

DEA

U.S. DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION



# *Practitioner Diversion Awareness Conference*

Registration

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Policy Section





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# 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.**



# Course Objective

- **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.**



# 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?**



# Questions To Discuss

- 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?**



# 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.



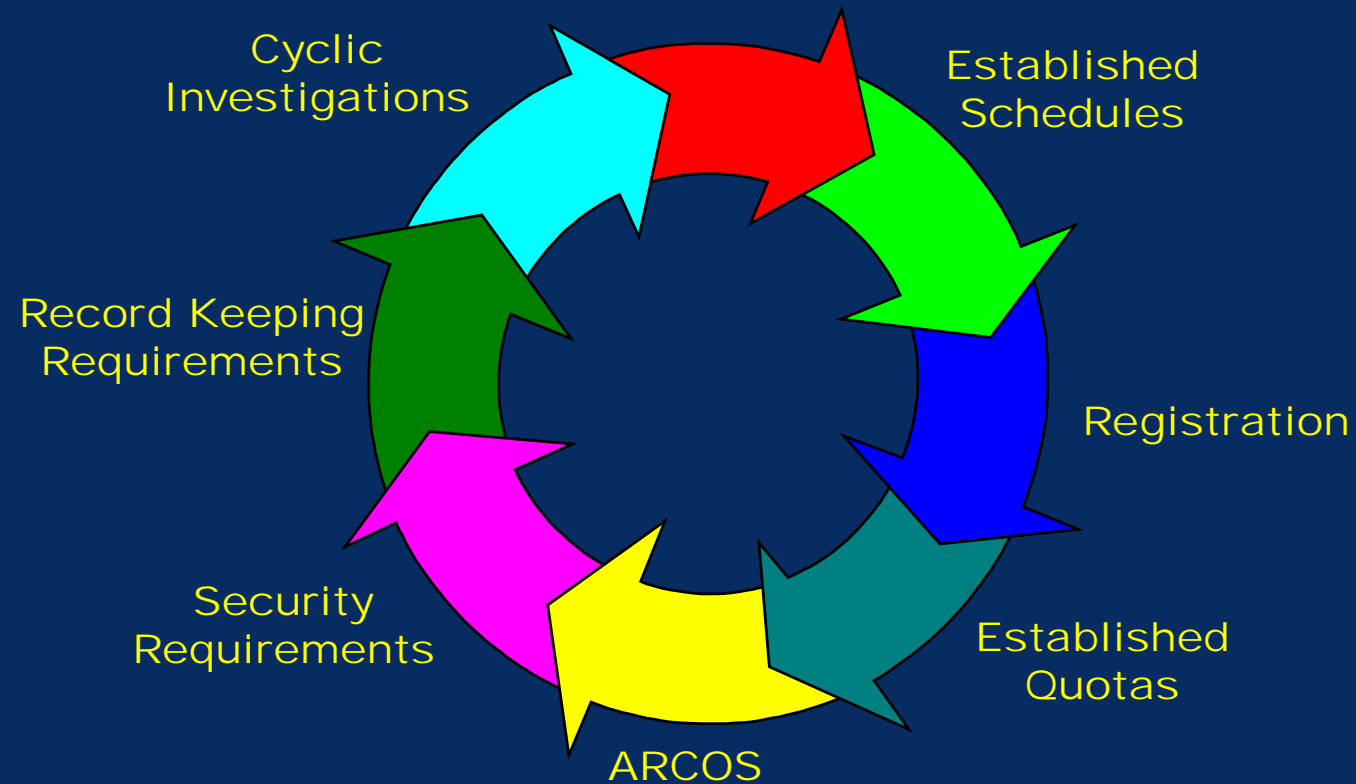


# Registration Requirements

- 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.
- A DEA registration number is **NOT** privileged information, but is available to the public.



# Closed System of Distribution





# The Registrant Community

- Total number of DEA registrants: **1,799,696**
- Total number of Practitioners: **1,301,380**
- Total number of Mid Level Practitioners: 390,008
- Total number of Pharmacies: 71,719
- Total number of Hospitals: 18,148



# How to Apply

- **Website:** [www.DEAdiversion.usdoj.gov](http://www.DEAdiversion.usdoj.gov)
- **Go to “Registration”** (located at the top of the page)
- **Form used by the new applicant:** **DEA 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](mailto: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.”**

**For example, using this method the Registration Specialist’s contact information for Los Angeles California is Phone – (888) 415-9822.**



# How to Apply

The Registration Specialist for your area can be located on the [Diversion Control Divisions](#) web-site.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ★ DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION  
**DIVERSION CONTROL DIVISION**

DIVERSION FIELD OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION SEARCH ABOUT US

Our Customer Service Representatives are available to assist with your registration needs.

HQ Mailing Address HQ Registration Call Center Email Address

Location	Registration Assistance	Investigative Matters or TDS
<b>WILMINGTON RESIDENT OFFICE</b> 23 SOUTHGATE BLVD SOUTHGATE INDUSTRIAL CENTER NEW CASTLE, DE 19720		
<b>PHILADELPHIA DIVISION OFFICE</b> 600 ARCH ST ROOM 10224 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106	Phone 1: (888) 393 8231	Phone 1: (215) 238 5160 Fax 1: (215) 238 5170

Location	Registration Assistance	Investigative Matters or TDS
<b>WILMINGTON RESIDENT OFFICE</b> 23 SOUTHGATE BLVD SOUTHGATE INDUSTRIAL CENTER NEW CASTLE, DE 19720		
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# 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)**



# Practice Address vs Mailing Address

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

**Your Practice 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.**

# DEA Certificate

DEA REGISTRATION NUMBER	THIS REGISTRATION EXPIRES	FEE PAID
PB009 [REDACTED]	12-31-2016	Exempt

SCHEDULES	BUSINESS ACTIVITY	ISSUE DATE
1,2,2N 3,3N,4,5	ANALYTICAL LAB	12-15-2015

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMIN MIAMI FIELD DIVISION 2100 N COMMERCE PKWY ATTN: DIVERSION GROUP WESTON, FL 33326
---

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20537

Sections 304 and 1008 (21 USC 824 and 958) of the Controlled Substances Act of 1970, as amended, provide that the Attorney General may revoke or suspend a registration to manufacture, distribute, dispense, import or export a controlled substance.

**THIS CERTIFICATE IS NOT TRANSFERABLE ON CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP, CONTROL, LOCATION, OR BUSINESS ACTIVITY, AND IT IS NOT VALID AFTER THE EXPIRATION DATE.**

Form DEA-223 (9/2016)

DEA REGISTRATION NUMBER	THIS REGISTRATION EXPIRES	FEE PAID
PB009 [REDACTED]	12-31-2016	Exempt

SCHEDULES	BUSINESS ACTIVITY	ISSUE DATE
1,2,2N 3,3N,4,5	ANALYTICAL LAB	12-15-2015

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# Access

**The DEA is required 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.**



# 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.**



# DEA Registration Limits

## **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**.



# DEA Registration Limits

**Unique exception: The Medical Bag. Administering or dispensing a controlled substance inside a state where a practitioner is registered, but at other than the practitioner's DEA registered location.**

**Note: Random and as needed is – fact specific**







# 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.



# 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

## Changing practice address:

- **In same state**
- **To another state**
- **In a national emergency**



# Common Problems Encountered

Going inactive, and what to do with the registration:

Semi-retired

Health Issues

Sabbatical





# Common Problems Encountered

**Discontinuing Practice:**

**Permanently**



# Hospitals and DEA Registrations

## **Title 21 C.F.R. § 1301.22(c)(1-6)**

**An individual practitioner who is an agent or employee of a hospital or other institution may, when acting in the normal course of business or employment, administer, dispense, or prescribe controlled substances under the registration of the hospital or other institution which is registered in lieu of being registered him/herself, provided that 6 conditions are met.**





# Hospitals and DEA Registrations

**Using the number off-site:**

**When you can use it off-site**

**When you cannot use it off-site**



# Group Practice Setting

## 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.**



# Group Practice Setting

**What this lets you do**

**What this does not let you do**





# **Fee Exempt Registrations (Not Military)**

**Conditions under which it is granted**

**Limits of this registration**

**Conversion to a fee paid registration**



# DEA Registration (Military)

**Conditions under which it can be used.**

**Conditions under which it cannot be used.**

**When you leave the military.**



# Steps to Reduce Diversion

**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**
- **Sloppy use by pharmacies**
- **Misuse by office staff**





# Steps to Reduce Diversion

- **Monitor the use of your practice's credit card and checking account.**
- **Have all controlled substances you purchase be checked in upon delivery by two employees.**



# Steps to Reduce Diversion

**If you dispense controlled substances, including samples, conduct random audits to ensure they are not getting diverted.**

**Do not create an atmosphere of self-use in your practice by your staff.**







# Steps to Reduce Diversion

**Do not print your full DEA registration number on your prescription. Instead add the last few digits yourself.**

**Limit the amount you prescribe and the refills you authorize, if this is not already required by your state.**



# Steps to Reduce Diversion

**Stick with certain controlled substances, and strengths thus calling to attention any deviation from this pattern.**

**When issuing paper prescriptions, list both the # being prescribed and write out the amount.**

**Cooperate with your local pharmacists.**

**Do not leave your prescription pad unattended, and lock it up if not in use.**



# Steps to Reduce Diversion

## **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**



# Qualified Practitioners and Other 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 and Other 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.**



# 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.**



# Post Question

**1. What is the current number of DEA registrants?**

- A. Under 250,000**
- B. 780, 000**
- C. 1, 100,000**
- D. Over 1,700,000**



# Post Question

- 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**





# Post Question

- 3. Is a DEA practitioner registration always for a three year period?**
- A. Yes**
  - B. No**



# Post Question

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



# Post Question

- 5. What should I do to prevent my DEA registration from being used for diversion?**
- A. Lock up my prescription pads.**
  - B. Limit my prescribing to the amount I believe is currently medically necessary.**
  - C. Check my state's prescription monitoring program.**
  - D. All of the above.**



*Thank you for your time  
and attention !*

