

S O U T H D A K O T A PHARMACIST



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SUMMER EDITION 2026

AMPLIFY

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- Contact your elected officials
- Meet your elected officials or give them a tour of your pharmacy



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JULY

- 4 Independence Day
- 10 South Dakota Board of Pharmacy Meeting
Sioux Falls, SD | 9 am
- 14 Interim Rules Review Committee
Room 414, State Capitol | Pierre, SD | 10 am
- 18–21 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Annual Meeting
Grapevine, TX
- 24 2026 Annual GVR Society Open Golf Classic
Dell Rapids, SD
- 24 South Dakota Association of Pharmacy Technicians (SDAPT) General Meeting
Via Zoom | 6:30 pm

AUGUST

- 16–17 NACDS Total Store Expo
Boston, MA

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Labor Day
- 10–12 South Dakota Pharmacists Association 140th Annual Convention
Brookings, SD
[Registration and Convention Schedule Here](#)



Summer EDITION

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President's PERSPECTIVE

Chelsea L. Conway, PharmD, BCCP // SDPhA Board President



To all of you who chose to join SDPhA this year—thank you.

Recently, our Board of Directors gathered for our annual retreat. It was a wonderful opportunity to step away from the day-to-day work of the Association and spend time reflecting on where we have been, where we are today, and where we hope to go next.

One of my favorite parts of the retreat wasn't discussing budgets, strategic plans, or upcoming initiatives. It was the storytelling and the opportunity to connect with each other.

As we looked back on previous years, I was reminded that every chapter of SDPhA's history seems to come with its own challenges, opportunities, and personalities.

We especially reflected on last year, 2024-2025, the year Andy Tonneson served as president. Our goal was to Survive and Advance. It was a year defined by change as SDPhA transitioned away from its statutory membership structure. There were unknowns, difficult conversations, and moments where the future felt uncertain. Yet here we are. We survived, and we advanced with Andy leading the way.

We talked about 2017, when Eric Grocott was president. It was the year Sue Schaefer retired after 13 years of dedicated service and Amanda Bacon stepped into the Executive Director role. It was also a year marked by profound loss, as the Association mourned the unexpected passing of a board member, friend, and colleague whose absence was felt deeply throughout the profession. At the time, it was difficult to imagine moving forward. Yet the Association did what it has always done, it came together, adapted, and continued its work. Eric continues to lead our profession on the board as an at-large member, and guide pharmacists of the future—he was selected as SDSU's preceptor of the year for 2026.

We also talked about 2019 and 2020 – the COVID years when Lori Ollerich and Amanda Bacon thought things couldn't get any more chaotic and then watched the five or so years that followed effectively say, "Hold my beer..." (that's Amanda's edit – not my words!) There was 340B legislation, then two long years of even longer days at the Capitol advocating for PBM transparency legislation, Dana Darger, Kristen Carter and Melissa Gorecki's steady leadership and thoughtful voices (along with the rest of the board) helped guide those efforts during a pivotal moment for pharmacy in South Dakota. 2024 and 2025 brought hard-fought challenges for the association, the profession itself. Jessica Stobl and Andy led with patience, understanding, and clear resolve. In the middle of it all Amanda Bacon's husband was diagnosed with cancer. Jess and others went so far as to drive to Pierre to attend meetings in Amanda's place when she needed to be elsewhere for his medical appointments and treatments. All these people continue to lead the profession in South Dakota and beyond as SDPhA district presidents, and as part of national committees and associations where they continue to have a profound impact on the profession at large.

What struck me most during these conversations was how each generation of SDPhA leaders faced challenges that felt significant in the moment. Looking back, what stands out is not the difficulty, but it's the people who kept showing up and doing the work, and who are still showing up and doing the work, long after their tenure on the board is over.

As we celebrate 140 years of SDPhA, our resilience shines through. The strength of this Association has never come from a single president, board member, or executive director. It comes from the pharmacists across our great state who share their perspectives and support one another.

It has been one of the greatest privileges of my career to represent this profession and serve as your president. Our retreat reminded me that while the issues may change, the character of the people who make up South Dakota pharmacy does not.

Thank you for being part of the next part of our story that we are writing today.

Director's COMMENTS

Amanda Bacon // SDPhA Executive Director



I have a confession.
I have ZERO idea how it's July.

The past several months have been extremely busy ones for SDPhA, but more importantly, they have also been very productive.

As we move through our first full year under the new membership model, much of our work has focused on strengthening the

foundation of the association while continuing to represent pharmacists and pharmacy teams on the issues affecting their practices, patients, and communities.

That work is happening simultaneously on several fronts.

Advocacy Continues After Legislative Session

Following the 2026 Legislative Session, SDPhA remained actively engaged in the regulatory process surrounding the Board of Pharmacy's proposed rules package. We reviewed the proposed changes, gathered input, submitted written comments, and participated in the June rules hearing. Our comments focused particularly on provisions related to automated dispensing and remote drop sites, with the goal of helping craft rules that are clear, practical, and appropriately support patient safety, access, and pharmacy operations.

The rules process is an important reminder that advocacy does not end when the Legislature adjourns. Much of the work affecting pharmacy practice happens throughout

the year in agency meetings, rulemaking proceedings, workgroups, conversations with policymakers, and ongoing coordination with our state and national partners.

At the federal level, we continue to closely follow PBM reform implementation, 340B developments, Medicare and Medicaid policy, and legislation affecting independent and rural pharmacy access. Passage of federal PBM provisions, including future requirements related to reasonable and relevant Part D contract terms, represents meaningful progress. Implementation, however, will determine whether those reforms create meaningful change for pharmacies and patients.

We are also continuing conversations with South Dakota's congressional delegation and national pharmacy organizations regarding ECAPS, also known as the Main Street Pharmacy Access Act, and other federal priorities. These relationships matter. They are the foundation of some of our most important advocacy work.

Planning Deliberately for What Comes Next

Internally, SDPhA has also been planning deliberately for its next chapter.

At the June Board Retreat, the board finalized the 2026–2027 strategic plan and budget, reviewed membership and district engagement, discussed future education and advocacy priorities, and continued work on the financial sustainability of the organization. Those conversations included updates to the membership structure, expansion of member resources, convention planning, technician

engagement, website improvements, corporate partnerships, and new opportunities to provide continuing education. You will see the results of some of these conversations in other articles throughout this Journal.

Turning Priorities Into Possibilities

We have also continued pursuing funding opportunities that can help turn our priorities into meaningful programs for pharmacists, pharmacy teams, and patients. This includes work to support advocacy, professional development, continuing education, technician training, workforce development, rural pharmacy access, and the long-term sustainability of the association.

These kinds of applications require a great deal of heads-down research, planning, budgeting, relationship-building, and follow-through that most of you may never see. But this work is essential, and it creates opportunities that membership dues alone cannot support.

Stay Connected Through The Script

As these projects continue to move forward, members should make sure they are reading The Script, SDPhA's every-other-week member update. That is where we share the most current information about the website revamp, Member Center improvements, convention details, new resources, advocacy developments, and other association work as it happens.

Rebuilding Technician Engagement

We are particularly encouraged by the renewed momentum surrounding the South Dakota Association of Pharmacy Technicians. SDPhA has been facilitating conversations to support the revitalization of SDAPT.

Later this month, SDAPT will hold a general meeting with the primary purpose of establishing new leadership to help the organization begin anew. There is more information about that in later pages as well.

Pharmacy technicians are essential members of the pharmacy team, and rebuilding statewide technician engagement will remain an important priority in the months ahead.

Growing the Voice of South Dakota Pharmacy

July also marked the next phase of SDPhA's membership campaign. Every pharmacist who joins strengthens our ability to advocate, educate, communicate, and represent the profession.

Membership is not simply a transaction or a collection of benefits. It is an investment in the strength and future of pharmacy in South Dakota.

There is still much to build. That is both the challenge and the opportunity before us.

Celebrating 140 Years and Looking Ahead

This September, we will gather in Brookings for the 140th SDPhA Annual Convention. This milestone absolutely deserves to be celebrated. For 140 years, generations of pharmacists have built, sustained, and strengthened this association, creating a legacy that continues to shape pharmacy practice and patient care across South Dakota.

Convention will give us the opportunity to honor that history while celebrating the people who are carrying the work forward today. We will recognize professional achievements, reconnect with colleagues, welcome new voices, learn together, and enjoy the kind of fellowship that has always been at the heart of SDPhA.

The weekend will also be about looking ahead. As we celebrate 140 years of service, we will continue the conversations that are shaping the association's future and the future of the profession. I hope you will join us, not only to mark this remarkable anniversary, but to be part of what comes next.

For 140 years, SDPhA has evolved alongside the profession it serves. This chapter is no different. The work continues, the momentum is growing, and we are building it together.





SDPhA Memberships

Pharmacist CHANGE

As of July 1, 2025, SDPhA membership is no longer included with your license renewal. You must sign up separately.

Associate WHO IT'S FOR

Entities and individuals interested in pharmacy who are not eligible for active membership.

Student PURPOSE

Offers students opportunities in leadership, patient care, advocacy, and professional development while promoting public health.

July Fast-Track

We've made it easier than ever to join. Sign up today at a special prorated cost for the rest of the summer, and you'll be fully aligned for the annual renewal cycle this September. Visit sdpha.org/member-center today!

Bringing More Voices to the Table

Just last week, SDPhA launched a new membership campaign inviting pharmacists across the state to join the association and add their voices to the future of the profession.

Before we ask you to help us grow, we want to thank you. Our current members are the reason SDPhA has made it this far. You chose to remain part of the association during a significant transition, and your support has allowed us to continue advocating, communicating, educating, and building for the future. We are deeply grateful that you chose to stand with us.

The campaign is heavily focused on social media, and you can find us on **Facebook**, in the **SDPhA Facebook Member Group**, on **LinkedIn**, and on **Instagram**. Please like and share the campaign posts when you see them. That visibility is what will help the campaign reach pharmacists who have not yet joined and encourage them to become part of SDPhA.

The transition to voluntary membership created a new chapter for the association. While we are moving in the right direction, conversations at this spring's district meetings made one thing clear: many pharmacists still do not realize that renewing their professional license no longer automatically makes them an SDPhA member.

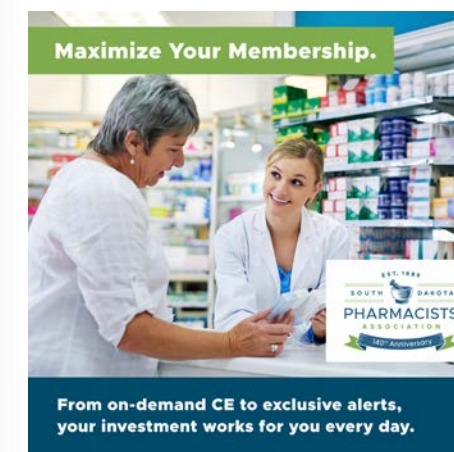
That gives all of us an opportunity to help spread the word and remind our colleagues that we need them off the sidelines.



way to help someone understand why membership matters. Whether it is a pharmacist in your community, a former classmate, a colleague at another practice site, or a floater who works throughout the state, we encourage you to reach out and invite them to join.

Pharmacists who join this summer can take advantage of prorated membership dues before the new membership year begins this fall. It is an easy way to get involved, access SDPhA resources, connect with colleagues before the 2026 Annual Convention, and secure the member registration rate.

South Dakota pharmacy is stronger when more voices are represented at the table. Thank you for helping us reach this point and for continuing to build the momentum our profession needs.



We are building an association shaped by pharmacists who actively choose to be part of the work. Every new member strengthens our ability to advocate effectively, provide relevant education and resources, and represent the pharmacy profession in Pierre and beyond.

You, our current members, are also an essential part of this campaign. A personal invitation from a trusted colleague is often the most meaningful



YOU SPOKE. WE LISTENED.

New Membership Options Coming This Fall.

At this spring's district meetings, we heard clearly from students and emerging professionals that they needed greater financial flexibility and more ways to participate in SDPhA. We listened.

This fall, SDPhA will introduce an updated membership structure designed to make participation more accessible throughout every stage of a pharmacy professional's career.

Active Pharmacist Membership will remain the foundation of the association, providing access to advocacy updates, professional resources, continuing education opportunities, networking, and member pricing for SDPhA programs and events.

We have updated a few membership categories to better reflect the needs of students and new pharmacists.

The significantly reduced Emerging Professional rate is intended to help new pharmacists stay connected during a period that often includes major professional and financial transitions. The updated student options also create a clearer path for students to engage with SDPhA before graduation and remain involved as they begin their careers.

These changes are part of SDPhA's broader commitment to building a strong, sustainable association that welcomes pharmacy professionals at every career stage.

Watch your email for more information about the new membership options and the renewal process.

Active Pharmacist Membership

\$250 Annually

Emerging Professional Membership

\$25 annually for pharmacists during their first two years of practice, reduced from \$100.

Pharmacist Emeritus Membership

\$125 annually

Student Membership

Included for SCAPP members, with a new \$10 option available for other pharmacy students.



Active Pharmacists

Robbie Aamot
Steve Aamot
Travis Anderberg
Sarah Andersen
Arne Anderson
Jordan Baye
Allison Bich-Hofer
Lance Bien
Karetha Bittorf
Austin Block
Jody Bolinske
Jim Bregel
Dustin Brinkman
Kristen Carter
Erin Christensen
Cody Church
Shane Clarambeau
Paige Clark
Jim Clem
Steven Collison
Chelsea Conway
Julie Cook
J. Mark Dady
Jeremy Daniel
Dana Darger
Michael Dosch
Mikinze Elsperger
Michele Fritz
Lori Giedt
Tara Gilk
Kristin Goehring
Melissa Gorecki
Eric Grocott
Shannon Gutzmer
Trisha Hadrick
Sara Hahn
Lincoln Haiby
Katie Hayes
William Hayes
Kyle Heer
Amy Heiberger
Jodi Heins

Tadd Hellwig
Danita Hoffman
Vicki Howe
Amy Huntimer
Scout Hurd
Carmen Hutchison
Loma Jennings
Wendy Jensen Bender
Douglas Johnson
Laura Johnson
Thomas Johnson
Emily Kappes
John Kappes
Crystal Kezar
Courtney Kjerstad
Drew Klinkbiel
Lucas Kraemer
Amy Lane
John Lane
Michael Lemon
Veronica Lesselyoung
Michelle Litzen
Brandy Ludemann
Christopher Marquardt
Sarah McGill
Julie Meintsma
Trent Merkwan
Anna Meyer
Brittney Meyer
Alex Middendorf
Stephanie Muller
Kelley Oehlke
Joshua Ohrtman
Lori Ollerich
Byron Olson
Benjamin Ostebee
Austin Oyen
Linda Oyen
Scott Peterson
Leonard Petrik
Nicole Plaga
Jocelyn Prang
Stephanie Preheim
Deborah Pritchett
Curtis Rising
Stacy Rolfes
Kjersten Sankey
Katie Schartz
Bailey Schroeder

Bethany Schwarz
Teresa Seefeldt
Ashley Severyn
Kari Shanard-Koenders
Haley Smit
Jody Stanton
Joey Strain
Jessica Strobl
Renee Sutton
Jacquelyn Thomas
Andrew Tonneson
Hannah Travis
Timothy Travis
Else Umbreit
Deidra Van Gilder
Emily Van Klompenburg
Tyler Van Metre
Alex VanOverschelde
Judy Waldman
Khia Walser
Ryan Waybright
Kirk Wilson
Robyn Wintersteen
Jenifer Wollman
Margaret Zard
Echo Zickrick
Sonya Zimbelman



Emerging Professionals

David Delahoyde
Abigail Riesgraf
Bria Sutton



Pharmacist Emeritus

Jeff Bertsch
Dan Somsen



Students

Addison Arens
Katherine Beeman
Anna Bishop
Hyunjun Cho
Ryanna Clauson
Jenna Dean
Andrea Engels
Zander Gilland
Allison Gross
Michael Hall
Jenna Hammerbeck
Alana Hansen
Taylor Haring
Kate Hawton
Lily Hinrichs
Cora Johnson
Ryan Johnson
Maggie Kamnikar
Raegan Kimbler
Kasey Klocek
Aubrey Kooima
Katelyn Lindquist
Jake Miller
Caleb Nelson
Brooklyn Nepodal
Natalie Nunez
Abigail Pape
Peyton Roe
Kristin Rud
Colton Schamber
Carly Spilde
Taylor Stahl
Ella Steffl
Emily Tisler
Charles Tucker
McKenna Walker
Avery Webb
Delaney Wilson
Bailey Wuebben

SDPhA's Updated Digital Home Takes Shape.

SDPhA's website is getting a significant update designed to make it easier for members, pharmacy professionals, and the public to find the information they need.

The refreshed site will serve as a more complete digital home for the association, bringing together advocacy information, professional resources, continuing education, convention details, membership information, and association updates in a clearer and more accessible format.

For members, one of the most important improvements will be stronger integration with the SDPhA Member Center.

Through the Member Center, members can manage their profiles, review membership information, register for events, renew their membership, and access member-only communications and resources. As the website continues to develop, additional content will move behind the member login, creating a more organized and valuable resource library specifically for SDPhA members.

This work is about more than giving the website a new look. SDPhA needs digital tools that support the way the association now operates as an independent, member-supported professional organization.

The new website will continue to grow as additional resources, educational opportunities, and member benefits are developed. Members are encouraged to log in, review their profiles, and become familiar with the Member Center as these updates roll out.

Watch your email and SDPhA communications for official launch details and instructions for accessing the updated site.

New Site Features Simplify Tasks

Join or Renew your SDPhA membership

Register for the annual convention and events

Track advocacy and regulatory updates

Access continuing education (CE) opportunities

Explore SDPhA programs and partnerships

Connect with leadership and pharmacy districts

Browse current and archived publications

Pharmacy QualityTM COMMITMENT+ RETAIL COMPOUNDING CENTRAL FILL

by APMS

who
is APMS?

- The Alliance for Patient Medication Safety (APMS) is a non-profit Patient Safety Organization (PSO) established in 2005 by NASPA. APMS is a federally listed Patient Safety Organization (PSO), which means pharmacy members participate in continuous quality improvement activities in a secure, legally protected environment.

what
is PQC+?

- An affordable, secure, web-based portal that helps strengthen the CQI/QA program of independent, chain, and compounding pharmacies as they enhance operations, improve workflow, and reduce patient safety incidents.
- The PQC+ portal helps in the collection and analysis of quality data to identify workflow weaknesses and implement improvement initiatives.

why
do pharmacies need
APMS and PQC+?

- Compliance: Feedback, resources, and tools to help pharmacies meet accreditation, Part D contracts, and state CQI requirements. QA/CQI programs are required in 17 states, by most accreditation bodies, and in many insurance contracts.
- Legal Protection: APMS creates a legally protected space for patient safety work, safeguarding it from discovery.
- Resources: Includes workflow checklists, safe practice recommendations, and safety tips.
- Medication Safety Consulting: Customized support from experts.

how
much does
it cost?

- PQC+, legal protection, and medication safety resources are available for less than a dollar per day. Pharmacies pay \$400 the first year and renew annually for \$325.

 **APMS**
Alliance for Patient Medication Safety

866-365-7472
medicationsafety.org
info@medicationsafety.org



Celebrate 140 Years of SOUTH DAKOTA PHARMACY

SDPhA will celebrate 140 years of serving South Dakota pharmacy during the **2026 Annual Convention, September 10–12 in Brookings**. Convention programming will be held at the Dacotah Bank Center, with the SDPhA room block available at the Hampton Inn & Suites.

This year's convention will bring pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, students, partners, and industry leaders together for education, connection, and celebration. The program begins Thursday evening, continues throughout Friday, and wraps up by early Saturday afternoon, offering a full convention experience without requiring an extended time away.

The continuing education programs will address the issues pharmacy professionals are navigating today, with sessions focused on clinical practice, regulation, business, advocacy, and the future of pharmacy care.

For the first time, convention programming will include continuing education on Thursday. The new preceptor-focused session will give attendees an opportunity to begin the convention with practical, relevant education before moving into the Reverse Expo and Welcome Reception. It is a new addition to the schedule and an exciting way to add value for everyone to the opening evening without extending the overall convention footprint.

Friday will be the heart of the convention, with continuing education, the Vendor Showcase and Awards Luncheon, association business, and a special 140th Anniversary Celebration Dinner. This will be more than a meal. It will be an opportunity to gather, celebrate the people and milestones that have shaped SDPhA, recognize the profession's history, and enjoy an evening that feels worthy of 140 years. We want Friday night to feel festive, meaningful, and memorable, with plenty of time to reconnect, celebrate, and enjoy being together.

Educational programming will continue Saturday morning, with the convention scheduled to conclude by early afternoon.

Beyond the formal agenda, convention remains one of the most valuable opportunities for South Dakota pharmacy professionals to reconnect with colleagues, exchange ideas, and strengthen the relationships that support our profession throughout the year.

Registration is OPEN, with discounted pricing available to SDPhA members. A Join & Register option will also make it easy for nonmembers to become part of the association while reserving their place at convention.

Make plans now to join us in Brookings as we honor 140 years of history and help shape what comes next.



SDPhA and InStockRx Partner to Launch Member Marketplace

SDPhA is pleased to introduce a new partnership with InStockRx, creating an incredibly practical benefit for member pharmacies across South Dakota.

InStockRx is a **pharmacy-to-pharmacy marketplace** designed to help pharmacies buy and sell medications more efficiently. Participating pharmacies can list excess inventory, search for medications they need, and complete transactions directly through the platform.

For SDPhA member pharmacies, access to the SDPhA Marketplace is included as part of annual membership. There is no separate platform fee to join or use the service. Pharmacies pay only the cost of the medications they purchase through the marketplace.

SDPhA and InStockRx have already begun onboarding several member pharmacies, giving them an early opportunity to explore the platform and

help inform its rollout across the state. Jointly branded mailers from SDPhA and InStockRx will also be arriving at South Dakota pharmacies soon with additional information about the marketplace and how to participate.

This partnership is intended to help pharmacies reduce waste, recover value from excess inventory, and locate medications that may otherwise be difficult to source. It also creates another tool to support South Dakota's broader work around medication shortages and patient access. While no single platform can resolve the complex supply challenges facing pharmacies, stronger connections between pharmacies can help medications reach communities where they are needed rather than remaining unused on another pharmacy's shelf.

SDPhA will receive a small percentage of each completed transaction, creating a new source of non-dues revenue that

can be reinvested in association programs, advocacy, education, and member services.

That makes the partnership a win in multiple ways. Member pharmacies gain access to a useful inventory management tool, medications have a better chance of reaching patients who need them, and participation helps support the long-term strength and sustainability of SDPhA.

Representatives from InStockRx will join us at the 2026 SDPhA Annual Convention in Brookings, giving pharmacists an opportunity to see how the platform works, ask questions, and learn how their pharmacies can participate.

Watch your mailbox and email for additional information, and plan to visit with the InStockRx team at convention.

SD BOARD of PHARMACY

Tyler Laetch, PharmD // Executive Director

Greetings from the Board Office. June and July were full of activity in the office. July 10th was our last Board Meeting.

Rules Update Package

In June, the board held a public rule hearing for a rule update package. The package included the remote drop site rules and an operational waiver process. These rules went to the July Interim Rules Review Committee in Pierre on July 14, and the process was deemed complete by the committee.

Once received and signed by the Secretary of State, the rules become effective 20 days after. Our office will communicate the new rules and timing via the listserv, and it will be posted on our website as well.

New Licensing Software & Website

In the office, we have started working with our vendor to build our new licensing software and website. We are excited to have the new platform up and running, but we also want to make sure it is as perfect as possible before we go live.

With that, we do not have a go-live date yet. We will communicate to all via our website and listserv on the transition when we know more.

License Renewal Reminders

Pharmacy license renewals were completed with the expiration date of **June 30th**. Currently, we have 1,313 pharmacies licensed with our board.

As a reminder, **pharmacist renewals begin on August 1st**. If they are not renewed, they will become inactive on September 30th.

Thank you all for your dedication to the profession and for working every day to take care of the patients in South Dakota.

BOARD OF PHARMACY MEMBERS

Shane Clarambeau, Fort Pierre, SD
Ashley Hansen, Aberdeen, SD
Cheri Kraemer, Sioux Falls, SD
Tom Nelson, Spearfish, SD
Curtis Rising, Rapid City, SD

PDMP SIGN UP + DATA ACCESS

<https://southdakota.pmpaware.net/login>

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It's not just a claim. It's your business.

Complete Protection for Your Pharmacy

Owning a pharmacy means managing more than daily operations. It means protecting your business, your staff, your inventory, your license, and what you have built over time.

When a claim happens, whether it involves property damage, operational disruption, regulatory matters, or professional liability, the impact can extend far beyond a single incident. It can affect your ability to stay open, serve patients, and protect your livelihood.

► That's why experience matters.

Claims Support Designed to Protect the Business

Through a partnership with Pharmacists Mutual, pharmacist members have access to business insurance solutions supported by experienced claims professionals who understand pharmacy operations and healthcare risk.

Property and Operational Claims Support

Property losses can disrupt an entire business, not just a building. Pharmacists Mutual's property claims team includes senior-claim professionals with more than 50 years of combined experience, providing hands-on support for larger or more complex losses.

When property claims occur, support may include:

- On-site involvement for significant losses
- Coordination with contractors, restoration, and mitigation experts
- Guidance on repairs, timelines, and coverage expectations
- Support with inventory, salvage, and forensic accounting resources

In 2025, initial contact on property claims averaged just over 4 hours¹, helping business owners understand next steps and begin recovery sooner.

Shared as part of a marketing partnership between State Pharmacy Association and Pharmacists Mutual.

¹Based on 2025 first contact times

²Based on all professional claims reported 1/1/25-12/31/25

³Average cost reference (if applicable per data source)

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Professional Liability and Regulatory Support

Business protection also includes professional liability coverage supported by a claims team with deep experience managing regulatory and professional risk.

29%

of pharmacy professional liability claims involve license defense or disciplinary matters²

\$10,579

Average cost to defend a pharmacy professional liability disciplinary matter³

Our claims experts average 25 years of experience and know what to do when there is a claim against your license or from a customer.

These situations can affect reputation, operations, and long-term viability, not just insurance.

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SOUTH DAKOTA SOCIETY of HEALTH- SYSTEM PHARMACISTS



== Ryan Waybright, PharmD, BCCCP // Assistant Vice-President: Hospital Pharmacy ==



Hello from the South Dakota Society of Health-System Pharmacists! As we hit full stride in the summer months, I wanted to provide a few updates on what's been happening within SDSHP.

With the turn of our organizational year, we welcomed in a few new members to our SDSHP Board. Kjersten Sankey joins as the

new Treasurer, Kathryn Brumels joins as the President-Elect, and Elizabeth Stroeh joins in one of the Board Member seats. A special thank you to the outgoing officers who have invested in the organization over the past two years – Jenna McGeehon (Past-President), Morgan Hemmingson (Treasurer), and Holly Flynn (Board Member).

In May, our new Board of Directors approved SDSHP's 2026-2027 strategic plan. SDSHP will continue to focus on educational efforts across the state, with targeted events and promotions offered to members. We hope to focus in on the value provided to the members – and build on networking and connection opportunities. In addition, there will be efforts towards promoting pharmacy career pathways to students and learners.

The 50th SDSHP Annual Conference was held in Sioux Falls this past April. We had a great turnout – building on the progress of previous years for both pharmacist and technician attendees. Eight hours of CE were offered with outstanding speakers and engaging topics. The conference kicked off with a powerful message, "The Broadcast that Broke My Heart" by Angela Kennecke – addressing the stigma surrounding addiction and advocating for increased

awareness and improved treatment for the disease. Other topics included anticoagulation lab testing, heart failure transitions of care, and Tadd Hellwig's annual "Clinical Trials and Guidelines Update." Other topics focused on the rapidly changing future of pharmacy practice with artificial intelligence and pharmacy practice regulation in the state. Some of the biggest feedback received was about the value of networking and connections – building relationships and bridges to connect the profession across South Dakota. Work has already started in planning for next year's event, so mark your calendars!

2027 SDSHP Annual Conference
Best Western Plus Ramkota, Sioux Falls, SD
April 16-17, 2027

This week, the Annual SDSHP Residency Conference was held in Oacoma, SD. This event continues to be a great opportunity to bring new South Dakota pharmacists together and build connections. A special thanks to Abby Riesgraf, the SDSHP resident liaison, for her work organizing this event. As Abby closes her resident role with the Board, we will look to partner with a new resident to engage in this role. We will also be holding the Annual GVR Open Golf Classic on July 24th at Rocky Run Golf Course in Dell Rapids, SD. This event is always a great way to bring pharmacists from across the state together for some time outside! We look forward to a fun and exciting year ahead within SDSHP! Please visit our Instagram or LinkedIn pages or visit our website to keep tabs on the news and upcoming events!

THE 19TH ANNUAL GVR SOCIETY OPEN GOLF CLASSIC

JULY 24 • 7:30AM
CENTRAL VALLEY GOLF COURSE •
HARTFORD, SD

WATCH FOR MORE INFO AND REGISTRATION



COLLEGE of PHARMACY and ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS at SDSU



Dan Hansen, PharmD // Dean and Professor



Greetings from the College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions (COPAHP) at South Dakota State University! This quarter, our COPAHP family continued to demonstrate their excellence, leadership, and impact locally and nationally.

All 29 of our P4 students who participated in this year's ASHP residency match process successfully secured placements,

exceeding the national match rate of 84%. This 100% match rate reflects not only the exceptional caliber, preparation, and determination of our students, but also the strong national reputation and trust our program has built among residency program directors across the country.

Several COPAHP students gained recognition on the national stage:

- Pharmacy student Austin Allen was selected as a Pharm4Me Student Ambassador by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP). He is one of just 43 students nationwide chosen for the program's inaugural cohort. Over his one-year term, Allen will promote pharmacy education and careers through national outreach efforts, including social media engagement and recruitment events.
- Kelsey Pickart, a second-year pharmacy student, was one of only five students nationwide selected to receive the Zada M. Cooper Scholarship from Kappa Epsilon, recognizing academic achievement and professional promise.

Several faculty and staff also were recognized for their expertise and leadership at the state, regional, or national levels:

- Irene Arango Gómez, community care coordinator for the Community Practice Innovation Center, was selected to participate in the Region 8 Public Health Leadership Institute for Systems Change, a six-month program focused on strengthening leadership through live

sessions, coaching, and applied learning grounded in real-world community challenges. She also was selected for the statewide Public Health Policy Champions program.

- Stephanie Hanson, assistant professor of allied and population health and executive director of the South Dakota Perinatal Quality Collaborative, has been appointed to the South Dakota Maternal Mortality Review Committee. This critical committee reviews maternal deaths up to one year postpartum, identifying contributing factors and opportunities for prevention. Hanson's work will directly inform strategies to improve maternal health outcomes across the state.
- Shanna O'Connor, department head and associate professor in pharmacy practice, was selected as an inaugural American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Membership Ambassador. In this role, she will serve as a key connector within the organization, helping members engage with AACP programs, resources, and professional development opportunities while strengthening relationships.

Brooke Merry, recruitment and outreach coordinator, received the Professional Advisor Award for Excellence in Advising. She also received the Community Service and Outreach Award at our annual Spring Convocation. Other staff and faculty honored at Spring Convocation included Chris Robbins, assistant professor of allied and population health (Excellence in Research and Scholarly Activity Award); Scout Forbes-Hurd, assistant professor of pharmacy practice and co-advisor for Chi Chapter, (Excellence in Teaching Award); and Chris Francis, grant proposal specialist, (Outstanding Service College Staff Award).

Publications and Posters

Faculty, staff, and students published several works of scholarship in the last quarter.

Publications Included:

Jordan Baye had two recent publications highlighting the work the research network (IGNITE) with which he is involved:

- Blake KV, Hines LJ, Liu M, et al. Genotype-guided antidepressant prescribing for patients with depression: a randomized clinical trial. JAMA Netw Open. 2026;9(5): e2610609. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2026.10609
- Cavallari LH, Myers RA, Chakraborty H, et al. CYP2D6-guided opioid management and postoperative pain control: a randomized clinical trial. JAMA Netw Open. 2026;9(2):e2558299. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2025.58299

Vicki Howe and colleagues from the UTEP School of Pharmacy published:

- Smith S, Gordon N, Howe V, Padilla ME. Bridging borders: an interprofessional curriculum rooted in community needs. Curr Pharm Teach Learn. 2026;18(9):102691. doi:10.1016/j.cptl.2026.102691

Chris Robbins, Erin Miller, Alex Middendorf, and Deidra Van Gilder (with Belmont University colleague Sharrel Pinto) published:

- Robbins C, Miller E, Middendorf A, Van Gilder D, Pinto S. Impact of a pharmacist-based community intervention to improve outcomes for patients with diabetes and hypertension. Health Behav Res. 2026;9(1):18. <https://newprairiepress.org/hbr/vol9/iss1/18/>

Abigail Pape (current P3 student) and Emily Van Klompenburg, published:

- Pape A, Van Klompenburg E. Ambulatory care pharmacist evaluation of drug-drug interactions with nirmatrelvir/ritonavir: managing workload and ensuring patient safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. Innov Pharm. 2026;17(1). doi:10.24926/iip.v17i1.6934

Emily Tisler (2026 Pharm.D. Grad), Meghan Haan (2026 Pharm.D. Grad), Alexis Ketcham (2026 Pharm.D. Grad), Katherine Hawton (current P4), Ainsley Powers (2026 Pharm.D. Grad), Joe Berendse, and Shanna O'Connor published:

- Tisler E, Haan M, Ketcham A, Hawton K, Powers A, Berendse J, O'Connor S. Supporting rural health system pharmacy technicians: a qualitative evaluation of manager perspectives and engagement with a student-developed wellness website. Innov Pharm. 2026;17(1). doi:10.24926/iip.v17i1.7185

Presentations included:

At the South Dakota Society of Health Systems Annual Conference:

- Mike Farley, Heart failure medication optimization & transitions of care

- Jodi Heins and Scout Forbes-Hurd, Supporting learners with ai: enhancing precepting while preserving professional judgment

- Tadd Hellwig, Clinical trials and guidelines update 2026
- Brad Laible and Joe Keryakos, Debate: generative ai in health-system pharmacy practice: friend, foe, or both?

- Shanna O'Connor, Scope, authority, and autonomy: how language will shape practice in South Dakota by 2030

Erin Miller co-presented an AACP webinar this week with Anita Jacobson from the University of Rhode Island titled "Academic-community partnerships to advance pharmacy practice and public health."

At the Region 5/6 NACADA Conference:

- Brooke Merry and Steph Bebensee, Building bridges: designing a sustainable communication plan for student success

Selma Dingmann, a current student in the Master of Public Health program, was recognized for having one of the top posters in the social/economic/behavioral sciences category at the Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Day at SDSU. The poster was titled "Trends in public stigma towards substance use disorder: a comparison between South Dakota and the US." Selma's faculty mentors are Erin Miller and Patricia Ahmed.

Willy Villela (current P4 student), under the mentorship of Shanna O'Connor, presented a poster titled "Analyzing inspection frequency across the United States and potential ripple effects of regulatory changes," at the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy

At the South Dakota Public Health Association Research Symposium:

- Irene Arango Gomez and Keri Pappas presented as part of the public health policy champions program
- Olivia Husmann (current MPH student) presented on recovery programs as part of the public health policy champions program and had a poster about her participation with the first statewide nutrition assessment
- Gayathri Selvaraj (research associate) had a poster on her master's thesis which focused on infant mortality in the US
- KaSandra Pappas (current MPH student) had a poster outlining a literature review about supporting Autistic students in higher education
- Chris Robbins had a poster on the relationship between mental health and substance use disorder and safe storage of firearms

SDSU Student Collaboration for the *ADVANCEMENT and* *PROMOTION of* PHARMACY

==== Maggie Kamnikar // SCAPP/APhA-ASP Chapter President =====



It's hard to believe how quickly the spring semester flew by and that we're already into summer! This past semester was packed with patient care, advocacy, and social events, and we're excited to share some of the highlights.

We kicked things off by attending Legislative Days in Pierre, South Dakota, where members provided health screenings at the capitol and spoke with legislators about

issues affecting our profession. While there, our members also enjoyed a meal with the SDPhA Board. We're endlessly grateful to SDPhA for sponsoring this trip and for their continued commitment to giving our members a firsthand look at what it means to advocate for pharmacy! We also hosted our first patient care event in partnership with the South Dakota Cardiovascular Collaborative (SDCVC) in Canton, South Dakota, screening and educating 51 patients and community members. This event helped move Canton one step closer to earning its Cardiac Ready Community designation, an SDCVC program that empowers rural communities to better understand cardiovascular health and know how to respond in a cardiac emergency. We are excited to see how this partnership and event continue to grow in the future!

and networking with students from across the country, they even managed to soak up a little sun in the middle of March! We're also proud to share that SCAPP earned a regional award for our Operation Heart efforts, as well as a First Runner-Up award in the AAA division for chapter achievements during the 2024–2025 academic year. None of this would have been possible without the support of the University, SDPhA, the Brookings and Sioux Falls communities, and our incredibly dedicated members.



Looking back at the year as a whole, SCAPP performed 336 blood pressure screenings, 300 glucose screenings, and 180 cholesterol screenings, gave 93 immunizations, screened 365 total patients, and educated 950 patients and community members. Beyond patient care, our chapter leaders organized 19 social events and 35 professionalism events. We're incredibly proud of the effort and commitment our executive board and committee co-chairs poured into making these events successful, not just academically valuable but also meaningful opportunities for members to connect with one another. We also elected a new executive board for the coming year and appointed 25 new committee co-chairs to finish out this spring semester. We couldn't be more excited to see what they bring to the table in the year ahead!

It's been a busy, rewarding semester, and none of it would have been possible without the dedication of our members, the support of the community, and the partnerships we're lucky to have across the state. Here's to a relaxing summer, and we can't wait to see what next year has in store for SCAPP!



On the national stage, eight of our members traveled to Los Angeles, California, to represent SDSU at APhA Annual. Along with sitting in on education sessions, keynote speakers,

SDAPT General Membership Meeting

Momentum continues to build as efforts to revitalize the South Dakota Association of Pharmacy Technicians (SDAPT) move into the next phase.

Over the past several months, pharmacy technicians and SDPhA leaders have been working together to discuss the future of the organization, identify priorities for the profession, and create new opportunities for technician engagement across South Dakota. Those conversations have reinforced what we already know: pharmacy technicians are essential members of the healthcare team, and they deserve a strong professional organization dedicated to supporting their growth and success.

The next step in that process is a virtual SDAPT General Membership Meeting, where all interested pharmacy technicians are invited to help shape the future of the association.



SDAPT General Membership Meeting
Friday, July 24
6:30–7:30 pm CT
Zoom – Contact Amanda for link

The meeting will include an update on the rebuilding efforts, discussion of future priorities and programming, and opportunities for attendees to become involved in SDAPT leadership and activities.

Whether you have been involved with SDAPT in the past or are simply interested in helping strengthen the pharmacy technician profession in South Dakota, we encourage you to join the conversation.

Strengthening the Technician Workforce: SDPhA and PTU

As the demands on pharmacy teams continue to grow, the importance of a well-trained, confident, and capable technician workforce has never been more clear. Pharmacy technicians are essential to supporting patient care, improving workflow, and allowing pharmacists to practice at the top of their license.

For that reason, the South Dakota Pharmacists Association (SDPhA) Board of Directors has reaffirmed its commitment to supporting technician education through continued partnership with Pharmacy Technician University (PTU).

This partnership reflects a broader priority for SDPhA. Workforce challenges remain one of the most pressing issues facing pharmacy across all practice settings, and addressing those challenges requires intentional investment in training, development, and long-term career pathways for pharmacy technicians.

Recent outcomes from PTU reinforce the value of that investment. According to recently released statistics from TRCHealthcare, the parent organization for PTU, In 2025, PTU learners achieved an 81% certification pass rate. That's 17% above the national

average and an improvement over the previous year. These results highlight the impact that structured, high-quality training can have on both learner success and overall workforce readiness.

Building on that momentum, PTU recently announced it has introduced a number of enhancements for 2026 designed to further strengthen certification outcomes, improve learner completion, and enhance the overall training experience.

Updates include expanded assessment tools to ensure learners are fully prepared for certification, with all content aligned to the 2026 Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) exam outline. Additional improvements focus on usability and engagement, including enhanced course navigation, expanded learning formats such as video and interactive content, and a more streamlined course structure designed to reduce fatigue and support completion.

Additional practice opportunities have also been added, including multiple optional PTCE practice exams and expanded question banks with detailed explanations to support deeper understanding.

Together, these updates are designed to better support both learners and employers, making it easier to onboard new technicians, reinforce key concepts, and prepare individuals for certification.

Through SDPhA's partnership with PTU, members of the association receive access to reduced pricing on PTU training modules. This benefit is intended to support pharmacies in developing their teams while helping to reduce barriers to high-quality technician education.

Investing in technician training is not only a workforce strategy, but a patient care strategy. Well-prepared technicians contribute to safer, more efficient pharmacy operations and play a critical role in ensuring patients receive timely and accurate care.

As SDPhA looks ahead, strengthening the technician workforce will remain a key focus. Continued investment in education and training will be essential to supporting pharmacy teams across South Dakota and ensuring the profession is well-positioned for the future.

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PTU 101

Designed for technicians seeking certification, this program offers 130+ hours of didactic training.

PTU National Standards

Designed for technicians seeking ASHP-ACPE accreditation, this program offers an entry-level program (400+ hours) and an advanced-level program (600+ hours).

Knowledge Assessment

Leveraging the support of PTU 101, Knowledge Assessment gauges technician competency in over 10 categories including pharmacology, calculations, laws and regulations, anatomy, compounding, and more.



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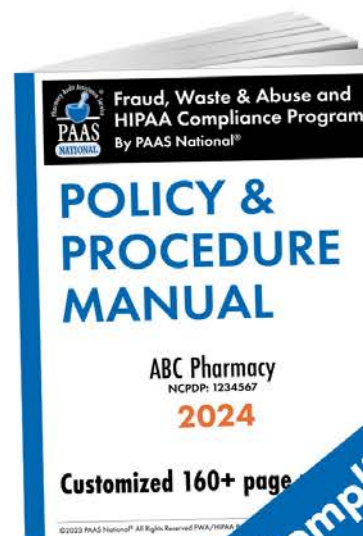
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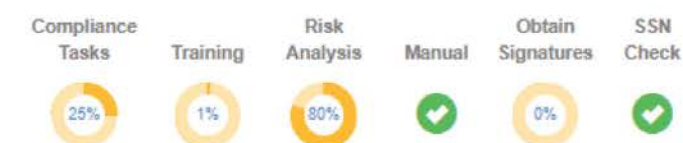
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- Annual USP 800 training for staff

* excludes HD compounding pharmacies



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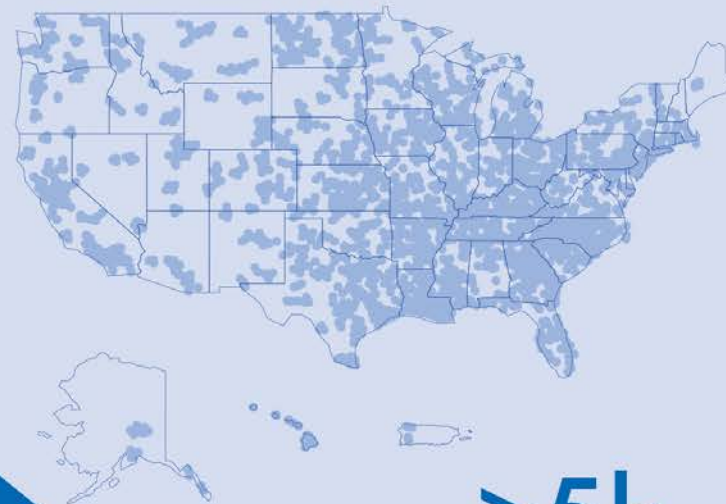
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- FWA/HIPAA membership entitles a pharmacy up to 20 employees. Additional employees are \$15, billed annually.

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Alert! Shingrix Billing Quantity Update

PAAS National® continues to review audits for Shingrix, a vaccine indicated for prevention of herpes zoster (shingles) in adults over 50 years of age (and certain immunosuppressed adults over 19).

These audits appear to have been triggered by an incorrect quantity being billed for the NDC submitted on the claim. The original product is a reconstituted 50 mcg/0.5 mL suspension vial, NDC 58160-0823-11, and one dose is billed as 1 “each”. A new 50 mcg/0.5 mL prefilled syringe was introduced into market on 07/16/2025, NDC 58160-0849-43, and one dose is billed as 0.5 “mL”.

Pharmacies should pay close attention to ensure the correct quantity is being billed for the respective NDCs. Billing the incorrect quantity could either result in a recoupment for overbilling [1 mL] on a prefilled syringe that should have been 0.5 mL or being under-paid for billing 0.5 EA on a vial that should have been billed as 1 EA. PBMs will recoup funds on the former and ignore [not bring to your attention] the latter.

Another vaccine PAAS frequently sees audited for an incorrect quantity is Abrysvo. This vaccine is indicated for active immunization to prevent lower respiratory tract disease (LRTD) caused by respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in individuals over 60 years of age, as well as younger adults who are at increased risk. The correct billing quantity for one dose of the reconstituted 120 mcg/0.5 mL solution vial is **1 “each”**.

By Trenton Thiede, PharmD, MBA, President at PAAS National®, expert third party audit assistance, FWA/HIPAA and USP 800 compliance.

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Is a Response to the NADAC Survey Required?

The National Average Drug Acquisition Cost (NADAC) Survey has been around for over a decade, but some pharmacies have never received this survey request before. Consequently, PAAS National® is frequently contacted for information and guidance.

For many years, this survey has been voluntary; however, legislation has been proposed over the last few years to make this mandatory. Nevertheless, these bills did not pass, and thus, the survey remains voluntary. Pharmacies should still take a minute to understand what the survey is, and whether responding is in their best interest.

The Affordable Care Act required Medicaid programs to shift pharmacy reimbursement to an acquisition cost-based model. CMS Final Rule ([CMS-2345-FC](#)) set a compliance date for State Medicaid Programs to be effective no later than April 1, 2017.

The NADAC file was created to provide pricing files for state Medicaid agencies to utilize when creating their acquisition cost-based pricing methods for Fee-for-service (FFS) Medicaid plans. CMS contracted with Myers and Stauffer LC (a professional accounting firm) to conduct these [retail pricing surveys](#). Outpatient pharmacies are randomly selected to receive these surveys, requesting invoices for purchases made over the previous one-month period. The data collected from these invoices is used to update the NADAC file on a weekly basis.

Since these surveys are voluntary, pharmacies are under no obligation to respond. However, pharmacies being paid below acquisition cost on Medicaid claims may want to consider responding so their costs can be reflected in the survey data. Prior to responding, pharmacies may want to consider requesting a Non-Disclosure Agreement from Myers and Stauffer LC.

PAAS Tips:

- NADAC files are published monthly [here](#)
- Steps to take with your documents if responding
 - Print “Confidential” on each invoice page
 - Only include the documents requested - no PHI should be included
- Contact the NADAC helpdesk, operated by Myers and Stauffer LC, at (855) 457-5264 or survey@mslcrps.com if you have additional questions about the survey

By Trenton Thiede, PharmD, MBA, President at PAAS National®, expert third party audit assistance, FWA/HIPAA and USP 800 compliance.

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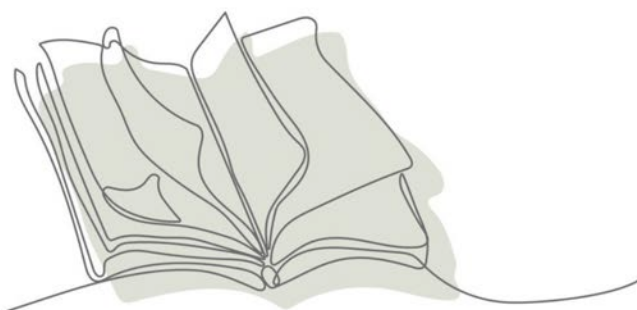
Obituaries



Richard "Dick" Haveman
August 12, 1939 – June 29, 2026

Dick Haveman, a longtime South Dakota pharmacist, passed away on June 29, 2026, at the age of 86. Throughout his career, he was dedicated to the profession of pharmacy and the patients and communities he served.

He will be remembered by colleagues for his kindness, professionalism, and lasting contributions to pharmacy. Our thoughts are with his family and friends as we honor his memory.



Barbara C. Bloxsom
October 31, 1947 – June 28, 2026

Barbara Bloxsom, 78, of Rapid City, passed away Sunday, June 28, 2026, at Avantara North, Rapid City, SD.

No funeral services will be held. Burial of her cremains will be held at a later date in Wishek

City Cemetery, Wishek, ND.

Barbara Christie Obenauer Bloxsom was born on Halloween in 1947 to Edwin and Wilma (Dockter) Obenauer. She spent her early school years attending schools where her father served as an administrator. She graduated from McLaughlin High School in 1965 and enrolled at South Dakota State University that fall, where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy with honors.

Barbara married Skip Larson, and the couple moved to Arizona. She began her career as a pharmacist with the Veterans Administration Hospital in Tucson and later transferred to Denver, Colorado. Two sons, Skip Brian and Christopher, were born to their union. While living in Colorado, Barbara attended the University of Colorado, where she earned her master's degree in Health Administration with honors. She later attended the University of Denver College of Law, earning her Juris Doctor degree.

Barbara served as an instructor in the University of Colorado School of Pharmacy, teaching pharmacy law and ethics. She also advised the Colorado Board of Pharmacy on legal matters and assisted in drafting legislation for Colorado health care providers while serving as legislative chairperson for the Colorado Pharmacists Association.

Barbara's legal career spanned more than 20 years. She practiced in both federal and state courts, serving as a trial attorney for seven years and as a law professor for five years. Throughout her career, she worked as a sole practitioner, partner, and associate in various law firms. She also served as vice president of Health Script, Inc. and Health Care Containment Solutions, Inc.

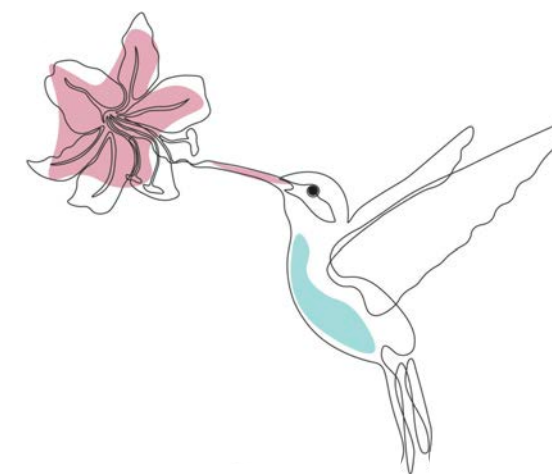
Barbara later married Bill Bloxsom, and the couple made their home in Pueblo, Colorado. She returned to practicing pharmacy for several organizations before the couple relocated to Maine for a few years. They eventually returned to Sioux Falls, allowing Barbara to reconnect with her South Dakota roots. She concluded her professional career as a pharmacist with Cigna Home Delivery Pharmacy before retiring.

Barbara was a true people person who found great fulfillment in walking alongside others on their personal journeys of growth and recovery. She never gave up and always gave her best. She was an inspiration to those who knew and worked with her and will be remembered for her kindness, compassion, and genuine concern for others.

An active member of Springdale Lutheran Church and a faithful supporter of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Barbara enjoyed baking and reading. Her dogs were her cherished companions, especially Samantha and Emma. As a young woman, she developed a passion for running, and later in life she maintained her love of the outdoors through daily walks with her beloved dogs.

Barbara is survived by her brother, Mark Obenauer of Muskogee, Oklahoma; her sons, Skip Brian Larson and his wife, Kelly, of Fort Collins, Colorado, and their children, Liam and Kacy; and Christopher Larson of Lakewood, Colorado.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Edwin and Wilma Obenauer, and her brother, Michael Obenauer.



SOUTH DAKOTA PHARMACIST



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