Practitioner Diversion Awareness Conference

Registration

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Course Objectives

- Outline when a practitioner would need more than one DEA registration.

- Review some common problems practitioners have encountered regarding their DEA registration and how they were resolved.

- Explain some of the basic steps a practitioner can take to reduce the chance of their DEA registration being used in the diversion of controlled substances.
Course Objectives

- Explain why the DEA issues registrations, the type of registrations that the DEA issues, and how such registrations fit into the closed system of distribution.

- Explain how a practitioner obtains a DEA registration, and what is required by the DEA as part of this process.

- Explain the limits of a DEA registration, and the coincident activities that a practitioner can perform.
Questions To Discuss

At the completion of this block of instruction you will be able to answer the following questions:

1. What is the current number of DEA registrants?

2. As an individual practitioner, how many associates in my practice can I authorize to use my registration number to prescribe controlled substances?
3. Is a DEA practitioner registration always for a three year period?

4. Is a DEA registration number publically available?

5. What should I do to prevent my DEA registration from being used for diversion?
The Registrant Community

- Total number of DEA registrants: **1,805,073**
- Total number of Arizona registrants: **37,000**
- Total number of Practitioners and MLP: **1,696,971**
- Total number of Pharmacies: **71,338**
- Total number of Hospitals: **18,289**
- Total number of Distributors: **708**
- Total number of Manufacturers: **584**
Closed System of Distribution

- Importer
- Practitioner
- Manufacturer
- Distributor
- Pharmacy
- Patient
Registration Requirements for Practitioners
Registration Requirements

First, let’s begin by clarifying a few points….

The truth is that although a DEA registration is a Federal registration it does **NOT** allow you to prescribe controlled substances anywhere you wish to in the United States.
Registration Requirements

- A DEA registration is **NOT** required for you to issue prescriptions for non-controlled substances.

- If you change your last name you are **NOT** required to obtain a new DEA registration number.
Access

A DEA registration number is **NOT** privileged information however, DEA is required to…

To turn over the DEA registration, and other information found on the DEA certificate, to the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The Department of Commerce sells this information through the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) to registrants such as your neighborhood pharmacy.
Qualified Practitioners

The Unique Identification Number, often called the X number, is not a DEA registration. It is certification that the prescriber has met all the necessary requirements to use FDA approved Schedules III-V narcotics for the treatment of opioid use disorder.

Unlike the DEA registration number, only one Unique Identification Number is issued.
Qualified Practitioners

When prescribing FDA approved Schedules III-V narcotics for the treatment of opioid use disorder the prescriber must place both their DEA registration number and their Unique Identification Number on the prescription.
Title 21 C.F.R. 1301.22(b)

(b) An individual practitioner who is an agent or employee of another practitioner (other than a mid-level practitioner) registered to dispense controlled substances may, when acting in the normal course of business or employment, administer or dispense (other than by issuance of prescription) controlled substances if and to the extent that such individual practitioner is authorized or permitted to do so by the jurisdiction in which he or she practices, under the registration of the employer or principal practitioner in lieu of being registered him/herself.
DEA Registration Limits

Coincident Activities allowed.  
21 C.F.R. 1301.13(e)(1)(iv)

**Practitioner:** May conduct research and instructional activities with those substances for which registration was granted, except that a mid-level practitioner may conduct such research only to the extent expressly authorized under state statute.
DEA Registration Limits

A DEA registration cannot allow you to do something that is otherwise prohibited by state law.

For Example: If you are registered by the state in only schedules III-V the DEA cannot authorize you to handle schedule II.

For Example: If state law says you cannot procure controlled substances, the DEA cannot authorize you to do so.
Final Rule: Clarification of Registration Requirements for Individual Practitioners (December 1, 2006)

A practitioner can only administer, dispense, prescribe, procure, or store controlled substances in a state if they first hold a DEA registration in that state. The authority granted under this registration ends at that state’s border.

A practitioner can only administer, dispense, procure, or store a controlled substance at a location where he or she is registered with the DEA.
DEA Registration Limits

When more than one DEA registration number is needed:

- If a practitioner plans to administer, dispense, procure or store controlled substances at **more than one location** in a state.
- If a practitioner plans to administer, dispense, prescribe, procure, or store controlled substances in **more than one state**.
- If the practitioner is registered with the DEA in one state and is treating a patient in another state by **telemedicine**.
Registered Business Address vs Mailing Address

During the application process you are asked for your Registered Business Address, and you are asked for your Mail-to Address and if these two addresses are different.

Your registered Address is your principal place of business or professional practice pursuant to Title 21, C.F.R. 1301.12(a). This is the address on your DEA certificate.

Your mail-to address is for correspondence.
Common Problems Encountered

The applicant does not have appropriate state authority.

The registrant assumes their first registration will be for 36 months.

The applicant, or renewing registrant, fails to mark all appropriate schedules.

The registrant fails to renew their registration in a timely manner.
Common Problems Encountered

Failure to maintain state licensure once achieved.

Failure to notify the DEA of an email address change.

Believing that the practitioner needs a separate DEA registration for each location in the same state where they only prescribe, (other than the one registration they already hold in that state).
Common Problems Encountered

Renewals submitted simultaneously by both the practitioner and the practitioner’s office.

Applying or renewing using an expired credit card or using a check from a closed account.

Relying upon an office manager to renew for the practitioner (but they do not).

Applying for new DEA # due to a name change.
Common Problems Encountered

Going inactive, and what to do with the registration:

- Semi-retired
- Health Issues
- Sabbatical
- Discontinuing Practice….Permanently

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration
Diversion Control Division
Steps to Reduce Diversion

Best Practices/recommendations….

Steps you can take to reduce the chance of your registration being used in the diversion of controlled substances.

Check your PMP for use:

- False prescriptions
- Mistakes made by pharmacist/staff
- Misuse by office staff
Steps to Reduce Diversion

Best practices/recommendations....

- If you dispense controlled substances, including samples, conduct random audits to ensure they are not getting diverted.
- When issuing paper prescriptions, list both the quantity being prescribed and write out the amount.
- Provide the local pharmacists with information they request.
- Do not leave your prescription pad unattended, and lock it up if not in use.
- Have all controlled substances you purchased be checked by either yourself or designated person(s).
SCAM!!!

Criminals posing as DEA employees are targeting practitioners using an extortion scam. They use a disguised telephone number that appears on a practitioners' caller ID as the “DEA’s 800 registration support number”. The criminals then demand money and threaten to suspend a practitioner’s DEA registration if they do not comply. You were sent an email about this on April 2, 2018. Don’t fall for this!
How to Apply

The DEA cannot consider an application unless you first have state controlled substance authority, and each state is different:

- State Medical License
- State controlled substance registration (if required)
- Other state licensure (if required)
- Certificates of advanced training (if required)
How to Apply

- Website:  www.DEAdversion.usdoj.gov

- Go to “Registration” (located at the top of the page)

- Form used by the new applicant:  DEA Form 224
Business Categories

Select Your Business Category

Form 224
Practitioner (MD, DO, DDS, DMD, DVM, DPM)
Mid Level Practitioner (NP, PA, CR, etc.)
Pharmacy
Hospital/Clinic
Teaching Institution

Form 225
Manufacturer
Importer
Exporter
Distributor
Rev. Distributor
Researcher
Canine Handler
Analytical Lab

Form 363
Narcotic Treatment Clinics

Form 510
Chemical Manufacturer
Chemical Importer
Chemical Exporter
Chemical Distributor

Active Military Only
Military Form 224
How to Apply

What if you encounter problems?

If you encounter problems, contact the DEA Registration Service Center.

DEA.Registration.Help@usdoj.gov

Or

1-800-882-9539

Or . . .
How to Apply

Contact the DEA Registration Specialist in your area. To find their contact information go to the above website and look under “About Us.”

To contact the Registration Specialist’s in Arizona call (571) 362-0600.
How to Apply

The Registration Specialist for your area can be located on the Diversion Control Division's web-site.

You can search by zip code, city, county, or state.
Post Question

1. What is the current number of DEA registrants?

   A. Under 250,000
   B. 780,000
   C. 1,100,000
   D. Over 1,800,000
2. As an individual practitioner, how many associates in my practice can I authorize to use my registration number to prescribe controlled substances.

A. None
B. One
C. Up to three
D. Up to five
3. Is a DEA practitioner registration always for a three year period?

A. Yes
B. No
4. Is a DEA registration number publically available?

A. Yes
B. No
5. What should I do to prevent my DEA registration from being used for diversion?

A. Lock up my prescription pads.
B. Check my state’s prescription monitoring program.
C. Conduct random audits
D. All of the above.
Course Review

We reviewed why the DEA issues registrations, how to apply, and how registrations fit into the closed system of distribution.

We identified and discussed what a DEA registration does, and does not let you do.

We reviewed some common problems practitioners have encountered regarding their DEA registration, and how these are resolved.

We listed some of the steps a practitioner can take to reduce the chance that their DEA registration will be used to divert controlled substances.
Thank you for your time and attention!