WHAT DOES A RETAILER NEED TO DO TO SELL CALIFORNIA PRESCRIPTION DRUGS?

Maintain a Restricted Livestock Drug Retailer License from CDFA*
A Restricted Livestock Drug Retailer license costs $50 per location and must be renewed annually in January. To apply for a Restricted Livestock Drug Retailer license, please visit the Livestock Drugs website at https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/LivestockDrug.html.

* Retailers with a Pharmacy License or Veterinary Food-Animal Drug Retailer License from the California Board of Pharmacy may sell both federal and California prescription drugs. For more information, visit the Board of Pharmacy website at https://www.pharmacy.ca.gov/.

Work with a Pharmacist
A retailer must work with a pharmacist to develop store-specific written procedures for the receipt, handling, storage, inventory, sale, and disposal of California prescription drugs. A retailer can choose to employ a pharmacist on staff, or to contract with a consulting pharmacist on a quarterly basis to:

- Review, revise, and approve store-specific written operating procedures
- Ensure the retailer is following procedures and maintaining the required records
- Issue a signed written certification that the retailer is in compliance

Employ at Least One Qualified Individual
California prescription drugs may only be sold by a qualified individual with the necessary training to understand prescriptions and product labels. A retailer must employ at least one qualified individual and must provide proof of the qualified individual’s credentials to CDFA. Before selling a California prescription drug, a qualified individual must:

- Verify the purchaser has a prescription
- Verify the prescription describes a use in accordance with the product label
- Verify that the sale date is within six (6) months of the prescription issue date
- Record the sale in the retailer’s drug sale log

Adhere to Enhanced Recordkeeping Requirements
A retailer must keep the following records for three (3) years for each sale of a California prescription drug:

- Purchaser name, address, signature
- Product name (drug or trade name)
- Route of administration
- Quantity and lot number
- Qualified individual name
- Date of sale
- Unique transaction number
- Copy of the prescription
- Indication that the drug sold is a California prescription drug
- Species (recommended)
- Purchaser email (recommended)