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MONTANA PHARMACY TODAY

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OUTGOING AND INCOMING MPA BOARD MEMBERS

STUART DOGGETT RECEIVES INAUGURAL FRIEND OF PHARMACY AWARD

HONORING SEVENTEEN YEARS OF LEADERSHIP IN MONTANA PHARMACY

We are proud to announce that Stuart Doggett is the first recipient of the Friend of Pharmacy Award, recognizing individuals outside the profession who have made a significant impact on pharmacy in Montana.

Stuart began his journey with the Montana Pharmacy Association (MPA) in 2007, serving 17 years as Executive Director and Lobbyist. Under his leadership, MPA advanced pharmacy education, created the annual Winter Meeting, and championed major legislative achievements—including expanded pharmacist roles in

immunizations, the 2009 Client Pharmacist Practice law, multiple PBM reforms, and the groundbreaking SB 112 in 2023.

In honor of Stuart's contributions, MPA is establishing a scholarship in his name to support future pharmacy professionals. Congratulations to Stuart Doggett for his unwavering dedication and lasting legacy in Montana pharmacy! We would like to thank him for his time as MPA's executive director and to wish him well in retirement. ■

DONNA BEALL, PHARMD, FCCP, PROFESSOR WITH DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACY PRACTICE AT UM SKAGGS SCHOOL OF PHARMACY HAS RETIRED FROM UOFM AND MPA

Donna has been an active member of the Montana Pharmacy Association, representing the University of Montana Skaggs School of Pharmacy on the MPA Board of Directors (2014-2025) and chairing the Program and Awards Committee (2022-2025). She delivered over 20 presentations at MPA conferences and played a key role in organizing speakers for winter meetings. Donna's contributions will be missed, and we wish her well in retirement.

Other outgoing MPA board of directors are Glenn Kulzer, PharmD

with SWMTCHC Blacktail Pharmacy, Leigh Wilson BSLS, CPhT, RPhT our MPA technician director, Clint Darlington, UofM MPA student representative. Thank you for your time and commitment to MPA.

Incoming MPA board of directors are Reina Coggins, pharmacists with Billings Clinic, our student representative, Sophie Loveless, our technician director, Alyssa Savko with Billings Clinic Bozeman and welcome back Kristin Dimond with Billings Clinic. ■

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BOWL OF HYGEIA AWARD

WINNER: DONNA BEALL, PHARMD, FCCP, PROFESSOR WITH DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACY PRACTICE AT UM SKAGGS SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

Donna joined the faculty at the University of Montana Skaggs School of Pharmacy in 1997 and has spent the past 27 years exemplifying passion, commitment, and excellence in pharmacy education and community service. She has taught numerous courses, fostering a deep appreciation for the profession among her students, who have honored her with the Pharmacy Practice Teacher of the Year award six times and other accolades recognizing her contributions.

Her influence extends beyond the classroom. Donna has been recognized by professional organizations for her leadership and contributions to the pharmacy field. She was elected as a fellow of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) in 2007, serving as Montana's only ACCP fellow until 2023. She was also honored as an Academic Leadership Fellow by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACCP) in 2005 and as a Montana Pharmacy Association (MPA) Fellow in 2024.

Donna is a dedicated pharmacy professional and community advocate. A longstanding member of the Montana Pharmacy Association (MPA), she represented the University of Montana Skaggs School

of Pharmacy on the MPA Board (2014-2024) and chaired the Program and Awards Committee (2022-2023). Active in the American College of Clinical Pharmacy since 1988, Donna served in various roles, including abstract reviewer and task force member. She supported harm reduction as an Open Aid Alliance board member (2016-2021) and volunteered with YWCA programs aiding unsheltered families (2017-2022). During COVID-19, she helped immunize over 1,100 patients with All Nations Health Center.



DISTINGUISHED YOUNG PHARMACIST

WINNER: KIARRA MCGEE, PHARMD WITH BENEFIS IN GREAT FALLS

Kiarra graduated from The University of Montana in 2018 and completed her PGY1 residency at Billings Clinic before joining Benefis Health System in 2019. There, she found her passion for caring for NICU patients, becoming a trusted expert and advocate for this vulnerable population.

Kiarra actively expands her knowledge to ensure exceptional care and has contributed to national committees, bringing valuable insights back to Benefis. She is currently leading the review of nearly 500 orderables for the health system's transition to Epic in 2024.

As a skilled mentor and preceptor, Kiarra empowers colleagues to confidently care for NICU patients, while her students and residents consistently praise her rotations.

Outside of work, Kiarra is an active member of the National Pediatric Pharmacy Association, contributing to policy development and serving on the Executive Director search committee. She also participates in community pediatric advocacy events.

Kiarra's dedication, expertise, and leadership make her an invaluable asset to the pharmacy community.



FITZGERALD PHARMACIST OF THE YEAR

WINNER: KORI MILLER, PHARMD, ALBERTSONS/OSCO PHARMACY, MT/WY/UT

Kori has been a champion for both pharmacist/technician immunizing and pharmacist prescribing across the state of Montana. She is involved in training pharmacists and technicians on immunization and long-acting injectable administration, implementation of SB 112, and CPR. She oversees dozens of

community-based immunization clinics throughout the year. She travels tirelessly to the sites she oversees, forming relationships with the staff and genuinely listening to



their concerns. She fights for changes that will improve working environments in retail pharmacies, and never hesitates to step in and help, whether that means giving immunizations, counseling patients, or taking out the trash. Kori is passionate about patient care, and maintains a positive attitude, despite the many challenges retail pharmacy has faced in the last several years.

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR

WINNER: KELSEY STAMPER, CPHT WITH DOWNTOWN FAMILY PHARMACY IN BILLINGS

Kelsey is an amazing technician. She was an IV Specialist for us at Billings Clinic and has played a vital role in our regulatory compliance and training of new employees. In the past year she has taken on many projects. She developed and taught an in-person IV training course for all the technicians who will be training in the IV/sterile compounding area. She worked with the pharmacy subcommittee to ensure all our policies for USP 795, USP 797, USP 800 were up to date, complete and consumable for our team.

Kori served on the MPA Board of Directors from 2019-2023. She is a frequent guest on panels and CE events discussing her experience with pharmacist reimbursement models as well as implementation of SB 112. She is very involved in her community and never hesitates to go the extra mile for friends or family.

She diligently worked to keep our teams up to date on all things sterile compounding and we could not have done it without her!

Kelsey is a mother of two young children and is committed to their upbringing. She is a vital member of any team she is on, and we are very fortunate to have worked with her! Her willingness to share ideas for improvement and ways to implement them are valued and appreciated.

FRIEND OF PHARMACY

WINNER: STUART DOGGETT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MPA

We presented our first-ever Friend of Pharmacy Award. This prestigious recognition celebrates individuals or organizations outside the pharmacy profession whose extraordinary contributions have advanced the role of pharmacists in improving patient medication outcomes and promoting public health.

We are thrilled to honor Stuart Doggett, who has dedicated 17 years of exceptional service to the Montana Pharmacy Association (MPA). His journey began in the fall of 2007 when his firm was hired after an extensive selection process. From November 1, 2007, through December 1, 2024, Stuart served as Executive Director and Lobbyist for MPA, leading the association with vision, dedication, and an unwavering commitment to advancing pharmacy in Montana.

Under Stuart's leadership, MPA achieved numerous milestones that strengthened the profession and benefitted patients across the state.

IN EDUCATION:

Stuart worked alongside MPA boards and staff to establish the annual Winter Meeting. This Montana-specific event became a hallmark for pharmacy professionals to learn, network, and earn continuing education credits, embodying the unique spirit and dedication of the Montana pharmacy community.

IN LEGISLATION:

Stuart was at the forefront of MPA's legislative efforts, spearheading impactful bills that expanded pharmacists' roles and improved public health. Highlights include:

- Advocating for pharmacists to practice at the top of their licenses, with steady progress in areas like immunization laws, enabling pharmacists to provide vaccinations under collaborative practice agreements.

- Passing forward-thinking legislation such as the Client Pharmacist Practice (CPP) law in 2009, which paved the way for pharmacists to deliver expanded health services.
- Championing pivotal pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) reforms, including:
 - o PBM Pricing Transparency (SB 211, 2015)
 - o Pharmacy Audit Integrity Bill (SB 235, 2013)
 - o Revised Reimbursement for Pharmacies (HB 276, 2017)
 - o PBM Oversight and Licensure (SB 395, 2021), establishing state regulation of PBMs and granting enforcement authority to the State Auditor.
- Most recently, in 2023, he worked with MPA members to pass SB 112, a landmark bill creating new prescriptive, test-and-treat opportunities for Montana pharmacists.



In recognition of his extraordinary contributions, MPA is proud to announce the establishment of a scholarship in Stuart Doggett's honor. This scholarship will support the next generation of pharmacy professionals, ensuring that Stuart's legacy of leadership and commitment to advancing pharmacy continues to inspire and empower future healthcare leaders.

Stuart's unwavering dedication to the profession, his tireless advocacy, and his passion for collaboration have made him an invaluable ally to pharmacy professionals and patients alike. His work has left an indelible mark not only on MPA but also on the health and well-being of Montanans statewide. ■

Protect your license and your practice with confidence!

Pharmacists Mutual has been the trusted partner for pharmacists nationwide since 1909. Our commitment goes beyond providing insurance—we offer peace of mind through unparalleled expertise and a team of specialists who understand your unique needs. With industry-leading customer service and a proven track record, we're here to help you protect your license, practice, and future.

DID YOU KNOW?

50%

of pharmacy professional claims reported in 2022 were related to defending pharmacists and pharmacies before a regulatory entity.

\$430,375

Compounding pharmacies incur some of the most severe claim losses, with an average loss paid of \$430,375 in 2022.

\$8,821

The average loss paid for a license defense matter in 2022 was \$8,821.

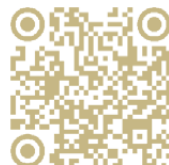
\$1,605,288

Wrong directions/drug/strength claims accounted for \$1,605,288 of the total pharmacy malpractice claims in 2022.

Based on Pharmacists Mutual claims reported 1/1/2023-12/31/2023.

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MONTANA PHARMACY TODAY



MONTANA PHARMACY ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The University of Montana, Skaggs School of Pharmacy scholarship committee selected the following students to receive the Montana Pharmacy Association scholarships for the 2025-2026 academic year:

HANNA VINING – RAYMOND J. BENNETT SCHOLARSHIP

- Hannah is a member of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, ASP, and the Montana Pharmacy Association. She is a pharmacy intern at Costco.



CLINT DARLINGTON – STUART DOGGETT SCHOLARSHIP

- Clint is from Big Sandy, Montana. He is a member of the Rho Chi Honor Society, the Montana Pharmacy Association, and the Academy of Student Pharmacists. Clint is a pharmacy intern at Community Medical Center in Missoula.



LUKE CHAMPNEY AND JORDAN WILLSON – GRANTS-IN-AID SCHOLARSHIPS

- Luke is from Concord, New Hampshire. He is a member of the Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity and the National Community Pharmacists Association. Luke is a pharmacy intern at Palmer's Drug in Missoula.
- Jordan is from Livingston, Montana. She is a member of the Academy of Student Pharmacists and Kappa Epsilon. She's a pharmacy intern at Osco.



KIMBERLY NEUMANN - LORI MORIN RECOGNITION SCHOLARSHIP

- Kimberly is from Kuna, Idaho. She's a member of Kappa Psi and will be the president of the Academy of Student Pharmacists (ASP) next year. She's also a pharmacy intern at Albertsons and Community Medical Center.



Scholarships were awarded on April 25, 2025, at the Skaggs School of Pharmacy Scholarship Recognition and attached are photos of the recipients during the ceremony.

Thank you for your continued support of our pharmacy students. Your generosity truly makes a difference in their lives. ■



RECOUNT OF 2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Tony King, MPA Lobbyist

The 69th Montana Legislative Session passed the motion to “sine die” on April 30th, 2025, 85 days into the session. This is 2 days earlier than last session and 5 days later than the 2021 session. After the slow start to the session due to internal party strife, both chambers gained momentum before each transmittal deadline and only worked Saturdays when those deadlines neared. During the first half of the session, there was a lot of frustration with legislative staff as there were a lot of bills that had been requested that were delayed making it back to the legislators, including several bills with which MPA was involved. Legislative staff worked overtime and through the weekends to get the bills delivered to make the deadlines. Overall, there were 4,495 bill draft requests (4,643 last session, 2218 in 2013) and 1,765 bills introduced (1,698 last session, 1,187 in 2015). As of this writing, the Governor is still signing/vetoing bills so the final count of passed bills has not been finalized but 806 were headed to the Governor’s desk. Last session, 885 bills were adopted compared to 484 in 2011. Of these, MPA was tracking/monitoring roughly 250 of these pieces of potential legislation.

In continuation of last session, the majority party experienced a lot of internal struggles to maintain and complete several of their goals for the session. This started during the first week on the Senate side, with several republican legislators protesting the makeup and necessity of a proposed committee. These republicans, eventually called “the nine”, would continue to oppose majority leadership on several initiatives, thereby decreasing the overall power of the majority party. In addition, the legislator that was the Senate president last session was involved with suspicious contracts prior to the session and the majority party help proceedings to have him expelled from the legislature, but did not have the overall support, but were successful in censuring him, and revoking his privileges from the senate floor, requiring him to attend virtually. Also, one legislator resigned during the first month, and was eventually replaced by his party.

Overall, there was much progress done on the goals set at the beginning, but the overall effectiveness is still being debated. Among the bills passed included Medicaid Expansion, the largest income tax cut in state history, property tax relief, and an historic investment in education. Much of this was with the support of the Governor’s office, which was in opposition of many of the more conservative republicans. There were several bills targeting healthcare, in addition to ones MPA was involved, including banning vaccines and fluoride (failed), allowing chiropractors

prescriptive authority (failed), and putting additional sideboards on insurance mandated prior authorizations (passed.) Overall, it was a successful session for our profession and in addition to passing groundbreaking legislation, we helped pave the way for future sessions. Healthcare professions throughout the state worked together more during this session than in previous sessions in memory. In fact, HB 740 may not have passed without the help of pediatricians, physician assistants, and nurses!

Once again, this session would not have been possible without the help of all of you. The grass roots efforts of our profession showed its strength, and it is because of your assistance we saw such success. A great appreciation goes out to everyone who helped by contacting their legislator!

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY BILLS

HB 245 – Medicaid Expansion – PASSED! Removed the sunset for health insurance for a segment of low-income adults. There were several efforts to phase out Medicaid expansion and increase work requirements but those mostly failed. There is ongoing discussion federally that may affect the current program, but the current program no longer is affected by a state sunset.

HB 41 – Generally revise dangerous drug schedule – Passed! Changes gabapentin from non-controlled to a Schedule V medication. Takes effect October. One of several states to schedule this medication. An inventory will need to be taken at each pharmacy October 1 to comply with DEA requirements.

HB 60 – Generally revise state auditor laws – Passed! Extends the termination date of the prohibition against a pharmacy benefit manager or health carrier requiring federally certified health entities to identify 340b drugs.

SB 456 – Revise professions and occupations laws regarding dispensing – Passed! Allows persons other than the provider to dispense medications to patients (with offer to counsel.) We expected this prior to the session and did not oppose.

Various prior authorization bills – majority passed. We worked with several other healthcare professions in attempts to put sideboards on insurance companies requiring prior authorization on services. For pharmacy, PBMs are not allowed to require prior authorizations for “formulary generics.” This was a compromise on language to get the bill passed. It probably neutralized most of the intent of the bill, but others were in favor of this language. More info



MONTANA PHARMACY ASSOCIATION LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

The Montana Pharmacy Association has a Facebook page, available through the Association’s website at www.rxmt.org. This MPA feature serves as a popular and easy way for members and anyone interested in Montana pharmacy related issues to stay connected. We hope you will join us!

to come as the Governor's office is still working through some of these bills and vetoing some.

SR 49 – Confirm governor's appointees for board of pharmacy

– **Passed!** MPA supported the Governor's appointment of Paul Brand, Michelle Case, and Logan Tinsen. We were happy to support the Department of Labor and Industries (DLI).

DLI initiatives – Continuation of red-tape relief efforts from 2023 - Passed. While not directly affecting pharmacy, many of these efforts standardize processes within DLI. MPA was happy to support when asked/needed.

HB 794 – An act generally revising pharmacy laws – PASSED!

MPA's primary bill for 2025 session. In combination with the Board of Pharmacy and DLI, this was passed without opposition. We appreciate the efforts our bill sponsor, Rep. Schomer and the DLI's staff – Sarah Swanson, Kevin Bragg, and of course, Marcie Bough. This bill removed the requirement for technician utilization plan and allows for technician practice under the direct supervision of the pharmacist. It also removes the requirement to notify the provider

when a biosimilar medication is selected. Finally, in addition to a couple of other nuances, it removes the requirement of the generic substitution signage (The Travis S section.)

And last but certainly not least!

HB 740 – An act generally revising laws relating to pharmacies, pharmacy benefit managers, and other entities – PASSED! This bill was brought forth by Montana Family Pharmacies and MPA was proud to help get this across the finish line. There will be a lot more to come on this effort (and lawsuits are expected) but a 10,000 ft summary of this bill states that independent pharmacies in Montana will be reimbursed on a cost+ model (NADAC + dispensing fee) to include a \$15 dispense fee. This is the most comprehensive bill passed in the US to protect patients' access to their local pharmacy. We are still hoping to work with the Governor's office to have a bigger spotlight on this effort but this was one of if not the most contentious bills heard during the session. What was passed is a credit to everyone that helped. MPA came through when asked and it cannot be understated that it took everyone to get this passed. A heartfelt thank you to everyone! ■

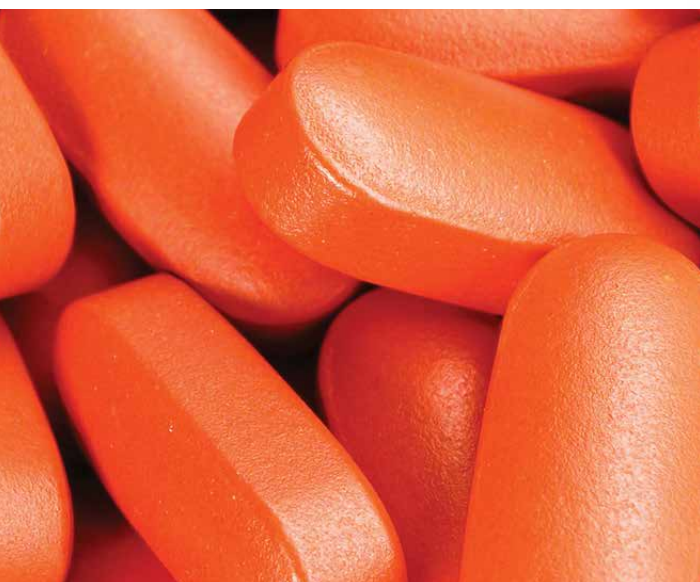
MPA MEMBERS RECEIVE FREE PHARMACY PRACTICE GUIDEBOOK

Newly updated – the only billing guide specific to the pharmacy profession! Perfect for pharmacy professionals seeking to navigate the complexities of billing, the Pharmacy Practice Guidebook is updated with the 2025 codes. Exclusive free download for **Montana Pharmacy Association** members! Grab your digital copy today and streamline your billing process. **You must be a member of MPA, go to MPA website, you will need to log in, hover over the Resources Tab, click Member only services, then follow the instructions.** ■



PHARMACY PRACTICE GUIDEBOOK:

Medical Billing, Coding, and Documentation for Pharmacy Professionals



2025 Edition

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Calendar of Events

September 24 & 25: MPA Board Meeting and
Student Meet and Greet

October 1: MPA Dues Renewal

January 16-18, 2026: MPA Winter CE, Fairmont
Resort