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Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses

Board of Pharmacy

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Memo: Rite Aid Closure Expedited Temporary Licensure Pathway

Rite Aid operates more than 1,200 pharmacies nationwide which were responsible for more than 125 million prescriptions per year. The recent bankruptcy filing and anticipated closures are expected to result in significant patient displacement and increased demand on surrounding pharmacies and healthcare providers within Idaho. In preparation for the upcoming Rite Aid pharmacy closures which begin this week, the Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses is taking proactive measures to help ensure continuity of care for patients and to support pharmacy operations throughout the state. Any pharmacist or pharmacy technician looking to practice in or into the state of Idaho to help mitigate the anticipated demands is encouraged to seek licensure via a temporary expedited pathway.

Pharmacists applying for expedited licensure will be required to complete the following steps:

- Obtain an Idaho Rite Aid Closure Assistance Verify credential
 - NABP FAQ: <https://nabp.pharmacy/help/categories/nabp-verify/>
- Apply for an Idaho license through the [Idaho DOPL website](#) (Online Service) applicants must sign up for a new Online Services account.
 - When completing the online licensure application be sure to choose the Obtain By Method of “Reciprocity”
 - The following are required when applying for a licensure:
 - Idaho PDMP Registration – Pharmacists must initiate registration with the Idaho Prescription Drug Monitoring Program. Registration can be completed [here](#). New applicants must enter “pending” when prompted for your Idaho license/registration number.
 - Current government issued photo ID

Technicians applying for expedited registrations will be required to complete the following steps:

- Individuals must submit the standard application process on the [Idaho DOPL website](#).
 - The following are required when applying for registration:
 - Current government issued photo ID
- Employers must email the names of technicians eligible for expedited applications to nicki.chopski@dopl.idaho.gov.

All licenses and registrations issued through this expedited process expire September 30, 2025. Any licensee that anticipates needing to work in Idaho beyond 9/30/25 is encouraged to utilize the standard reciprocity pathway through NABP e-LT

Frequently Asked Questions:

Pharmacists:

- Approximately how long will the expedited licensure take?
 - For pharmacists that obtain the NABP Verify Credential, the process is expected to take 48 business hours.
- Who can apply for expedited licensing through NABP Verify?
 - Any out-of-state pharmacists with an unencumbered license in good standing in their home state entering Idaho to assist communities impacted by the Rite Aid closures on a short-term basis.
- How long is this expedited license good for?
 - All licenses and registrations issued through this expedited process expire September 30, 2025. Any licensee that anticipates needing to work in Idaho beyond 9/30/25 is encouraged to utilize the standard reciprocity pathway through NABP e-LTP.
- What duties can the newly licensed pharmacists and pharmacy technicians perform?
 - Pharmacists and pharmacy technicians are expected to practice within the Idaho Board of Pharmacy's statute and rules which can be found on the Idaho DOPL website here:
 - [Statutes, Rules and Guidance | Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses.](#)
- Is a PDMP login required for pharmacists?
 - Yes, this free account takes approximately one minute to establish.
 - To register for a PDMP account: [Idaho Prescription Monitoring Program](#)
 - For questions regarding PDMP registration go [here](#)
- Will this option be extended to hospital or clinic staff pharmacists?
 - There is no limit on practice setting. A hospital or clinic that desires to bring in out-of-state pharmacists with unencumbered licenses in their home state for the specific purpose of assisting with the Rite Aid closures are welcome to do so following the same process as outlined above.
- Can I be disciplined in Idaho?
 - As a holder of an Idaho license, you are subject to the disciplinary and penalty provisions found in Idaho Code.

Technicians

- Can pharmacy technicians also apply for expedited registration?
 - Yes, pharmacy technicians are also eligible to apply, however the process differs from pharmacists
- Approximately how long will the approval process take?
 - The expedited applications will be processed quicker than routine applications, but various delays may occur so prompt responses from the Idaho state licensing team will keep things moving quickly.
- Can technicians be PDMP delegates?
 - Yes, technicians are eligible for an Idaho PDMP login and may act as a delegate.
- Can I be disciplined in Idaho?
 - As a holder of an Idaho registration, you are subject to the disciplinary and penalty provisions found in Idaho Code.