated by the new legislation.

Beginning with physician license renewals for the July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022, license year and going forward, a question will appear in the renewal application regarding the new controlled substance CME requirement. The Board has authority to audit physicians subject to this requirement to verify compliance.

During the 2019 Legislative session a new law also placed limits on the prescribing of opioids to treat acute pain in opioid-naïve patients and requires prescribers to query the Wyoming Board of Pharmacy's WORx (prescription drug monitoring) program every three (3) months when prescribing controlled substances. See WYO. STAT. § 35-7-1030 and WYO. STAT. § 35-7-1060, reproduced on the back of this letter.

If you have any questions about how these new laws relate to your licensure as a Wyoming physician, please call the Board of Medicine office at 307-778-7053. If you have questions about the Board of Pharmacy's WORx program, their web page is at <https://pharmacyboard.wyo.gov/>; their phone is 307-634-9636.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

Kevin D. Bohnenblust

December 21, 2009
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Executive Director