



CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO
Lieutenant Governor

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
Board of Registration in Pharmacy
Bureau of Health Professions Licensure
239 Causeway Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114

Tel: 617-973-0860
Fax: 617-973-0980
TTY : 617-973-0988
[.mass.gov/dph/boards/](http://mass.gov/dph/boards/)

MARYLOU SUDDERS
Secretary

MONICA BHAREL, MD, MPH
Commissioner

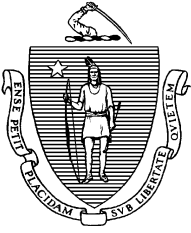
PSUD (Pharmacy Substance Use Disorder) Program Update 10/11/17

The PSUD program became operational on Thursday October 5, 2017 when the Board of Pharmacy approved the Rehabilitation Evaluation Committee (REC) members. The REC is an integral part of the PSUD Program and is its advisory arm. The REC works in conjunction with the PSUD Program Supervisor and the participants to develop an Individualize Rehabilitation Plan (IRP) for each participant and also makes recommendations on operations which are forwarded to Board of Pharmacy for approval.

The PSUD program was part of legislation in March of 2016: The Acts of 2016 Chapter 52, an act relative to substance use treatment, education and prevention. This became law with the promulgation of M.G.L. c 112, § 24 H to establish a rehabilitation program for Pharmacist, Pharmacy Technicians and Pharmacy Interns that is a voluntary, non-disciplinary alternative to traditional disciplinary actions.

Please see the attached fact sheet with information on the program as well as how to make a referral. For more information contact:

Ed Taglieri, MSM, NHA, RPh
Pharmacy Substance Use Disorder Program Supervisor
Department of Public Health
Bureau of Health Professions Licensure
Board of Pharmacy
239 Causeway Street
Boston, MA 02114
Email: .taglieri@state.ma.us
Phone: 617-973-0908



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**Pharmacy Substance Use Disorder Program (PSUD) Fact Sheet
October 2017**

1. Program Contact:

Ed Taglieri, MSM, NHA, RPh
Pharmacy Substance Use Disorder Supervisor
Department of Public Health
Bureau of Health Professions Licensure
Board of Pharmacy
239 Causeway Street, Suite 500
Boston, MA 02114
Email: .taglieri@state.ma.us
Phone: 617-973-0908

2. The Pharmacy Substance Use Disorder Program (PSUD) is a new program in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts established by M.G.L. c. 112, § 24H.

3. Who may participate?

- a. Individuals licensed by the Board
 - i. Pharmacists
 - ii. Pharmacy Interns
 - iii. Pharmacy Technicians
- b. With a substance use disorder (SUD) involving alcohol or drugs
- c. Must agree to cooperate with their individualized rehabilitation plan recommend by the rehabilitation evaluation committee and approved by the Board.

4. Participation:

- a. Voluntary
- b. Provides a non-disciplinary alternative to traditional disciplinary action against an individual's professional license, provided the participant is fully compliant with the rehabilitation plan.
- c. Participation in PSUD does not appear as discipline on an individual's professional license during participation or after successful completion.

5. Program offers confidentiality:

- a. Information obtained by a PSUD supervisor pursuant to PSUD is confidential and exempt from disclosure.
- b. Upon successful completion of the program (typically 5 years) all records will be sealed, all Board and Committee records and records of a participant's involvement in the

program will be kept confidential and shall not be subject to discovery or subpoena in any civil, criminal, legislative or administrative proceeding without prior written consent of the participant

- c. The Board may take disciplinary action against the professional license of a participant who withdraws from the program prior to successful completion, or whose participation is terminated as a result on non-compliance.
- 6. A typical PSUD rehabilitation program consists of:**
- a. 5 year program
 - b. Full restriction on practice (no practice permitted) for first year of program
 - c. Gradual return to work and duties in years 2-5
 - d. Monitored practice with restrictions that decrease over time for years two to five of program
 - e. Meeting with PSUD committee and supervisor regularly
 - f. Individualized Rehabilitation Program approved by the PSUD Committee
 - g. Work setting required to report on a regular basis to the PSUD Committee
- 7. Will my license have disciplinary action viewable to the public?**
- a. During any period in which you have a full practice restriction, your publicly viewable license status will be “non-disciplinary restrictions.” During all other periods of your participation in the program, your publicly viewable license status will be “non-disciplinary conditions.”
 - b. Once you have successfully completed the rehabilitation program, typically after year 5, your license will not reflect any discipline relating to your participation in this program or related to the event that caused entry into the program.
 - c. Any pre-existing discipline, or discipline based on non-compliance with the rehabilitation program will be listed as it is for all licensees.
- 8. How is my rehabilitation program paid for:**
- a. Your rehabilitation program is funded by yourself by either your own health insurance or your own personal funds.
 - b. There is no cost for the coordination of the program from the Board of Pharmacy.
 - c. You will typically not be able to work as a licensed professional for the first year of the program.
- 9. When is the program ready to accept referrals?**
- a. Referrals may be made currently at any time