



Remote Dispensing Pharmacy Application Guidance Document

Updated 3/27/2026

On April 6, 2026, rules on the operation of remote dispensing pharmacies will go into effect (OAC 4729:5-18). A remote dispensing pharmacy is a pharmacy where the dispensing of drugs, patient counseling, and other pharmacist care is provided through a telepharmacy system. To view the rules in full, click on the links below.

- [4729:5-18-01: Definitions - remote dispensing pharmacies.](#)
- [4729:5-18-02: Licensure of remote dispensing pharmacies.](#)
- [4729:5-18-03: Demonstration of need.](#)
- [4729:5-18-04: Operation of a remote dispensing pharmacy.](#)
- [4729:5-18-05: Personnel requirements.](#)
- [4729:5-18-06: Technology requirements for a telepharmacy system.](#)
- [4729:5-18-07: Security requirements for a remote dispensing pharmacy.](#)

NOTE: While the rules are not effective until April 6, 2026, the Board is accepting applications for remote dispensing pharmacies starting Friday, March 27, 2026.

Pursuant to [Ohio law](#), a remote dispensing pharmacy cannot be located within a ten-mile radius of a pharmacy serving the public as an outpatient pharmacy. Exceptions to this requirement include either of the following:

- (1) The remote dispensing pharmacy is part of a federally qualified health center (FQHC) or an FQHC look-alike and the remote dispensing pharmacy is located on the same property as or contiguous to the health center or look-alike.
- (2) The Board approves a request based on a demonstration of need whereby the remote dispensing pharmacy is located in a census block that is rated medium-high or high on the social vulnerability index (SVI) on the [CDC's Social Vulnerability Index \(SVI\) Interactive Map](#).

Additional Questions

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>.

How to Apply to Become a Remote Dispensing Pharmacy

While the rules are not effective until April 6, 2026, the Board is accepting applications for remote dispensing pharmacies starting Friday, March 27, 2026.

Remote dispensing pharmacies are required to apply for and obtain a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs (TDDD) license with a remote dispensing classification. To apply for this license, begin a “Terminal – Pharmacy” license in [eLicense Ohio](#). On the application, you will be asked to select the type of business model that describes the proposed operations; please select “Remote Dispensing” and attach the [Remote Dispensing Pharmacy Request Form](#) to your application.

Before applying in eLicense, please read the remote dispensing pharmacy rules linked on page 1 of this document and review the following checklist to ensure you are meeting all of the requirements of the rules:

- ✓ **Is the location of your remote dispensing pharmacy located within a 10-mile radius of an outpatient pharmacy that serves the public?**
 - If **YES**, continue to the next part of the checklist.
 - If **NO**, proceed with filling out the eLicense Ohio application and the Remote Dispensing Pharmacy Request Form. See the [Ohio Pharmacy Access Dashboard](#) to find the location of current outpatient pharmacies. To view the dashboard, click [here](#) and go to the Pharmacy Deserts tab.

- ✓ **Is your remote dispensing pharmacy part of a federally qualified health center (FQHC) or an FQHC look-alike, and located on the same property as or on a campus contiguous to the health center?**
 - If **YES**, proceed with filling out the eLicense Ohio application and the [Remote Dispensing Pharmacy Request Form](#).
 - If **NO**, continue to the next part of the checklist.

- ✓ **Is your remote dispensing pharmacy located in a census block that is rated medium-high (0.5-0.75) or high (greater than 0.75) on the [SVI Interactive Map](#)?**
 - If **YES**, proceed with filling out the eLicense Ohio application and the [Remote Dispensing Pharmacy Request Form](#), ensuring you fill out Part 6 – Demonstration of Need. Please note that there will be a public comment period and the Board will need to approve the remote dispensing pharmacy prior to operation. For more information on demonstration of need, see OAC [4729:5-18-03](#).
 - If **NO**, you are not eligible to apply to become a remote dispensing pharmacy.

Application Process

After submitting your application, the Ohio Board of Pharmacy will review to determine next steps. If you are completing the application because you are **NOT** a FQHC or FQHC look-alike **AND** your remote dispensing pharmacy is in a census block that is medium-high or high based on SVI, the form will be posted to the Board of Pharmacy’s website to go through a public comment process. To view all active remote dispensing pharmacy requests, visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/RDPpage.

To receive email updates from the Board when a new remote dispensing pharmacy application is submitted, sign up for updates [here](#) under the topic “Terminal Distributor Licenses → Remote Dispensing Pharmacy Applications.”

To submit a comment on an application, email rulecomments@pharmacy.ohio.gov and include the remote dispensing pharmacy name in your message.

The form will also be reviewed by the Board at the next meeting that occurs 90 days after posting the form to the website, ensuring all of the requirements of the rules have been met.

If the Board approves the remote dispensing pharmacy, a notification will be sent out to the contact person listed on the Remote Dispensing Pharmacy Request Form explaining that their request has been approved. The email will also explain the next steps toward getting their remote dispensing pharmacy license, which will include an inspection of the facility.