

Opioid Prescribing Law

The bill was signed into law in April 2018 and took effect on July 1, 2018.
It was created in response to the rising number of opioid-related deaths in Florida.
The law is intended to reduce the amount of opioid prescriptions in Florida while using state dollars to fund addiction recovery and treatment programs.

**NOTE: these are highlights of the new law, and are not intended to constitute legal advice. Read the full bill at <https://bit.ly/2J2nkrU>.*



3-Day Limit

- Patients with acute pain can only receive a 3-day supply at a time for Schedule II opioid prescriptions.
- The 3-day limit does not apply to:
 - Pain related to cancer
 - Terminal conditions
 - Palliative care
 - Certain severe traumas
- A 7-day supply is allowed for the acute pain exceptions.
- There is no limit for chronic pain patients with a controlled substances agreement and patient ID.



PDMP

- Prescribers must check Florida's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) for every Schedule II-V prescription.
 - The only exception is Schedule V non-opioid drugs
- If the PDMP system is down, prescribers can continue with the prescription provided they document certain required information.



CME

- To continue writing opioid prescriptions and maintain their DEA license, Florida physicians must complete mandatory continuing medical education (CME).
- This 2-hour course must be completed before Jan. 31, 2019 and with each subsequent license renewal.
- The course is only available from state-approved sources such as the Florida Medical Association.

July 1,
2018
Law Takes Effect