

Prescription Drug Donation Repository Program (PDDRP)

Rx Connects

Frequently Asked Questions

GENERAL

What is the Prescription Drug Donation Repository Program?

The Prescription Drug Donation Repository Program, also known as Florida Rx Connects, was established within the Florida Department of Health by the 2020 Florida Legislature to facilitate the donation of certain prescription drugs and supplies to eligible patients through the creation of repositories, where eligible organizations or facilities may make such donations. Approved donated drugs and/or supplies may be dispensed to patients with a valid prescription. (Source: [Statutes & Constitution : Section 465.1902, Florida Statutes.](#))

How does Florida Rx Connects work?

There are three key components to this program: Repositories, Donors, and Patients. Each of these components include strict guidelines as to who may be eligible to participate. The following pages contain important information and requirements for participation in this program.

REPOSITORY

Who is eligible to become a Rx Connects Repository?

The following entities may participate as a repository:

- A health care practitioner's office
- A pharmacy
- A hospital with a closed drug delivery system
- A nursing home facility with a closed drug delivery system
- A free clinic or nonprofit health clinic that is licensed or permitted to dispense medicinal drugs in Florida

How does our entity become a Rx Connects Repository?

An eligible entity must notify the Florida Department of Health Rx Connects of its intent to participate in the program as a repository before accepting or dispensing any donations under the program.

To become a repository, completed the PDDRP Repository Participation or Withdrawal form and send the completed form to PrescriptionDrugDonationProgram@FLHealth.gov.

Can a repository withdraw from the program?

Yes, a repository may withdraw from the program by providing written notice using the Florida Rx Connects Repository or Withdrawal form. Upon withdrawal, repositories must agree to the disposition of prescription drugs and supplies in their possession.

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HEALTH

What are the criteria for all donations of prescription drugs and supplies to a repository?

The following criteria are required of all donations:

- Donations have come from eligible donors. All donors must obtain written approval (email or mail) from a participating repository prior to shipping any donated drugs or supplies.
- The donated drug is approved for medical use in the United States.
- The drug is in unopened, tamper-evident packaging.
- The drug requires storage at normal temperature per the manufacturer or federal storage requirements.
- The drug has been stored according to the manufacturer or federal storage requirements.
- The drug does not have any physical signs of tampering or adulteration and there is no reason to believe that the drug is adulterated.
- The packaging does not have any physical signs of tampering, misbranding, deterioration, compromised integrity or adulteration.
- The packaging indicates the expiration date of the drug. If the lot number is not retrievable, all specified medications must be destroyed.
- The drug has an expiration date that is more than 3 months after the date on which the drug was donated.
- The drug must have been donated on the premises of the property to a person designated by the repository. (Drop box may not be used to accept a donation.)
- Donated items may not be sold or resold.

What are the inventory requirements for a repository of the donated drugs?

The repository must maintain an inventory of donated drugs that includes the:

- Name of drug
- Strength
- Available quantity
- Expiration date of donations
- Transaction date
- Name, street address and telephone number of the donor

What are the storage requirements for a repository?

The repository must store donations in a secure area under the environmental conditions specified by the manufacturer or federal storage requirements. DONATIONS MAY NOT BE STORED WITH OTHER (non-repository) INVENTORY or must be clearly marked to indicate that the drug or supply was donated.

DONOR

Who is eligible to become a Rx Connects Donor?

The following entities are eligible to donate to an established repository under this program:

- Nursing home facilities with closed drug delivery systems
- Hospices that have maintained control of a patient's prescription drugs
- Hospitals with closed drug delivery systems



- Pharmacies
- Drug manufacturers or wholesale distributors
- Medical device manufacturers or suppliers
- Prescribers who receive prescription drugs or supplies directly from a drug manufacturer, wholesale distributor or pharmacy

What is the criteria for donating prescription drugs and supplies to a repository?

An eligible donor may only donate a prescription drug or supply to a repository if:

- The donor has obtained written approval (email or US mail) from a participating repository prior to shipping any donated drugs or supplies.
- The drug is approved for medical use in the United States.
- The drug is in unopened, tamper-evident packaging.
- The drug requires storage at normal room temperature per the manufacturer or federal storage requirements.
- The drug has been stored according to manufacturer or federal storage requirements.
- The drug does not have any physical signs of tampering or adulteration and there is no reason to believe that the drug is adulterated.
- The packaging does not have any physical signs of tampering, misbranding, deterioration, compromised integrity or adulteration.
- The packaging indicates the expiration date of the drug. If the lot number is not retrievable, all specified medications must be destroyed.
- The drug has an expiration date that is more than 3 months after the date on which the drug was donated.
- Donations are made on the premises of a repository to a person designated by the repository. A drop box may not be used to accept donations. Donations may also be shipped with a Donation form and prior approval from the receiving repository.

Can a prescription drug or supply be donated to a specific patient?

No, this is not permissible in [Statutes & Constitution : Section 465.1902, Florida Statutes](#).

Can an individual donate unused, unopened medications to the Rx Connects Program?

No, Section 465.1902, Florida Statutes does not allow the Rx Connects Program to accept donations from individuals.

There are programs that do accept donations of unused, unopened medications from individuals. You can check with [SIRUM – Saving Medicine : Saving Lives](#), [SafeNetRx - Donate Meds. Change Lives](#), or others available on the internet.

What can individuals do with unused medications?

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) sponsors [National Prescription Drug Take Back Day](#) in communities nationwide. Many communities also have their own drug take back programs. Check with your local law enforcement officials to find a location near you or with the DEA to find a [DEA-authorized collector in your community](#). (Source: [Where and How to Dispose of Unused Medicines | FDA](#).)



You can also check with your pharmacist. Some pharmacies offer on-site medicine drop-off boxes, mail-back programs, and other ways to help you safely dispose of your unused medicines.

Can controlled substances be donated?

Controlled substances such as morphine, oxycodone or lorazepam cannot be donated per [Statutes & Constitution : Section 465.1902, Florida Statutes](#).

Can prescription drugs requiring refrigeration be donated?

Only drugs requiring storage at normal room temperature per the manufacturer or federal storage requirements are acceptable per [Statutes & Constitution : Section 465.1902, Florida Statutes](#).

PATIENT

Who is eligible to become a Rx Connects Patient to receive donations?

Any patient that wishes to receive prescription drugs from this program must:

- Have a family income that is below 200 percent of the federal poverty level as defined by the most recently revised poverty income guidelines published by the United State Department of Health and Human Services *or* be uninsured *or* underinsured.
- Be a resident of Florida.
- Have a valid prescription for a specific donated drug.
- Complete and submit a Florida Rx Connects Patient Application and Dispensing form.

What is the family income that is below 200 percent of the federal poverty level?

2024 Family/Household Size	Fee Groups	
	100%	200%
1	15,060	30,120
2	20,440	40,880
3	25,820	51,640
4	31,200	62,400
5	36,580	73,160
6	41,960	83,920
7	47,340	94,680
8	52,720	105,440
9+	Add \$5,380 for each additional individual	Add \$10,760 for each additional individual

[Poverty Guidelines | ASPE \(hhs.gov\)](#)

How do I know if a prescription drug I received from the repository has been recalled?

Each repository shall establish and follow a protocol for notifying patients if a prescription drug donated under the program is recalled.



What is the additional eligibility criteria for a patient to receive prescription drugs and supplies from a repository?

In addition to the eligibility criteria, patients must agree to the following:

- Eligible patients must complete and submit an eligible Patient Application and Dispensing form to a participating repository to receive a donation.
- A repository may only dispense eligible donated drugs or supplies to Florida residents who are indigent, uninsured or underinsured. Indigent is defined as at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.
- Each eligible patient must have a valid prescription for the donated drug and present it to the repository before the drug can be dispensed.
- Each patient must submit a signed and dated statement affirming that the patient meets the eligibility requirements and will inform the repository if the patient's eligibility changes.
- A statement signed and dated by the eligible patient acknowledging receipt of notice that the prescription drug or supply was donated to the program, that the donors and participants in the program are immune from civil or criminal liability or disciplinary action, and that the eligible patient is not required to pay for the prescription drug or supply.

