

What you need to know about Florida's new

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