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Board of Pharmacy

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AT A GLANCE**Board Members and Staff (as of 7/1/2026)**

- 9 board members (six pharmacists and three public members) appointed by the Governor
- 25 full-time employees

Licenses & Registrations Issued (as of 7/1/2026)

- 22,618 individuals
- 4,215 businesses

Inspections (for FY 2025 and 2026)

- 949 inspections of licensed resident facilities, including pharmacies, drug manufacturers and wholesalers, and medical gas distributors

Complaint & Discipline (for FY 2025 and 2026)

- 452 new jurisdictional complaints received
- 294 jurisdictional complaints resolved
- 110 disciplinary actions taken

Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) (for calendar year 2025)

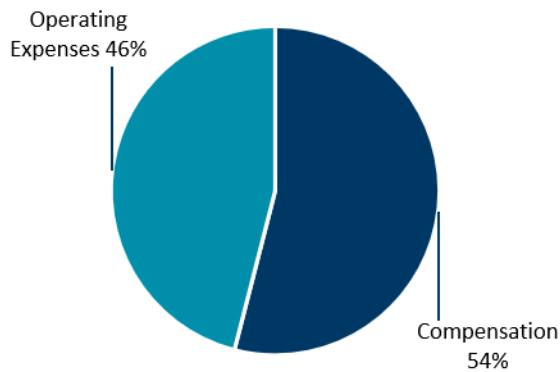
- 8.88 million controlled substance prescriptions reported to Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)
- 36,866 enrolled PMP Users
- 7,240,241 million database queries

PURPOSE

The Board's mission is to preserve and protect the public health, safety, and welfare of Minnesotans by promoting the safe distribution of pharmaceuticals and the provision of quality pharmacy care.

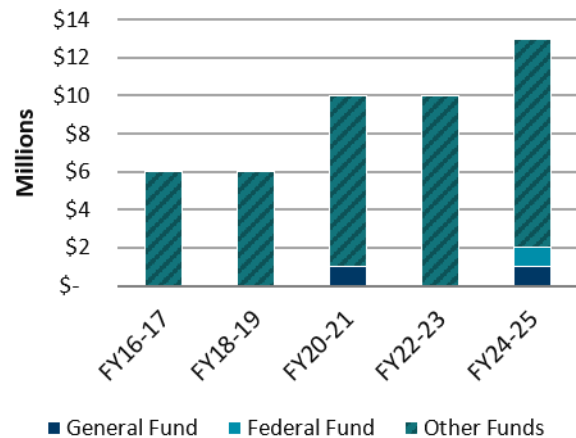
The Board fulfills this mission through examination and licensure of pharmacists, regulation of the practice of pharmacy, regulation of the manufacturing and distribution of pharmaceuticals, inspection of licensed facilities, investigation of complaints, and the issuance of disciplinary orders and agreements for corrective action. Board staff also help educate pharmacists and others about laws, rules and best standards of practice. The Board provides information to the public on its website related to the practice of pharmacy and prescription drugs. The Board also administers several programs, including: The Minnesota Prescription Monitoring Program, the Opiate Product Fee Registration Program, and the Minnesota Insulin Safety Net Program.

Spending by Category FY 2025 Actual



Source: Budget Planning & Analysis System (BPAS)

Historical Spending



Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

The Board has been primarily supported by licensure fees and has recently received as well permanent funding from the general fund. Minnesota Statutes section 214.06, subdivision 1(a) requires the Board to collect fees in the amount sufficient to cover direct and indirect expenditures. Funds are deposited as non-dedicated revenue into the state government special revenue fund. From this fund, the Board receives a direct appropriation to pay for agency expenses such as salaries, rent, costs associated with disciplinary/contested cases and operating expenditures. It also pays statewide indirect costs through an open appropriation.

In addition to Board operations, licensure fees fund activities that support other boards and agencies. Some of these are: the Administrative Services Unit (inter-board), Health Professionals Services Program (inter-board), Prescription Monitoring Program (Pharmacy Board), Office of the Attorney General for legal services, and the Criminal Background Check Program (inter-board).

STRATEGIES

The Board of Pharmacy is unique as it regulates both individual professionals as well as drug distribution and access sites; most other boards regulate only individuals. The Board's primary strategy is to promote adherence to state and federal laws and rules relating to the practice of pharmacy and the manufacturing and distribution of drugs. Regulating these aspects helps to ensure adequate drug quality. Another, equally important strategy is to promote the adoption of standards of practice or even best practices that go beyond the minimum requirements specified in the statutes and rules. The Board's activities can be divided into several areas of focus:

Licensing. Licensing is the Board's "foundation," on which most activities ultimately rest. The ability to issue licenses and registrations empowers the Board to inspect facilities, investigate complaints, and take disciplinary action when necessary. The Board is primarily funded by the licensing and registration fees that it collects. Most of the Board's staff members are involved in some aspect of the licensing process. Licensing specialist staff members process applications and work with the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy to make sure that applicants for a pharmacist license meet professional standards and prerequisites to licensure including passing required examinations. Compliance staff members also provide review of highly technical information, other state discipline, and conduct initial inspections of facilities before they are allowed to be licensed.

Compliance. Activities in this area can be further divided as follows:

- **Inspections.** The Board licenses or registers over 1,000 in-state pharmacies, drug wholesalers, drug manufacturers, medical gas distributors and controlled substance researchers. Each in-state pharmacy is inspected by a Board Surveyor before it can open. Subsequent, unannounced inspections are conducted periodically based on risk level assessment.

- **Complaint Investigations.** The Board investigates every jurisdictional complaint it receives. For in-state facilities, a Board Surveyor visits the pharmacy in question, meets with pharmacy staff, reviews the policies and procedures of the pharmacy, and directs pharmacy staff to make necessary changes to policies and procedures. For cases involving certain issues, such as alleged physical or mental impairment of a licensee, the Board refers the matter to the Attorney General's Office (AGO) for investigation. The Surveyor or the AGO Investigator issues a report which is reviewed by the Board's Complaint Review Panel (CRP). CRP may dismiss the complaint if the allegations aren't proven or may refer the matter to discipline. The board completes a significant number of complaints for non-resident licensees via direct correspondence and reporting.
- **Discipline.** If either the Complaint Review Panel or the Board's Executive Director (ED) determines that the evidence substantiates a serious violation of statutes or rules, the matter is turned into a disciplinary case. The ED works with the AGO to initiate the due process procedures that the Board must follow. The licensee or registrant is directed to appear before a Committee on Professional Standards, which weighs the available evidence. In most cases, if the Committee determines that discipline is warranted, it reaches a settlement agreement with the licensee or registrant. Such agreements, which must be approved by the full Board, usually involve the issuance of a disciplinary order which places limitations and conditions on the license or registration of the person or business that was investigated.
- **Consultations.** The Executive Director, Deputy Director, Board Surveyors, and Director of Controlled Substance Reporting are all licensed pharmacists with collectively, over 250 years of experience working in a variety of pharmacy settings. As such, their input is sought daily by pharmacists and other licensees and registrants. The compliance staff and directors provide consultations on issues that are often extremely technical and complex. The goal of all consultations is to promote both adherence to laws and rules and the adoption of standards of practice and technology that help protect the health, welfare, and safety of citizens.

Policy, Regulatory and Legislative Activities. As new standards of practice emerge and new technologies are developed, the Board and its staff work to update allowances through guidance, rules, and statutes. Guidance helps licensees and registrants use new technologies and procedures in a way that best promotes the health, welfare, and safety of citizens. As new technologies and standards of practice become more broadly accepted, the Board will promulgate rules, as necessary, to replace the guidance or propose statutory changes. In addition, Board staff very frequently provide technical assistance to legislators and their staff on a variety of issues concerning pharmacy and drugs. The Board also works on policy issues with other local, state, and federal agencies, including local law enforcement agencies, county attorneys, the state Departments of Human Services and Health, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Services for the General Public. Board staff provides direct services to the public. Staff provide information to the public in response to inquiries concerning the legal requirements and standards for pharmacy practice. The public can use the Board's online license verification system to verify that individuals and businesses are licensed by the Board and to determine if any disciplinary action has been taken against a licensee or registrant. The Board provides free copies of disciplinary orders to the public on its website.

Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP). The PMP is a statewide electronic database that collects controlled substance dispensing information and is intended to support the safe and appropriate prescribing and dispensing of these substances. Authorized prescribers, pharmacists, and other eligible users may access a patient's prescription history to help inform clinical decisions, identify potential safety concerns, and coordinate care. The PMP also supports public health, regulatory, and law enforcement activities authorized under state law.

Opiate Product Registration Fee. This program requires drug manufacturers and wholesale distributors to report opiate products distributed or sold within or into Minnesota. Manufacturers that meet the statutory opiate threshold are assessed an annual registration fee. Revenue from the program supports statewide efforts to prevent and address opioid addiction, overdose, and related harms.

Insulin Safety Net Program. The board provides information to the public about how individuals who can't afford insulin may obtain it through either an urgent need program or a corresponding continued need program. It also administers support for dispute resolution when an insulin manufacturer determines an individual is not eligible for the program.

RESULTS

Part A: Performance Data

Measure	Measure type	Measure data source	Historical trend	Most recent data
In-state pharmacy inspections completed	Quantity	MN Board of Pharmacy Licensing Data	35.7% for FY 25	34.5% for FY 2026
Complaints investigated and resolved within 12 months	Quality	MN Board of Pharmacy Complaint Data	75% for FY 25	48.9% for FY 2026*
Total Opioid dispensations to MN residents reported.	Quantity	MN Prescription Monitoring Program	2,174,444 for 2022	2,068,381 for 2025
Total dispensations of Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) to MN residents reported	Quantity	MN Opiate Product Registration Fee Program	104,168 in 2022	213,797 in 2025

Part B: Evidence of Effectiveness

The Board does not provide direct services that are typically subject to impact evaluation and is not currently implementing programs identified as evidence-based practices. One Board administered program, the Minnesota Prescription Monitoring Program, sometimes receives public funding through grants to support its maintenance and operation.

Evidence-based practice:	Source:	FY 26-27 Expenditures
Minnesota Prescription Drug Monitoring Program	Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs: An Assessment of the Evidence for Best Practices.	~\$1,600,000 per fiscal year** for system maintenance, staff, and integration

*As of the writing of this report, 12 months have not yet passed for most complaints received in fiscal year 2026.

**The PMP is funded through an annual appropriation apportioned among health licensing boards that license prescribers and dispensers, based on each board's share is based on the proportion of eligible licensee. The Board of Pharmacy may also seek federal grants and other funding sources to support program operations or enhancements.

Sections of MN Statutes Chapters 151 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/151>), 152 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/152>) and 214 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/214>) provide the Board of Pharmacy with legal authority to carry out its duties.