



**STATE OF  
OHIO**  
BOARD OF PHARMACY

## **Chemical Capture Classification for Animal Shelters and Dog Wardens**

**Updated 1/13/2023**

Section [4729.542](#) of the Ohio Revised Code and rule [4729:5-15-05](#) of the Ohio Administrative Code allow an animal shelter or county dog warden that holds a limited terminal distributor of dangerous drugs license to apply for a chemical capture classification. This classification permits the holder to purchase, possess, and administer a combination of drugs for the chemical capture of companion animals.

For questions regarding chemical capture, please review the frequently asked questions starting on the next page of this document. If you need additional information, the most expedient way to have your questions answered will be to e-mail the Board office by visiting: <http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/contact.aspx>.



**Q1) I am an animal shelter or county dog warden licensed by the Board. How do I obtain my chemical capture classification?**

To apply for a chemical capture classification, the certified officer must submit a Chemical Capture Attestation Form. This form, including submission instructions, can be accessed here: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/CCform](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/CCform).

**Q2) How much does it cost to apply for a chemical capture classification?**

There is no charge to obtain a chemical capture classification.

**Q3) What are the laws and rules governing the use of chemical capture?**

Rule [4729:5-15-05](#) of the Ohio Administrative Code provides the requirements for animal shelters and dog wardens engaged in chemical capture.

The following sections of the Ohio Revised Code also apply to the use of chemical capture:

- [Section 4729.533 - Chemical capture classification to limited license.](#)
- [Section 4729.534 - Chemical capture - certified officers; curricula; immunity.](#)

**Q4) What are the requirements to obtain a chemical capture classification?**

To qualify for a chemical capture classification, an applicant shall appoint or employ a certified officer.

An individual is considered a certified officer if the individual does one of the following:

(1) Successfully completes a chemical capture course that has a curriculum approved by the Ohio Veterinary Medical Licensing Board (OVMLB);

(2) Successfully completes training acceptable to the Ohio Veterinary Medical Licensing Board from the National Animal Control Association or Safe Capture International, Inc\*.

\**Safe Capture International, Inc* is now the [San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance Safe Capture](#).

**A listing of OVMLB approved chemical capture courses can be accessed here: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/coursesCC](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/coursesCC) (scroll to the bottom of the page).**

**Q5) What are the drugs approved for use in chemical capture?**

Per rule [4729:5-15-05](#) of the Ohio Administrative Code, a certified officer may use any of the following drugs for chemical capture:

- 1) Ketamine;
- 2) Xylazine;
- 3) Tiletamine and zolazepam;
- 4) Yohimbine\*;
- 5) Tolazoline\*; and
- 6) Atipamezole\*.

*\*Reversal agents approved for use effective 1/23/23 (OAC [4729:5-15-05](#))*

**Q6) What are the requirements for a licensee to maintain their chemical capture classification?**

Rule [4729:5-15-05](#) of the Ohio Administrative Code provides the requirements for animal shelters and dog wardens engaged in chemical capture. To assist licensees, the Board has updated its Animal Shelter Inspection Guide ([www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/ASinspect](http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/ASinspect)) to include all inspection requirements for licensees with a chemical classification certification (see Page 47 of the [Inspection Guide](#)).

**Q7) What animals may be captured using chemical capture?**

The law restricts the use of chemical capture to “companion animals.” Companion animals are defined in the Ohio Revised Code as follows:

*"Companion animal" means any animal that is kept inside a residential dwelling and any dog or cat regardless of where it is kept, including a pet store as defined in section 956.01 of the Revised Code. "Companion animal" does not include livestock or any wild animal.*