



GEORGIA

State-Specific Controlled Substance Requirements

Updated 5/31/23

GA Inventory:	An inventory of all controlled substances must be maintained separately and taken <u>biennially on May 1st, or two (2) years from the day of the last inventory.</u> Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 480-18-06(5)(c)
DEA Biennial Inventory:	A physical inventory of all controlled substances on hand must be taken at least every <u>two years</u> . The biennial inventory may be taken on any date, which is within two years of the previous biennial or initial inventory. [21 CFR 1304.11] NOTE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate biennial inventories must be completed for schedule II and schedule III-V controlled substances. • Biennials may be conducted more frequently than every two years. As a recommendation, conduct your DEA biennial inventory at the same time you conduct your annual inventory for the state. • Biennial inventories must be conducted by the DEA registrant, or their designee who has been granted Power of Attorney, along with an authorized witness. Biennial inventories must indicate whether they are conducted at the start or close of business.
CE:	<p>Veterinarians: must obtain 30 credit hours of Board-approved continuing education every two years (each "renewal period" falls in even-numbered years) to maintain an active license to practice in Georgia. The</p> <p>As of Jan. 1, 2009, two of the 30 hours per renewal period must be acquired in Georgia laws, rules and professionalism, also known as "LEAP" LEAP CE calendar. https://gvma.net/ce-requirements/</p> <p>Vet Techs: Each veterinary technician licensed to practice in the State of Georgia must obtain ten (10) hours of Board approved continuing education per biennium for license renewal. Of the ten (10) hours required, one (1) per renewal period must be acquired in Georgia laws, rules and professionalism. Georgia licensees who do not practice in the State of Georgia are not required to meet the one (1) hour requirement in Georgia laws, rules and professionalism.</p> <p>GA does not require controlled substance CE at this time.</p> <p>You must keep a record of credit hours and proof of attendance for <u>three years</u>. http://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/700-7</p>
Compounding:	<p><u>Compounding</u> is <u>any manipulation</u> of a drug beyond that stipulated on the drug label. Veterinary drugs should only be compounded based on a licensed veterinarian's prescription, and to meet the medical needs of a specific patient. Manipulation might include mixing, diluting, concentrating, flavoring, or changing a drug's dosage form. Examples of compounding include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mixing two injectable drugs in the same syringe • Creating an oral suspension from crushed tablets or an injectable solution • Adding flavoring to a commercially available drug • Creating a transdermal gel for a drug typically taken through other routes • Mixing two solutions for instilling into the ear <p><u>Georgia Compounding:</u> "Compounding" means the preparation, mixing, assembling, packaging, or labeling of a drug or de vice as the result of a practitioner's prescription drug order or initiative based on the relationship between the practitioner, patient, and pharmacist in the course of</p>



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	<p>professional practice or for the purpose of, or as an incident to, research, teaching, or chemical analysis and not for sale or dispensing. Compounding also includes the preparation of drugs or devices in anticipation of prescription drug orders based on routine and regularly observed prescribing patterns. Compounding does not include mixing, reconstituting, or similar acts that are performed in accordance with the directions contained in approved labeling provided by the product's manufacturer and other manufacturer directions consistent with that labeling.</p> <p>Rule 480-11-.01(6) Pharmacy Board Rule 480-11-.02. Compounded Drug Preparations states “<u>Emergency Dispensing</u>” shall mean no more than a 96 hour supply dispensed for an urgent condition to an animal patient by a licensed veterinarian with a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship when timely access to a compounding pharmacy is not available.</p> <p>(2) Compounded drug preparations - Pharmacist for Distribution to Veterinarian. (a) Only a pharmacy licensed or registered by the Board may distribute compounded preparations to veterinarians licensed in this state for administration or emergency dispensing to their patients in the course of their professional practice, either personally or by an authorized person under their direct and immediate supervision. (b) A veterinarian shall make a request to the pharmacy for a compounded preparation in the same manner as ordering products from a wholesale pharmaceutical distributor or manufacturer and not by using a prescription drug order.</p> <p>Rule 480-11-.02(2)(a)(b)</p>
<p>Dispensing:</p>	<p>A current VCPR must exist for any dispensing/administering of controlled substances.</p> <p>All controlled substance dispensers must have a GA state license and DEA registration.</p> <p><u>Dispensing</u> a drug means preparing and delivering a drug to a patient or caregiver in a container labeled with appropriate directions for subsequent administration to, or use by, the patient. [See OCGA § 26-4-5]. Administering a drug means providing a unit dose of a medication directly to a patient. Veterinarians, of course, may administer drugs or write prescriptions for drugs that a client can have filled for dispensing by a pharmacy that carries veterinary drugs. Additionally, by taking the steps described below, veterinarians can directly dispense Dangerous Drugs or Controlled Substances to clients for the client to administer to the animal patient, for the patient's clinical care.</p> <p><u>Georgia State Board of Pharmacy permit</u>: Every dispensing practitioner shall ensure that all controlled substances and/or dangerous drugs are purchased from and returned to firms that have a current permit issued by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy. <u>The practitioner shall obtain and maintain a copy of each such firm's current Georgia State Board of Pharmacy permit which shall be made available during any GDNA inspection.</u></p> <p>Rule 480-28-.11</p> <p><u>Veterinarians Must Provide Notification to the State of Georgia of Intent to Dispense</u>: At the time of the veterinarian's initial request for, or renewal of, his/her license to practice veterinary medicine in Georgia the veterinarian who intends to dispense drugs must notify the Georgia Board of Veterinary Medicine of his/her intention to dispense drugs. The Georgia Board of Veterinary Medicine, in turn, will notify the Georgia Board of Pharmacy, which may inspect the facility from which the drugs are dispensed. The notification may be in the form of a letter that includes the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name and address of the veterinarian; • The veterinarian's state professional license number;



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The veterinarian's DEA registration number (if controlled substances are dispensed); and • The name and address of the facility from where the drugs will be dispensed, and address of the facility where all relevant records will be maintained. <p>Rule 480-28-.05 Labeling</p> <p>All drugs dispensed by a practitioner must be labeled with the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Date and identifying serial number; (b) Name of patient; (c) Name of practitioner prescribing; (d) Name, address and telephone number of the dispensing practitioner; (e) Name of drug and strength; (f) Directions for use to the patient; (g) The expiration date of the drug; and (h) Any other information required by the Drug Enforcement Administration or the Food and Drug Administration.
Diversion Reporting:	<p>(1) The theft, loss, or the discovery of unaccounted for controlled substances, within three (3) days of its discovery, must be reported to the GDNA.</p> <p>(2) A written report must be made regarding any theft or significant loss, as defined under 21 C.F.R. 1301.76, of controlled substances by completing a DEA Form 106 and submitted to the Drug Enforcement Administration, with a copy to the GDNA.</p> <p>Rule 480-16-.06(1)(2) Theft, Loss, or Unaccounted for Controlled Substances</p>
GA PDMP Reporting:	<p>All prescribers are required to registered with the Georgia PDMP. Georgia veterinarians are exempted from the requirement to report to the PDMP. They must only register.</p> <p>Register: https://dph.georgia.gov/pdmp</p>
GA Veterinary Medical Professional License:	<p>The Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine requires veterinary practitioners to have a valid DEA registration and Veterinary Medical Professional License for the State of Georgia.</p> <p>Apply Online</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Application Fee: \$100 <p>Renewals: biennially, completed online and is required by December 31st of even numbered years. Late renewal period is January 1- January 31st of odd numbered years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Early Renewal Fee: \$200 ▪ Late Renewal Fee: \$300 <p><i>A processing fee of \$5.00 for online applications and \$10.00 for paper applications must be submitted along with the application fee.</i></p>
Ownership:	<p>Non-veterinarian ownership of a veterinary practice is inconclusive at this time.</p>
Recordkeeping:	<p><u>controlled substance records:</u> Georgia law requires controlled substance records to be maintained for two years.</p> <p><u>patient records:</u> to be made available for inspection for a period of 3 years after the last patient visit.</p>
State CS License:	<p>Georgia does not require DEA registrant practitioners to obtain a second state controlled substance license, just a DEA registration and an active Veterinary Medical Professional License to practice in Georgia.</p>
State Scheduled CS's	<p>N/A</p>
Supervision:	<p><u>Direct supervision</u> means that the duly licensed veterinarian is on the premises and is quickly and easily available and that the animal patient has been examined by a duly licensed veterinarian at</p>



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	<p>such time as acceptable veterinary medical practice requires, consistent with the particular delegated animal health care task.</p> <p>Rule 700-15-.02 Direct Supervision</p> <p><u>(1) Indirect Supervision</u> means the duly licensed veterinarian is not on the premises but has given either written or oral instructions for the treatment of the animal patient and the animal has been examined by a duly licensed veterinarian at such times as acceptable veterinary medical practice requires, consistent with the particular delegated health care task.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) A duly licensed veterinarian is responsible to assure that the following tasks being performed by Veterinary Assistants is under indirect supervision:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Administration and application of treatments, drugs, medications and immunological agents by oral, IM subcutaneous routes excluding rabies vaccine for animals required to receive a rabies vaccine by Georgia law; 2. Grooming procedures and non-invasive skin (topical) treatment; 3. Handling of biohazardous waste materials. <p>(2) A veterinary assistant working under the direction, supervision and control of a duly licensed veterinarian may provide the following emergency animal patient care under indirect supervision.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Application of tourniquets and/or pressure bandages to control hemorrhage; (b) Resuscitative procedures; (c) Application of temporary splints or bandages to prevent further injury to bones or soft tissues; (d) Application of appropriate wound dressings and external supportive treatment in severe wound and burn cases; and (e) External supportive treatment in heat prostration cases. <p>Rule 700-15-.03 Indirect Supervision</p> <p>Rule 700-15-.04 Restrictions</p> <p>(1) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to permit Veterinary Assistants to do the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Make any diagnosis or prognosis; (b) Prescribe any treatments, drugs, medications, or appliances; (c) Perform surgery. (d) Perform a nonemergency intubation; (e) Induce anesthesia; (f) Perform central venous catheterization; (g) Perform arterial catheterization; (h) Arterial collection for any animal; (i) Administer a rabies vaccine to an official vaccinate; and (j) Identify himself/herself as a Veterinarian Technician.
<p>Power of Attorney:</p>	<p>In Georgia, power of attorney must meet certain basic requirements, including being signed by the principal, witnesses, and a notary public.</p>
<p>Prescriptions:</p>	<p>"Prescriber" means a physician, dentist, scientific investigator, or other person licensed, registered, or otherwise authorized under the laws of this state, or any other state or territory of the United States, to prescribe a controlled substance in the course of professional practice or research in this state, and who has been assigned a DEA number. "Prescriber" shall not include a veterinarian.</p> <p><u>E-prescribing:</u> Georgia does not have an existing e-prescribing mandate.</p> <p>(1) <u>Requirements of a prescription drug order.</u> A practitioner shall write a prescription drug order for each drug dispensed. The prescription drug order shall contain the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The name and address of the person for whom the drug is prescribed;



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	<p>(b) The name, quantity, and strength of such drug; (c) The directions for taking or giving; (d) The signature of the practitioner and the date the prescription was written; and (e) For controlled substance drugs, the name, address, and Drug Enforcement Administration number of the dispensing practitioner.</p> <p>(2) Documentation required for filling or refilling a prescription drug order. A practitioner who fills or refills a prescription drug order shall write on the prescription itself the date it was filled or refilled and the signature of the practitioner who fills or refills the prescription drug order.</p> <p>(3) Prescription drug orders dispensed by a practitioner cannot be transferred to another practitioner or pharmacist for subsequent filling.</p> <p>(4) <u>Retention of records</u>. Prescription drug orders shall be maintained on file by a practitioner for a period of <u>two years</u> from the date the prescription is filled and shall be accessible for inspection by the Board and/or its agents from the Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency and its inspectors. Rule 480-28-04</p> <p>All controlled substance prescribers must have a GA state license and a DEA registration.</p> <p>A current VCPR must exist for any prescribing of controlled substances.</p>
<p>Telemedicine:</p>	<p>A VCPR cannot be established solely by telephone, computer or other electronic means (Ga Comp. R. & Regs. 700-8-01). Where telemedicine occurs is not defined.</p>
<p>VCPR:</p>	<p>VCPR must be established in-person and only applies to one veterinarian.</p> <p>It is unlawful for a veterinarian to release, prescribe, and/or dispense any prescription drugs without having examined the animal and established a valid veterinary/client/patient relationship. Failure to have an appropriate Veterinarian/Client/Patient Relationship is considered to be unprofessional conduct. This means that the veterinarian has seen the animal within the last twelve (12) months and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal(s) by virtue of an examination of the animal(s), and/or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal(s) are kept (Ga Comp. R. & Regs. 700-8-.01).</p> <p>“Veterinarian-client-patient relationship” means that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. The licensed veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for medical treatment, and the client (owner or caretaker) has agreed to follow the instruction of the licensed veterinarian; B. There is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the licensed veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This means that the licensed veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal by the virtue of examination of the animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept; and C. A licensed veterinarian is readily available for follow up care or consultation or has arranged for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Veterinary emergency coverage; and (ii) Continuing care and treatment by another licensed veterinarian, including providing a copy of associated records during normal business hours; and (D) The licensed veterinarian develops and maintains appropriate medical records Per Statute Ga. Code Ann., § 43-50-3.



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Information and Resources

FEDERAL:

Drug Enforcement Administration, Atlanta Division
75 Ted Turner Drive, SW
Room 800
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: (404) 893-7000

LOCAL DEA OFFICES:

- Augusta - (706) 724-9021
- Columbus - (706) 649-7850
- Macon - (478) 330-7750
- Rome - (706) 232-5104
- Savannah - (912) 447-1035

Federal Law: www.dea.gov

Controlled Substances Act: [21 USC 801 – 904](#)

Code of Federal Regulations: [21 CFR Part 1300 – 1399](#)

NDC Drug: www.fda.gov/Drugs/DevelopmentApprovalProcess/UCM070829

Diversion Control Division: <https://www.dea.gov/schedules/>

STATE:

Georgia Veterinary Board - <https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/53>

Georgia Pharmacy Board - <https://gbp.georgia.gov/>

Georgia Controlled Substance Policy- <http://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/480-34>