



Arizona State Board of Pharmacy

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FAQ: Emergency Prescription Services for Individuals Relocated to Arizona Due to California Fires and State of Emergency Declared in California

1. What triggered the activation of A.R.S. § 32-1910(B)?

The California fires and the subsequent state of emergency declaration by the Governor of California triggered A.R.S. § 32-1910(B). This statute ensures the continued provision of medications and pharmacy services to individuals temporarily relocated to Arizona as a result of natural disasters or other emergencies.

2. May pharmacists in Arizona issue emergency refills without a new prescription?

Yes, under A.R.S. § 32-1910(B), pharmacists may use their professional judgment to issue an emergency refill for non-controlled medications when the patient cannot access their prescribing provider due to the declared emergency.

3. Who is eligible for emergency prescription services under this statute?

Individuals who:

- Have been temporarily relocated to Arizona due to the California fires or related emergencies.
- Are unable to refill existing prescriptions as a result of their relocation.

4. What types of prescriptions are covered?

This provision applies to existing prescriptions, including:

- Maintenance medications for chronic conditions (e.g., diabetes, hypertension).
- Emergency medications.
- Devices and supplies necessary for treatment (e.g., insulin, inhalers).

5. What documentation is required for an emergency refill?

- A valid form of California identification; and
- Proof of the previous prescription, such as:
 - A prescription bottle(s), label or other method to identify a patient's medication.

6. What is the role of the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy?

The Arizona State Board of Pharmacy will:

- Collaborate with California and local pharmacies to facilitate prescription refills for relocated individuals.
- Educate pharmacists with the emergency provisions for prescription services about the California State of Emergency.
- Work with other agencies, associations and entities to create awareness.

7. Are there any limitations on emergency prescription refills?

Yes, limitations may include:

- A maximum supply of non-controlled medication (a 30-day emergency supply) if the pharmacist, after reasonable amount of effort, is unable to reach the pharmacy or prescriber.
- Controlled substances prescriptions will require the pharmacists to contact the prescriber.

8. Will insurance cover the cost of emergency prescriptions?

Insurance companies may cover the cost, but it is advisable to:

- Contact patient's insurance provider for coverage details.

9. For uninsured California residents.

The [Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response \(ASPR\)](#), activated the [Emergency Prescription Assistance Program \(EPAP\)](#) on January 17, 2025 for California to aid **uninsured residents** in replacing prescription medicines or certain medical equipment lost or damaged in the ongoing wildfires in Los Angeles County. The associated HHS ASPR Press Release can be found on the [ASPR Newsroom](#). Additional information can be found on the [EPAP: California - Wildfires 2025](#) webpage. This webpage also includes several Fact Sheets on the program.

Please note that eligibility is limited to uninsured individuals living in the affected areas; however, prescriptions can be filled at any EPAP-enrolled pharmacies nationwide if the individual has evacuated the disaster area (a list of [EPAP Enrolled Pharmacies](#) can be found online). **This is to allow for qualified survivors who have evacuated to other areas, anywhere across the country to access the program.**

The ASPR website also offers additional information on [EPAP for Pharmacies](#) (also attached).

Questions?

If you have questions about California patients that are uninsured, call Express Scripts at 800-282-2881

This FAQ aims to provide clarity and assistance to those affected by the California fires and who are temporarily residing in Arizona. For further support, consult your local pharmacy or the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy.