



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER & INDUSTRY SERVICES
LANSING

DAVID C. HOLLISTER
DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Licensed Optometrists
FROM: Licensing Division
SUBJECT: Controlled Substance License Application
DATE: February 2003

Optometrists can now secure a controlled substance license if they hold the DPA/TPA certification.

Public Act 599 was passed on December 16, 2002 that increases the scope of practice for optometrists. The bill changes provisions in three sections of the Public Health Code regarding optometrists. The bill allows optometrists with therapeutic pharmaceutical agent (TPA) certification to administer prescription drugs in limited circumstances. This will require that optometrists with TPA certification, that wish to participate in this expanded scope of practice apply for a controlled substance license. Enclosed with this notice is a copy of the legislation, the pharmacy rules that set the guidelines for the controlled substance license and a controlled substance application for your use. The application must be completed and submitted to us along with the appropriate fee as indicated below.

The address on the controlled substance license must be the business location of your principal place of business or professional practice. If the licensee works at more than one location for the same employer, the central office address or the main office address should be used. The license will indicate that you can only prescribe controlled substances in Schedules 3 – 5.

In order to be issued a controlled substance license, the individual must have an active professional license and it must include the TPA certification. To make the process easier for licensees and our processing staff, controlled substance applications will be handled in the following manner.

If your Optometrist license expires in June 2003:

You can complete the enclosed controlled substance application and submit the \$160 fee for a two year license at any time before June 2003. We will review the application and make you eligible for the license. We will not issue the controlled substance license until you have renewed your Optometrist license. We will be sending out the renewal

notices in late March for your convenience. You will also be able to renew on-line at www.michigan.gov/elicense if your social security number, birthdate and name are correct on our database.

If your Optometrist license expires in June 2004:

You can complete the enclosed controlled substance application and submit the \$85 fee for a one year license at any time before June 2004. We will review the application and make you eligible for the license. Your license will be issued to expire at the same time as your optometrist license.

Controlled Substance Prescription Guidelines

A copy of the Pharmacy rules, which includes the controlled substance rules, is available to you at our website www.michigan.gov/bhser. A summary of guidelines for prescribers of controlled substances.

Information regarding the Michigan Automated Prescription System (MAPS) is included with this mailing to assist you. More detailed information regarding the MAPS can be found at www.michigan.gov/bhser.

Remember to limit your prescribing of controlled substances to issues within the scope of practice of optometry which is defined in Section 333.17401 (b) of the Public Health Code which is attached.

Future Renewal Process

In the future, when you receive your optometrist license renewal, you will also receive a separate renewal for the controlled substance license. The optometrist license will have to be renewed in order to renew the controlled substance license. If the optometrist license is not properly renewed, the controlled substance license will not be issued. Both licenses will be available for renewal on-line at www.michigan.gov/elicense.

Continuing Education Requirement Increased

This new legislation also increased the number of continuing education hours for all optometrists to 40 hours for the two-year licensure period. For those with TPA certification, 50% of the required 40 hours continuing education must be in the category of pharmacological management of ocular conditions. The increased number of continuing education hours will be effective with the next renewal period.

For those whose licenses expire in June 2003, the increase in continuing education hours will be required for renewal in 2003 – 2005 cycle that ends June 30, 2005.

For those whose licenses expire in June 2004, the increase in continuing education hours will be required for renewal in the 2004 –2006 cycle that ends June 30, 2006.