

Program Overview

You need to know the law if you are a part of the pharmaceutical or sharps industry, including:

- Retailer
- Manufacturer
- Distributor or Wholesaler
- Repackager
- Owner or Licensee of a Trademark or Brand
- Importer

In 2018, California passed the **Pharmaceutical and Sharps Waste Stewardship Act** (Public Resources Code (PRC) Sections 42030-42036.4) to establish a statewide program where covered entities (manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, repackagers, owners or licensees of a trademark or brand, importers) are responsible for implementing an approved stewardship program that provides safe and convenient disposal options for pharmaceutical and sharps products being sold or offered for sale in California.

Approved program operators in California can be found at calrecycle.ca.gov/epr/pharmasharps/coveredentities.

DISCLAIMER

This brochure provides an overview and is not comprehensive of the requirements in statute and regulations.

Resources

Pharma Sharps Homepage

calrecycle.ca.gov/epr/pharmasharps

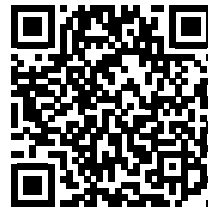
Covered Entities and Products List

calrecycle.ca.gov/epr/pharmasharps/programlists

Pharma Sharps Referral System

Reporting issues can help protect Californian's public health and the environment. Alerting CalRecycle of suspected issues provides valuable information supporting investigations of unlawful or unauthorized activity.

To report an issue, scan the QR code or go to our website at calrecycle.ca.gov/epr/pharmasharps/referral



Contact Us

California Department of Resources
Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)
Pharma Sharps Program
PO Box 4025, MS-10A-17
Sacramento, CA 95812

California's Pharmaceutical and Sharps Stewardship Program



CalRecycle 

(916) 324-0997
PharmaSharpsEnforcement@calrecycle.ca.gov
calrecycle.ca.gov/epr/pharmasharps/enforcement



Pharmaceutical Program

This program provides safe, free, and convenient collection of unwanted medicine with both:

- Receptacles at Authorized Collection Sites, like retail pharmacies
- Mail-back options

More info at calrecycle.ca.gov/epr/pharmasharps/pharma.



Sharps Program

The program provides safe, free, and convenient home-generated sharps waste containers and mail-back materials.

At or prior to the point of sale, sufficient amounts of sharps waste containers and mail-back materials are either given to the consumer or an order process is initiated. Learn more at calrecycle.ca.gov/epr/pharmasharps/sharps.

Requirements

Retailers

- Provide access to facilities' operations and records.
-PRC 42035.6(a)
- Provide access to records on all covered products sold, offered for sale, or dispensed in the state.
-Title 14 California Code of Regulations 18974(c)

Authorized Collection Sites

- Provide access to receipts or collection manifests to support verification of the collection service.
-PRC 42032.2(a)(1)(G)(iii)(I)

Covered Entities

- Establish or join an approved stewardship program.
-PRC 42031.4(b)
- Identify each covered product sold or offered for sale by each participating covered entity.
-PRC 42032.2(a)(1)(A), PRC 42032.2(d)(1)(A)

Records

Covered entities, stewardship organizations, program operators, or retailers are required to provide access to records to CalRecycle. Records must be maintained and accessible for a minimum of three years.

Website Monitoring & Reporting

CalRecycle maintains a list of covered entities participating in the program on our website at calrecycle.ca.gov/epr/pharmasharps/programlists.

Entities that sell, offer for sale, or distribute pharmaceutical and sharps products in California, such as **retailers, distributors, wholesalers and others, are required** to monitor this website and notify CalRecycle of covered entities that are not listed.

The notification can be completed using the Pharma Sharps Referral System at calrecycle.ca.gov/epr/pharmasharps/referral.

Enforcement

CalRecycle provides compliance and enforcement oversight of the stewardship program. Failure to comply and/or submitting false or misleading information that leads to a violation of the law may result in penalties of up to \$50,000 per day.

See details about the pharmaceutical and sharps law and program news at calrecycle.ca.gov/epr/pharmasharps/enforcement.