

# Wyoming Board of Medicine

*Serving the public and practitioners since 1905*

130 Hobbs Avenue, Suite A • Cheyenne, WY 82002

Phone: 307-778-7053 • Fax: 307-778-2069 • Toll free within Wyoming: 800-438-5784

Email: [wyomedboard@wyo.gov](mailto:wyomedboard@wyo.gov) • Website: <http://wyomedboard.state.wy.us>



Mark Gordon  
Governor

October 25, 2019

Dear Physician Assistant:

Historically, Wyoming-licensed physician assistants have not been required to earn Continuing Medical Education (CME) hours to maintain licensure. The requirement that a PA must remain certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) to renew a Wyoming license took the place of a CME requirement.

During the 2019 session of the Wyoming Legislature, though, new laws were enacted regarding prescribing controlled substances and went into effect on July 1, 2019. One law requires PAs 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. This requirement is in addition to the existing requirement to maintain NCCPA certification. According to the records of the Wyoming Board of Pharmacy, you hold a Wyoming controlled substance registration, so this new requirement applies to you.

Beginning with physician assistant license renewals in late 2021 for the 2022 calendar year, a question will appear on the renewal application regarding this specific continuing education requirement. The Board has authority to audit physician assistants subject to this requirement to verify compliance.

Also effective July 1, 2019, a new law 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 assistant, 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  
Executive Director