



Washington State Department of

**Health**

Health Systems Quality Assurance

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## Who Can Prescribe and Administer Rx in Washington State?

Profession	Restriction	Out-of-State Rx Accepted	RCW/WAC	Comments
Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (ARNP)	None	Yes (including controlled substances – effective June 2012)	<a href="#">RCW 18.79.250</a> <a href="#">RCW 69.41.030</a> <a href="#">RCW 69.50.101(w)</a> <a href="#">WAC 246-840 -400 thru 420</a>	Drugs must be within scope of practice.
Certified Osteopathic Physician Assistants (OA) and non-certified Osteopathic Physician Assistant (IO)	OA Certified can prescribe Schedule II-V.  IO limited to Schedule III-V controlled substance.	No	<a href="#">Chapter 18.57A</a> <a href="#">RCW</a> <a href="#">WAC 246-854-030</a> <a href="#">Chapter 18.57</a> <a href="#">RCW</a> <a href="#">RCW 69.41.030</a>	May prescribe and dispense a 48-hour supply.
Certified Physician Assistants (PA-C)	As approved by the Medical Commission	No	<a href="#">Chapter 18.71A</a> <a href="#">RCW</a> <a href="#">WAC 246-918-035</a> <a href="#">RCW 69.41.030</a>	May dispense medications from office supplies.
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA)	Legend & Schedule II-IV for anesthesia per facility protocols.	No	<a href="#">RCW 18.79.240(r)</a> <a href="#">RCW 69.41.030</a> <a href="#">RCW 69.50.101(w)</a>	
Dentist (DMD or DDS)	None.	Yes	<a href="#">Chapter 18.32</a> <a href="#">RCW</a> <a href="#">RCW 69.41.030</a> <a href="#">RCW 69.50.101(w)</a>	<a href="#">WAC 246-817-360</a> Dental-related conditions
Naturopath (Naturopathic Doctor or ND)	Controlled substance prescription are limited to testosterone and codeine-containing substances in Schedules III-V.	No	<a href="#">Chapter 18.36A</a> <a href="#">RCW</a> <a href="#">WAC 246-836-210</a>	

<b>Profession</b>	<b>Restriction</b>	<b>Out-of-State Rx Accepted</b>	<b>RCW/WAC</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Optometrist (OD)	Must write "TX" following the license # on all prescriptions. No oral steroids. Epinephrine by injection for anaphylactic shock. May write controlled substance prescriptions for Schedule III-V only and are limited to 7 days per single condition.	No	<a href="#">Chapter 18.53</a> <a href="#">RCW WAC 246-851-580</a> <a href="#">WAC 246-851-590</a>	Practitioners must meet certification requirements to receive prescriptive authority. Prescriptions must be within scope of practice.
Osteopathic Physicians (DO)	None	Yes	<a href="#">Chapter 18.57</a> <a href="#">RCW</a> <a href="#">RCW 69.41.030</a> <a href="#">RCW 69.50.101(w)</a>	
Pharmacist (RPh or PharmD)	Initiate, modify, or continue drug therapy under agreement with authorized prescriber. Agreement must be on file with the Board of Pharmacy.	No	<a href="#">RCW</a> <a href="#">18.64.011(11)</a> <a href="#">WAC 246-863-100</a>	May prescribe legend drugs, including controlled substances and vaccines with a collaborative agreement.
Physician Assistants (PA)	As approved by the Medical Commission	No	<a href="#">Chapter 18.71A</a> <a href="#">RCW</a> <a href="#">RCW</a> <a href="#">69.41.030</a> <a href="#">WAC 246-918-030</a>	May dispense medications from office supplies.
Physicians (MD)	None	Yes	<a href="#">Chapter 18.71</a> <a href="#">RCW</a> <a href="#">RCW 69.41.030</a> <a href="#">RCW 69.50.101(w)</a>	
Podiatric Physician (DPM)	None	Yes	<a href="#">Chapter 18.22</a> <a href="#">RCW</a> <a href="#">RCW 69.41.030</a> <a href="#">RCW 69.50.101(w)</a>	Podiatry practice only.
Veterinarian (DVM)	For animal treatment only.	Yes	<a href="#">Chapter 18.92</a> <a href="#">RCW</a> <a href="#">WAC 246-933-110</a> <a href="#">and 340</a> <a href="#">RCW 18.92.012</a> <a href="#">RCW 18.92.013</a>	DVM may dispense limited amount of prescriptions prescribed by other DVM's.

<b>General Prescribing Limitations</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. May not prescribe controlled substances for self, but is permitted for family members.</li> <li>2. Prescriptions written by MD, DO, DDS, DPM, DMD, DVM and ARNP from out-of-state may be dispensed. It is not permitted for other out-of-state prescribers. RCW 69.41.030 and RCW 69.50.101(w)(3).</li> <li>3. Prescriptions written by MD, DO, DDS, DPM, DMD, and DVM from British Columbia may be dispensed; except controlled substances because they are not DEA registrants.</li> <li>4. Prescriptions must be for a legitimate medical purpose</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. There must be a valid "doctor-patient" relationship.</li> <li>6. Drugs must be within scope of practice.</li> <li>7. Prescriptions written in Washington for deliver to the pharmacy must be on Board of Pharmacy approved tamper-resistant prescription paper. (<a href="#">RCW18.64.500</a>)</li> <li>8. Prescriptions must have two signature lines at opposite ends on the bottom of the form. "DISPENSE AS WRITTEN" on the right and "SUBSTITUTION PERMITTED" on the left.</li> </ol>

### **Professions That May Administer Drugs Ordered by Authorized Prescribers**

<b>Profession</b>	<b>Authorization</b>
Cardiovascular Invasive Specialists <a href="#">Chapter 18.84 RCW</a>	Administer diagnostic and therapeutic agents during cardiac or vascular catheterization procedures under the personal supervision of a physician.
Dental Hygienists Chapter <a href="#">18.29 RCW</a>	Local anesthetics, topical fluoride, and antimicrobials for dental patients only.
Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) <a href="#">RCW 18.73.081</a>	Administration of prescribed drugs within scope of practice per verbal or written orders of MD or DO also credentialed as a County Medical Program Director (MPD) or MPD Delegate.
Health Care Assistant chapter <a href="#">18.135 RCW</a> , <a href="#">Chapter 246-826 WAC</a> <a href="#">Categories A through G - FAQs</a>	Limited authority to administer certain drugs as determined by rule and as prescribed by a supervising health care practitioner who is physically present. Only category/class C and E Health Care Assistants may administer approved oral drugs.
Intermediate Life Support Technician (ILS) <a href="#">RCW 18.71.205</a>	Administration of prescribed drugs within scope of practice per verbal or written orders of MD or DO also credentialed as a County Medical Program Director (MPD) or MPD Delegate
Licensed Midwives <a href="#">RCW 18.50.115</a> <a href="#">WAC 246-834-250</a>	Purchase and administer certain drugs. May also administer drugs that have been prescribed by a physician.
Licensed Practice Nurse (LPN) Chapter <a href="#">18.79 RCW</a>	Administer prescribed drugs
Nursing Assistant (CNA or NA) <a href="#">Chapter 18.88A RCW</a>	May administer in community-based care settings or in-home care settings under nurse delegation.
Occupational Therapist RCW <a href="#">18.59.040</a> , Chapter <a href="#">246-847 WAC</a>	May purchase, store, and administer certain topical drugs as prescribed by an authorized health care practitioner
Paramedic <a href="#">RCW 18.71.205</a>	Administration of prescribed drugs within scope of practice per verbal or written orders of MD or DO also credentialed as a County Medical Program Director (MPD) or MPD Delegate
Pharmacist (RPh or PharmD) Chapter <a href="#">18.64 RCW</a>	Administer prescribed drugs.

Profession	Authorization
Physical Therapists (PT) Chapter <a href="#">18.74 RCW</a>	May purchase, store, and administer certain drugs as determined by law and may administer such other drugs or medications as prescribed by an authorized health care practitioner for the practice of physical therapy.
Radiologic Technologist <a href="#">Chapter 18.84 RCW</a>	Administer diagnostic and therapeutic agents under the direct supervision of a physician.
Radiologist Assistant <a href="#">Chapter 18.84 RCW</a>	Administer imaging and non-imaging agents parenterally, administer oral medications; level of supervision specified in regulation <a href="#">WAC 246-926-300</a> .
Registered Nurse (RN) chapter <a href="#">18.79 RCW</a>	Administer prescribed drugs
Respiratory Care Practitioner chapter <a href="#">18.89 RCW</a>	Administer prescribed drugs for the practice of respiratory care as defined by statute.
School Personnel RCW <a href="#">28A.210.260 thru 280</a>	Superintendent of Public Instruction - Health Services - <a href="http://www.k12.wa.us/HealthServices">http://www.k12.wa.us/HealthServices</a>
Veterinary Technicians <a href="#">RCW 18.92.013</a> & <a href="#">WAC 246-935-050</a>	May administer prescribed drugs with indirect supervision of a veterinarian.

### Examples of Professions Which May Not Prescribe, Administer, or Dispense Drugs

Profession	Authorizing Statute
East Asian Medicine Practitioner	<a href="#">Chapter 18.06 RCW</a>
Athletic Trainers, Licensed	<a href="#">Chapter 18.250 RCW</a>
Chiropractors & Chiropractic X-Ray Technicians	<a href="#">Chapter 18.25 RCW</a>
Chemical Dependency Professionals & Chemical Dependency Professional Trainees	<a href="#">Chapter 18.205 RCW</a>
Counselors, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist & Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Associate	<a href="#">Chapter 18.225 RCW</a>
Counselors, Licensed Mental Health Counselors & Licensed Mental Health Counselor Associate	<a href="#">Chapter 18.225 RCW</a>
Counselors, Certified Counselors, Certified Adviser, Agency Affiliated Counselors, and Hypnotherapists	<a href="#">Chapter 18.19 RCW</a>
Counselors, Licensed Social Workers & Licensed Social Work Associate Advanced & Licensed Social Work Associate Independent Clinical	<a href="#">Chapter 18.225 RCW</a>
Dental Assistants, Registered	<a href="#">RCW 18.260.040</a>
Denturist	<a href="#">Chapter 18.30 RCW</a>
Dietitians & Nutritionists	<a href="#">Chapter 18.138 RCW</a>
Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary, Licensed	<a href="#">RCW 18.260.050</a>
Genetic Counselors	<a href="#">Chapter 18.290 RCW</a>
Massage Practitioners	<a href="#">Chapter 18.108 RCW</a>
Ocularist	<a href="#">Chapter 18.55 RCW</a>
Opticians	<a href="#">Chapter 18.34 RCW</a>
Orthotist and Prosthetist	<a href="#">Chapter 18.200 RCW</a>
Pharmacy Technicians	<a href="#">Chapter 18.64A RCW</a> (may assist pharmacist)
Psychologist	<a href="#">Chapter 18.83 RCW</a>

<b>Profession</b>	<b>Authorizing Statute</b>
Sex Offender Treatment Provider & Affiliate Providers	<a href="#">Chapter 18.155 RCW</a>
Veterinary Medication Clerks	<a href="#">RCW 18.92.030 and 125</a> (may assist veterinarian)
X-Ray Technicians	<a href="#">Chapter 18.84 RCW</a>