



## CURES 2.0 UPDATE

**Notice: All California-licensed health care practitioners authorized to prescribe Schedule II-IV controlled substance, and all pharmacists with an active license must be registered to use CURES before July 1, 2016. You must register for CURES access if you meet these criteria, even if you do not actively prescribe or dispense.**

On January 8, 2016, the Department of Justice (DOJ) will release the upgraded Controlled Substances Utilization Review and Evaluation System, also referred to as **CURES 2.0**.

In order to utilize CURES 2.0, a user must access the system through a secure browser. The following browsers are considered secure:

- Microsoft Internet Explorer version 11 or greater
- Google Chrome
- Mozilla Firefox
- Safari

CURES 2.0 offers a significantly improved user experience and increased functionality, including:

- Allowing approved delegates to run patient report queries that prescribers and dispensers can access,
- Sending peer-to-peer communications; and,
- Receiving patient alerts.

For those without a secure browser, access to CURES 1.0 will continue; however, none of the new CURES 2.0 performance or functionality features will be available in CURES 1.0.

In order to access CURES 2.0, a new streamlined registration process is being implemented. This new process will allow prescribers and dispensers to request and receive approval to access CURES entirely online.



For new users (those who have never accessed the CURES system):

- Regardless of the browser you utilize, you must register for CURES access via a secure browser.
- To register, visit <http://www.oag.ca.gov/cures>, click on the registration link, and follow the instructions.
- Only California-licensed prescribers and dispensers can register. You will need your state license information and prescribers must provide federal DEA license information to register. You must provide your information for CURES access specifically as directed by DOJ. This information will be verified with the Drug Enforcement Agency and the regulatory board issuing your license. Failure to provide accurate information may result in a delay of approval for accessing CURES.
- Once you have been approved for CURES access by DOJ, you can access CURES 1.0 or 2.0 depending on which browser you utilize to query the system.

For existing CURES users:

- If you do not utilize a secure browser, you can continue accessing CURES 1.0 on your current browser.
- Regardless of what browser you will utilize, you will need to confirm your account with DOJ and update security information the first time you access CURES on January 8.

For those who have submitted a paper application to DOJ:

- You can either apply for CURES access on a secure browser as a new user or continue to wait for processing and approval from DOJ for access to CURES, at which point, you can utilize either CURES 1.0 or 2.0 depending on your browser.

To learn more, visit <http://oag.ca.gov/cures-pdmp/faqs>. For assistance, contact the CURES helpdesk at (916) 227-3843 or [cures@doj.ca.gov](mailto:cures@doj.ca.gov).

# CURES 2.0

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What information may be obtained from CURES?**

The Controlled substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES) stores Schedule II, III, and IV controlled substance prescription information reported as dispensed in California. CURES contains the following information: patient name, patient date of birth, patient address, prescriber name, prescriber DEA number, pharmacy name, pharmacy license number, date prescription was dispensed, prescription number, drug name, drug quantity and strength, and number of refills remaining.

### **Who has access to CURES information?**

As outlined in Health & Safety Code section 11165.1(a)(1)(A), prescribers authorized to prescribe, order, administer, furnish, or dispense Schedule II, III, or IV controlled substances, and pharmacists, may access CURES data for patient care purposes.

Additionally, pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 11165(c)(2), CURES data is available to appropriate state, local, and federal public agencies, law enforcement, and regulatory boards for disciplinary, civil, or criminal purposes. The Department of Justice (DOJ) may also provide data to other agencies and entities for educational, peer review, statistical, or research purposes, provided that patient identity information is not disclosed.

### **Who is required to register for CURES?**

Prescribers must submit an application before July 1, 2016, or upon receipt of a federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registration, whichever occurs later. Registration requirements are not based on dispensing, prescribing, or administering activities but, rather, on possession of a Drug Enforcement Administration Controlled Substance Registration Certificate AND valid California licensure as any one of the following:

Dentist

Medical Physician

Physician Assistant

Podiatrist

Naturopathic Physician  
 Optometrist  
 Osteopathic Physician

Registered Certified Nurse Midwife  
 Registered Nurse Practitioner (Furnishing)  
 Veterinarian

Pharmacists must submit an application before July 1, 2016, or upon licensure, whichever occurs later. Registration requirements are not based on dispensing, prescribing, or administering activities but, rather, on valid California licensure as a Pharmacist.

### **What do I do if the information in CURES is not correct?**

Data contained in CURES is reported to the DOJ by pharmacies and direct dispensers. If you are a patient with incorrect information on your CURES report, please notify the reporting pharmacy of the error. Only the original reporting pharmacy or dispenser may submit prescription corrections to the DOJ.

For information on how to submit controlled substance prescription data or data corrections, pharmacies and direct dispensers may contact Atlantic Associates, Inc. by email at [CACures@aainh.com](mailto:CACures@aainh.com) or by phone at (800) 539-3370.

### **What Internet browsers are required for CURES 2.0 access?**

CURES 2.0 users must use Microsoft Internet Explorer version 11.0 or higher, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, or Safari. Earlier versions of Internet Explorer are not supported by CURES 2.0 for security considerations.

CURES 1.0 will continue to be made available to clinical users for an indeterminate time to facilitate uninterrupted access to CURES data while health care systems upgrade to CURES 2.0-compatible browsers.

### **What is the registration process for access to CURES 2.0?**

Registration, for California licensed prescribers and pharmacists, is fully automated. Applicants must complete the online registration form and provide a valid email address, medical or pharmacist license number, and DEA registration certificate number (prescribers only.) DOJ will validate identity and license electronically with the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

### **Do current CURES 1.0 users need to re-apply for CURES 2.0 access?**

No. Existing CURES users do not need to apply for access to CURES 2.0. These users are able to access the CURES 2.0 with their current User ID and password. Upon initial login to CURES 2.0, users are required to update their security questions and answers and re-establish a new password. The user must also review their CURES account profile to verify their information is accurate, make necessary updates, and acknowledge CURES Terms and Conditions. Once this has been completed, the user may begin searching patient prescription information in CURES 2.0.

**What happens to providers who have submitted application documents under the old registration requirements but have not yet been granted access?**

Prescribers and pharmacists who submitted application documents using the old registration method will continue to have their registrations processed. If approved, these applicants will be granted access to CURES.

**If a current CURES user is locked out of the system, how can he/she regain access?**

CURES 2.0 users are provided easy, intuitive, online assistance for password reset, forgot UserID and forgot password. Links to these services are on the CURES 2.0 login page. Additionally, users may contact the CURES Help Desk at (916) 227-3843 or [cures@doj.ca.gov](mailto:cures@doj.ca.gov).