

## Don't Forget to Register for Our Upcoming Webinars

The NASCOSA Education Committee is pleased to announce a number of exciting webinars offered for members and sponsors in the coming months. We will be adding additional webinars, so please make sure to check the website periodically as well as communications from NASCOSA.

Upcoming webinars include the following:

**April 10 – 3-4 pm ET** - Who Is Really In Control When Disposing of Controlled Substances?

**April 25, 2024 – 3-4 pm ET** - Pill Presses and the Counterfeit Drug Trade

**June 4, 2024 – 3-4 pm ET** - Combating Opioid Misuse: The Distributor Opioid Settlement and Controlled Substance Monitoring Enhancements (registration link not yet available)

To register visit our website  
<https://www.nascosa.org/webinars>

Note, webinars are only open to members and sponsors.

## Sponsorships Available

NASCOSA relies on the generous support from its sponsors to keep the organization strong. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please find additional information [here](#). If you are a current sponsor, thank you for your support! We kindly request current sponsors

## President's Message

Dear Members, Sponsors, and Colleagues,

As many of you know, NASCOSA's staff, Board members, and committees have been working diligently on current issues and planning for the Annual Conference. The Executive Board just wrapped up the mid-year meeting in Greenville, South Carolina where the 2024 Annual Conference will be held. The venue and the surrounding area will be perfect with plenty of amazing restaurants with varying price ranges and activities all within walking distance of the hotel. The conference will provide excellent educational opportunities concerning controlled substances, prescription monitoring programs, and current trends facing regulators and industry. Get a chance to network with peers from across the country and celebrate NASCOSA's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary!! We hope to see everyone in Greenville this October.

On a different note, as some of you may know, Ralph Orr, who has served as our Policy and Communications Director, has decided to resign after well over a year of dedicated service to NASCOSA. While we will miss Ralph's expertise and passion to serve our member's needs, the Executive Committee will be exploring next steps to serve this vital role. If you have any recommendations for someone who might be interested, please pass this information along. Ideally, the individual should have some expertise and experience with both prescription monitoring programs and controlled substances issues.

Respectfully,  
Eric Griffin  
*NASCOSA President*

## Save the Date for NASCOSA's Annual Conference 2024!

Mark your calendar! It's hard to believe that plans are well underway for our 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference taking place at the Hyatt Regency in downtown

renew your sponsorship as soon as possible.

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## Conference 2025-2026 Dates Announced – Mark Your Calendars

NASCSA is pleased to announce dates and locations for the 2025 and 2026 annual conference, so please mark your calendars:

**2025 Conference** - October 18-23, 2025 - Renaissance New Orleans Arts Hotel - New Orleans, Louisiana

**2026 Conference** – October 26-29, 2026 – Holiday Inn By the Bay, Portland, Maine

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## We Need Your Help

Regular members are asked to submit ideas for **resolutions** to be considered at the business meeting at this year's annual conference.

Members should follow the guidelines outlined in the [Bylaws](#) (See Article XII). Proposed resolutions must be submitted to the Bylaws/Resolutions Committee no later than 60 days in advance of the Business Meeting.

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## Dues Time is Right Around the Corner – Check Your In-Box

Dues notices will be sent to all members in mid-May with ongoing reminders as necessary. Please note that dues run from July 1, 2024-June 31, 2025 and must be paid in order to apply for travel scholarships, vote on association matters, and partake in other member benefits.

This electronic invoice can be paid securely with a credit card or forwarded electronically to your accounts payable department. If you need a duplicate invoice or are unsure of the status of your

Greenville, South Carolina October 28-31, 2024.

We have some exciting and fun plans for this year's conference as we mark our anniversary, so check the [website](#) on a regular basis for updates. Conference and hotel registration information is already available online. We anticipate a draft conference program will be available later next month.

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## Travel Scholarships Now Available

Travel scholarship applications and instructions to attend this year's 40th Annual Conference on October 28-31, 2024 in Greenville, South are now available online.

To accommodate agencies that may require additional time to receive out of state travel approval, the Membership Committee, with approval of the Executive Committee, has changed the deadline to apply to June 14, 2024, with applicants to receive notification on or before July 12, 2024. We strongly encourage regular members to consider applying. Up to six travel scholarships will be awarded.

More information is found [here](#).

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## NASCSA's Executive Committee Holds Midyear Meeting



NASCSA's Executive Committee held their in-person midyear meeting in Greenville, SC, the site of this year's annual conference that will take place Oct. 28-31, 2024 at the Hyatt Regency downtown. Although the Executive Committee meets monthly, the in-depth two-day meeting focuses on NASCSA's priorities for the coming years including the development of a strategic plan for the organization.

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## Reminder - Free Continuing Education Available for Pharmacists/Technicians on PMP

membership, please contact the office at 617-347-1455 or [kathykeough@nascsa.org](mailto:kathykeough@nascsa.org).

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## We Need Your News!

We would love to hear more from our members about news from your state, territory or district, or industry news of importance. Please pass this information along.

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## Have You Checked Out NASCA's Youtube Channel?

NASCSA maintains its own YouTube Channel where a select number of our webinars are uploaded several months after they take place. Quite a few webinars were recently uploaded, so please visit the YouTube channel and subscribe as well. More information is found [here](#).

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## Industry News

### Surescripts Issues National Progress Report

Surescripts recently released its 2023 edition which is available [here](#). Please note the section on e-prescribing on 6 & 7 as well as the section on care team evolution on pages 4 & 5. As you will see, the former continues to grow, and the latter highlights significant opportunities for the pharmacy profession.

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## Data Integrity

Take advantage of this free ACPE accredited educational opportunity providing one hour of continuing education for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. This program, developed in partnership with the NASCSA, and 12 prescription monitoring program (PMP) administrators, analyzes the importance and value of complete, accurate data reported by dispensers to PMPs and assesses the impact of intentional or non-intentional data entry errors and data omissions on patient safety. It also discusses the downstream impacts of pharmacy-reported PMP data on clinical decision-making processes and helps pharmacy staff identify and implement changes that can be made in their practice setting to improve PMP data integrity. Visit

<https://ce.talemhealth.com/a/HLQIJS>

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## Federal News: DEA and HHS Issue Joint Letter on Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)

DEA's Diversion Control Division is pleased to post [this joint letter](#) from DEA and HHS supporting the expansion of Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD). DEA and HHS support the expansion of MOUD especially in rural or underserved areas. DEA is asking its registrants to ensure an adequate and uninterrupted supply of MOUD products when appropriately prescribed and asks distributors to examine any quantitative thresholds they established to ensure that individuals with OUD are able to access buprenorphine.

Expanding access to MOUD is one more way to assist patients with OUD during the Opioid Public Health Emergency.

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## DEA's Announces 2nd Annual Supply Chain Conference

**Purpose:** The conference provides a venue in which representatives from the supply chain industry, their affiliated associations, and DEA can engage in discussions concerning existing federal regulations, issues requiring regulatory changes, clarification of DEA policy, and the development of initiatives to reduce diversion of pharmaceutical controlled substances while ensuring an adequate and uninterrupted supply.

## Sponsor Spotlight: BizTek Innovations

**BizTek Innovations** continues to be a proud sponsor of NASCSA and its annual conferences. We support the efforts that the NASCSA staff and members devote to bringing stakeholders together in collaboration to curtail abuse, misuse and diversion of controlled substances.

BizTek provides a wide variety of secure IT solutions to its customers. We offer a cost-effective, easy to use Prescription Drug Monitoring Solution. Focus on accuracy and integrity of controlled substance data is a core component of our overall data management process. We are committed to providing innovative integration solutions that will optimize the functionality of current state and federal systems.

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## Drug Diversion Misuse Brochure Available

The drug diversion misuse brochure produced by Scripps Safe that lists commonly misused controlled substances as well as non-federally scheduled drugs is now available online [here](#).

**Who:** DEA registered manufacturers, distributors, pharmacists, importers, and exporters.

**When:** April 30 - May 2, 2024

**Where:** Little Rock, Arkansas [A virtual component will be offered for those who are unable to attend in person.]

**Topics:** DEA is soliciting relevant topics of discussion from registrants. Please email your suggestions to [ODLL@dea.gov](mailto:ODLL@dea.gov) no later than **Friday, February 16th**.

**Break Out Sessions:** Registrants interested in participating in a breakout session to discuss Quota or Import/Export issues with DEA staff are requested to submit a request to [ODLL@dea.gov](mailto:ODLL@dea.gov) no later than **Friday, April 5th**.

**Please note:** There is no fee to attend this conference. To ensure in-person participation is available to all interested registrants DEA is requesting that no more than 3 persons per DEA registration number plan to attend in-person. Additional participants are welcome to attend virtually. Participants not registering in advance will not be permitted to attend the conference. In the past, there was confusion as to whether private practice attorneys or consulting firms may or may not attend DEA-sponsored conferences for industry. If these individuals or firms represent registrants or their affiliated associations on an "as-needed basis", *DEA does not view them as employees of a registrant or an association, but as paid consultants*. As such, they are not eligible to attend these types of conferences. More information will be forthcoming as details are finalized.

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## NASCSA in the Media

Follow NASCSA on LinkedIn, Twitter, and YouTube.



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Have you listened to our NASCSA Podcasts?

Listen to a NASCSA  
Podcast

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## Contact NASCSA Staff

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