

**2201 SHANNON PLACE, SE
2ND FLOOR
WASHINGTON, DC 20020**

August 7, 2025

9:31 AM – 10:25 AM

**OPEN SESSION MINUTES
(WEBEX MEETING)**

Board of Pharmacy Mission Statement:

"To protect and improve the public health through the efficient and effective regulation of the practice of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Detailing; through the licensure of Pharmacists, Pharmaceutical Detailers, Pharmacy Interns, and Pharmacy Technicians."

CALL TO ORDER: 9:31 AM

PRESIDING: DR. ALLISON HILL, PHARM.D. R.PH CHAIRPERSON

BOARD MEMBERSHIP/ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:		
	DR. ALLISON HILL, PHARM.D. R.PH CHAIRPERSON	PRESENT
	DR. BENJAMIN MILES, PHARM.D. R.PH	PRESENT
	DR. JAMILA JORDEN, PHARM.D. R.PH	PRESENT
	MR. RODRICK MCGILL, ESQ. CONSUMER MEMBER	LATE ARRIVAL
STAFF:		
	DR. JUSTIN ORTIQUE, PHARM.D. R.PH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	PRESENT
	KARIN BARRON, HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	PRESENT
	LUANNE GREENAWAY, PROGRAM SPECIALIST	PRESENT
	COUNTEE GILLIAM, BOARD INVESTIGATOR	PRESENT
LEGAL STAFF:	CARLA WILLIAMS, SENIOR ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL	PRESENT
	TREVOR MUSOKE, LEGAL INTERN, DC HEALTH	PRESENT
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS:	KERA JOHNSON, POLICY ANALYST, DC HEALTH	
VISITORS:	GRACE SESI, CVS HEALTH	
	HALEY TURNER	
	JEENU PHILIP, WALGREENS PHARMACY	
	JESSICA COLE	
	JOANNE DIAL, KAISER PERMANENTE	
	MARCELLA BALOGA, SAFEWAY PHARMACY	
	MARIAH SANDOVAL (AMAZON STUDENT)	
	PAMELA TIRADO	
	SARA WATSON	
	SARAH CRONIN	
	SCOTT TOMERLIN, WALGREENS PHARMACY	
	SUSAN DEL MONICO	
	ZARIA COMER, PUBLIC	

Open Session Minutes

Quorum: Yes

Introduction:		
o8o7-O-01	<p><u>Approval of the Open Session Meeting Minutes for:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• June 5, 2025, Open Session Meeting Minutes <p>Motion: Board Member, Dr. Benjamin Miles moved the Board to approve the June 5, 2025 open session meeting minutes.</p> <p>Seconded by: Dr. Jamila Jorden.</p> <p>Dr. Benjamin Miles: Voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Jamila Jorden: Voted in favor of the motion.</p> <p>Abstentions: None.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p> <p>Motion: Board Member, Dr. Jamila Jorden moved the Board to approve the August 7, 2025 open session meeting agenda.</p> <p>Seconded by: Dr. Benjamin Miles.</p> <p>Dr. Benjamin Miles: Voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Jamila Jorden: Voted in favor of the motion.</p> <p>Abstentions: None.</p> <p>Motion Carried.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• July 2, 2025, Open Session Meeting Minutes (Hearing) <p>Motion: Board Member, Dr. Benjamin Miles moved the Board to approve the July 2, 2025 open session meeting minutes.</p> <p>Seconded by: Dr. Jamila Jorden.</p> <p>Dr. Benjamin Miles: Voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Jamila Jorden: Voted in favor of the motion.</p> <p>Abstentions: None.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">July 3, 2025, Open Session Meeting Minutes <p>Motion: Board Member, Dr. Benjamin Miles moved the Board to approve the July 3, 2025 open session meeting minutes.</p> <p>Seconded by: Dr. Jamila Jorden.</p> <p>Dr. Benjamin Miles: Voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Jamila Jorden: Voted in favor of the motion.</p> <p>Abstentions: None.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>																			
Consent Agenda	None																			
Chairperson Report		Dr. Allison Hill																		
Office of Government Relations (OGR) Report Updates	<p>Council Recess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Policy Analyst, Ms. Kera Johnson informed the Board that the DC Council went on recess effective July 15 and will return to session on September 15.	Ms. Kera Johnson																		
Executive Director Report	<p><u>Statistical Report on Pharmacy Professionals in the District of Columbia</u></p> <table><tr><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>PHARMACEUTICAL DETAILERS</td><td>880</td></tr><tr><td>PHARMACISTS</td><td>2,145</td></tr><tr><td>PHARMACY INTERNS</td><td>290</td></tr><tr><td>PHARMACY TECHNICIANS</td><td>1,238</td></tr><tr><td>PHARMACY TECHNICIAN TRAINEES</td><td>151</td></tr><tr><td>PHARMACISTS WITH VAC AUTHORITY</td><td>852</td></tr><tr><td>PHARMACY TECHNICIAN TRAINING PROGRAMS</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p><u>Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">All pharmacists are reminded to register for the <i>Prescription Drug Monitoring Program</i> (PDMP) within ninety (90) days of licensure in the District of Columbia, at: https://districtofcolumbia.pmpaware.net/login.As a reminder, new licensees will receive email notifications regarding registration for the program every thirty (30) days after licensure.			PHARMACEUTICAL DETAILERS	880	PHARMACISTS	2,145	PHARMACY INTERNS	290	PHARMACY TECHNICIANS	1,238	PHARMACY TECHNICIAN TRAINEES	151	PHARMACISTS WITH VAC AUTHORITY	852	PHARMACY TECHNICIAN TRAINING PROGRAMS	15			Dr. Justin Ortique
PHARMACEUTICAL DETAILERS	880																			
PHARMACISTS	2,145																			
PHARMACY INTERNS	290																			
PHARMACY TECHNICIANS	1,238																			
PHARMACY TECHNICIAN TRAINEES	151																			
PHARMACISTS WITH VAC AUTHORITY	852																			
PHARMACY TECHNICIAN TRAINING PROGRAMS	15																			

- Newly licensed pharmacists who fail to register for the program may be fined for non-compliance.
- Pharmacists are encouraged to utilize the Delegate Option, which allows two registered pharmacy technicians to perform searches of the database on behalf of a pharmacist.

DCRx (DC Center for Rational Prescribing)

- A new module on *HIV: Prep, Pep and DoxyPEP* will be released in the upcoming weeks, while the last module for the fiscal year will explore Asthma Management. Both modules will be made available by September, 2025.

Rolling Renewals for DC licensed Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians, and Pharmaceutical Detailers

- Licensure renewals are on rolling in basis, as of July, 2025. Consequently, a small percentage of licensed Pharmacists, Technicians, and Pharmaceutical Detailers are required to renew their licenses. The Board is actively emailing notifications to licensees to remind them of licensure renewal.

DC Board of Pharmacy Member Vacancies

- The DC Board of Pharmacy is currently seeking two (2) licensed Pharmacists and one (1) Pharmacy Technician to fill three (3) vacancies on the Board.
- If you are interested in becoming a DC Board of Pharmacy member, you can apply through the Mayor's Office of Boards and Commissions at:
<https://motaboardstheresumator.com/apply/1L8k6Q/Board-Of-Pharmacy>.

Health Occupations and Revisions Act

Expansion of the scope of practice went into effect last year. Added to the bill was the lowering of the age [of employment] for pharmacy technicians to 16 years. The intent of this initiative is workforce development, an open door for pharmacy technician training programs in High schools, and students' earlier exposure to the field of pharmacy.

This matter is, therefore, presented to the Board for consideration and a decision. Furthermore, this matter is presented to the Board to determine if this initiative should include Pharmacy Technician Trainees.

In consideration of this matter, the Board moved as follows:

Motion: Board Member, Dr. Benjamin miles moved the Board to approve the District of Columbia’s Board of Pharmacy’s pursuit in lowering the age of pharmacy technicians and pharmacy technician trainees to 16 years.

Seconded by: Dr. Jamila Jorden.

Dr. Benjamin Miles: Voted in favor of the motion.

Dr. Jamila Jorden: Voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Roderick McGill: Abstain.

Abstentions : Mr. Roderick McGill.

Motion Carried.

Working Conditions Update

The Board has taken into consideration all comments received during the last stakeholder meeting. As such, the Board has incorporated the comments to ensure regulations that are satisfactory for all parties working within the pharmacy environment.

While not previously discussed, added to the regulations is the section on Central Fill Pharmacies. Board Counsel, Ms. Carla Williams, shared the regulations for this new section of Chapter 19 with the public, the full text of which will be made available for formal review in the DC Register.

Dr. Ortique then opened the floor for questions from the public:

Q: Board Chair, Dr. Allison Hill: will the record or receipt be electronic?

A: Board Counsel, Ms. Carla Williams stated that the records could be electronic.

Q: Scott Tomerlin: When will the Central Fill Pharmacies regulations be published?

A: Executive Director, Dr. Justin Ortique responded by stating the intended time of publication would be October or November, 2025.

Q: Marcie Baloga: How long would pharmacies be given to implement?

A: Board Counsel, Ms. Carla Williams stated that the regulations would go into effect when approved.

Q: Grace Sesi: When will the remainder of the working conditions be published?

A: Executive Director, Dr. Justin Ortique stated that the regulations on working conditions would be published in October or November, 2025.

Senior Assistant General Counsel Report		
o807-O-02	None	Ms. Carla Williams
Subcommittee Reports		
o807-O-03	<p><u>Legislative and Regulatory Subcommittee Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no report from the Legislative and Regulatory Subcommittee. 	
o807-O-04	<p><u>Communications Subcommittee Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no report from Communications Subcommittee for this open session meeting. A report will be shared during the next open session meeting in October, 2025. 	
Pharmacy Technician Task Force	<u>None</u>	
Matter for Consideration		
o807-O-05	<p><u>Consideration of Continuing Education for Rolling Renewal</u></p> <p>This matter is brought before the Board to determine whether to accept a fifty percent (50%) reduction in the required continuing education requirements for rolling renewal applicants who will receive a license term of less than two (2) years.</p> <p><u>Background:</u></p> <p>Effective June 16, 2024, the Director implemented a new licensure renewal system, aligning the renewal cycle with the licensee's birth month. As a result, all licenses issued on or after this date will expire on the last day of the license holder's birth month.</p> <p>This policy applies to all new applicants and has transitioned for Pharmacists and Pharmacy technicians who renewed in February. The policy will be implemented for pharmaceutical detailer licenses upon their renewal next year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals born in an odd-numbered year licenses expire in an odd-numbered year. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Individuals born in an even-numbered year licenses expire in an even numbered year. <p>For those licensees receiving a license term of less than two (2) years, the Board staff recommends a fifty percent (50%) reduction in the required continuing education requirements. This recommendation specifically applies to rolling renewal applicants who will receive a license term of less than two (2) years.</p> <p>Dr. Ortique expressed that DC Health is requesting the Board's consideration to make the CE requirement for individuals who receive(d) less than 2 full years of license or registration renewal to be required to satisfy only 50 % of the standard CE requirement for their next renewal cycle only.</p> <p>In consideration of this matter, the Board moved as follows:</p> <p>Motion: Board Member, Dr. Benjamin Miles moved the Board to reduce the total number of continuing education credits (CEUs) required for licensure renewal to 50% for licensees whose renewal date precedes January, 2027, including the requirement for <i>LGBTQ or Cultural Competency</i> unless it is statute or mandated by the District.</p> <p>Seconded by: Dr. Jamila Jorden.</p> <p>Dr. Benjamin Miles: Voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Jamila Jorden: Voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Roderick McGill: Voted in favor of the motion.</p> <p>Abstentions: None.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>	
NABP E-Newsletters	<p><i>Board Chair, Dr. Allison Hill highlighted the recent notice that was disseminated via email regarding Detection of West Nile virus in wild birds in the District of Columbia.</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Hill also highlighted the following NABP E-Newsletters.</i></p> <p>July 31, 2025</p> <p>Pill Press Seizures, Legislation, and Policy Changes Examined in PSM Report</p> <p>HALT Fentanyl Act Signed into Law</p> <p>Influenza Vaccines in US Will No Longer Contain Thimerosal.</p> <p>WHO and UNODC Identify Gaps in Supply Chain.</p>	Dr. Allison Hill

	<p>Researchers Determine That Pharmacist-Administered Vaccines Improve Vaccine Coverage Rates.</p> <p>SAMHSA Tracks Results from Grant Programs Aimed to Reduce Overdose Deaths.</p> <p>Career Intentions Affect Students' Reasoning for Pursuing Patient-Facing Roles.</p> <p>July 23, 2025</p> <p>New NABP Webinars: Regulating Technology and Embracing Just Culture.</p> <p>FDA Issues Updates to State Importation Program.</p> <p>DEA Warns of Impersonation Scam Targeting Health Care Practitioners.</p> <p>Start the Conversation: DEA's New Tips for Talking with Youth About Substance Use.</p> <p>Innovations: "Breaking Down Barriers: The Push for Pharmacist License Portability".</p> <p>Note to the Public: To receive weekly updates from NABP, please sign up by using the following link: https://nabp.pharmacy/newsroom/news/.</p>	
<p><u>Comments from the Public</u></p>	<p>Q: Zaria Comer: Regarding the continuing education credits: when will this go into effect and how will the information be disseminated?</p> <p>A: Executive Director, Dr. Justin Ortique stated that the Board FAQ document will be updated at least 3 months prior to the first affected renewal (January 2026). Notification will also be provided in the renewal notification to licensees.</p> <p>Dr. Jeenu Phillip requested that Walgreens Pharmacy be able to make comments on the Central Fill Pharmacies section prior to the regulation being published in the DC register.</p> <p>A: Executive Director, Dr. Justin Ortique stated that Walgreens Pharmacy would not be able to provide early comments as the drafted regulations were already submitted. Dr. Philip was advised that the pharmacy is encouraged to comment on the regulations through the formal process after publication in the DC Register.</p> <p>Q: Marcie Baloga: With the concern about immunizations – are there any immediate changes to pharmacists' ability to vaccinate, or [a] technician's ability to vaccinate?</p> <p>A: Dr. Executive Director, Dr. Justin Ortique stated that, currently, there are no changes and that DC Health is closely monitoring the CDC</p>	

	recommendations and will communicate any changes if they were to occur.	
<u>Motion to Adjourn the Open Session</u>	<p>Board member, Dr. Benjamin Miles, moved the Board as follows:</p> <p>"Madam Chair, I move that the Board close the Open Public session portion of the meeting and move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) for the following purposes: to discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to § 2-575(b)(9); to seek the advice of counsel to the board, to preserve the attorney-client privilege, or to approve settlement agreements pursuant to § 2-575(b)(4); and to plan, discuss, or hear reports concerning ongoing or planned investigations pursuant to § 2-575(b)(14)."</p> <p>Seconded by: Board Member, Mr. Roderick McGill.</p> <p>Roll Call Vote:</p> <p>Dr. Benjamin Miles: Voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Jamilia Jorden: Voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Roderick McGill: Voted in favor of the motion.</p>	

This concludes the Public Open Session of the meeting. The Board will now move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) for the reasons set forth in the motion.

Open Session Meeting Adjourned at 10:25 AM.

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.