

Federal Grant Application Request  
**Oregon Health Authority**  
Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

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**Analyst:** Linda Ames

**Request:** Approve the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice in the amount of up to \$400,000 for 18 months, to improve the state Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

**Recommendation:** Approve the request.

**Analysis:** The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is requesting approval from the Joint Committee on Ways and Means to apply for the Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program grant from the U.S. Department of Justice. Grant funding is expected to be up to \$400,000 for 18 months. No state matching funds are required for the grant, nor is there a requirement for maintenance of effort.

The Oregon Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) was created by the legislature in 2009, and went into full operation in September 2011. This is a web-based data system that collects data from pharmacies on prescriptions for controlled substance drugs, and makes those data available to health care providers who write prescriptions. The primary purpose of the program is to improve patient health care. About 7 million prescription records are uploaded into the system each year, and more than 5,200 practitioners and pharmacists have PDMP accounts.

This grant will focus on the development and delivery of training for system users, and evaluation of program effectiveness. Specifically, the grant will fund the development and roll out of a variety of web-based interactive training modules that target the needs of the different disciplines using the system. These will include such topics as how to register, how to read and understand a report, how to use the report with a patient, and information on privacy and security issues. The grant will also focus on program effectiveness and the impact on patient outcomes. The grant will build on the work already being done by the Oregon Health Sciences University, Acumentra Health, and the agency's Evaluation Section, currently being funded with a grant from the National Institutes of Health.

The agency will need one limited duration position to coordinate the training development and rollout, administer contracts, manage the grant requirements, and develop and submit reports.

The grant application is due on May 2, 2013. If approved, funding would begin on October 1, 2013 and end April 30, 2015. If necessary, additional expenditure limitation and position authority could be included in the OHA 2013-15 budget, or be added later in the biennium.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request.

**Motion: I move that the Joint Committee on Ways and Means approve the Oregon Health Authority's submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice to improve the state Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.**

April 8, 2013

The Honorable Richard Devlin, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Peter Buckley, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
900 Court Street NE  
H-178 State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Re: Request to Apply Letter – Competitive Grant – Harold Rogers Prescription  
Drug Monitoring Program (OHA-PH-13-05)

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

### **Nature of the Request**

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Public Health Division requests permission to apply for the Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) grant for federal funds up to \$400,000 for 18 months, beginning October 1, 2013 and ending April 30, 2015.

The intent of the grant is to improve the state PDMP through development and delivery of targeted training for system users, and evaluation of program effectiveness and the impact on patient outcomes. The funding is available through the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The request for proposals was received on March 15, 2013, and the application is due on May 2, 2013. This grant funding requires no state matching funds. There is no federal requirement for maintenance of effort.

### **Agency Action**

In 2009, the legislature created the Oregon Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). The PDMP went into full operation in September 2012. The PDMP collects controlled substance prescription drug data from pharmacies and makes those data available to healthcare providers and pharmacists who write

prescriptions for controlled substances. The primary purpose of the program is to improve patient care and prevent diversion of prescription controlled substances. The program operations are meeting and exceeding expectations except for two areas. The PDMP system users need a variety of web based training materials, and the PDMP evaluation of outcomes related to improvements in patient care both require funds that are not fully supported by the current operational budget.

This grant funding will provide up to \$400,000 to create a variety of web based interactive training modules that target the needs of system users. In addition, funds will be used to build on evaluation efforts targeting questions about how use of the system may or may not improve patient health outcomes. The PDMP has significant partnerships with the licensing boards and professional associations that represent system users. These stakeholders will be engaged in training development and roll out. The Oregon Health Sciences University, Acumentra Health, and the Program Design and Evaluation Services Section in the Public Health Division have been working with the program for two years developing evaluation activities. This work will build on activities that are currently funded with a National Institutes of Health grant. Finally, the PDMP Advisory Commission works with the PDMP program to oversee program business processes. Members include representatives of stakeholder practice associations, the Addictions and Mental Health program in the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), and citizens.

Funds will be used to create one limited duration position. A Program Analyst 2 will coordinate the activities to develop and roll out training, develop and administer contracts for services, manage the grant requirements, develop and submit reports, and other activities needed to manage the successful completion of all grant requirements and deliverables.

There is no expectation that the state will continue to fund these activities or the position at the end of the grant.

The OHA mission is to help people and communities achieve optimum physical, mental and social well-being through partnerships, prevention and access to quality, affordable health care. The PDMP collaborates with healthcare providers, pharmacists, and program evaluators to improve the health and safety of patients by monitoring and providing patient controlled substance prescription information. This grant will enhance the PDMP by providing resources to develop and deliver much needed training targeting the needs of the different disciplines using the

system, and work with partners to continue evaluation measurement aimed at describing how the system improves the health of patients.

**Action Requested**

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Public Health Division requests permission to apply for a Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance.

**Legislation Affected**

None.

For additional information, please call Tom Burns at 503-947-2344

Sincerely,



Kelly Ballas  
Chief Financial Officer

CC: Linda Ames, Legislative Fiscal Office  
Kate Nass, Department of Administrative Services  
Blake Johnson, Department of Administrative Services  
Dustin Ball, Department of Administrative Services

# Oregon Prescription Drug Monitoring Program



## Oregon Injury and Violence Prevention Program Fact Sheet

### BASIC FACTS\*

- The PDMP system became operational in September 2011.
- Approximately 7,000,000 prescription records are uploaded into the system annually.
- More than 98 percent of pharmacies required to participate are reporting.
- More than 5,200 practitioners and pharmacists have PDMP accounts.
- In 2012, more than 280,000 queries were made by practitioners and pharmacists.
- 60 percent of the prescriptions in the PDMP are prescribed by a cohort of 2,000 practitioners; 59 percent of these prescribers have PDMP accounts.
- Opioids account for more than 55 percent of the prescriptions in the PDMP data system.
- Opioids are the class of medications that has the highest potential for overdose, misuse, dependence, and abuse.
- Benzodiazepines are the second-most-often-prescribed class of medication in the PDMP data system.
- Opioids combined with benzodiazepines increase the risk of overdose.

### What is the PDMP?

The Oregon Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) is a Web-based data system that contains information on controlled prescription medications dispensed by Oregon-licensed retail pharmacies. Pharmacies are required by law to submit data weekly for all Schedule II – IV controlled substances dispensed. Controlled substances reported include opioids, sedative hypnotics, benzodiazepines, stimulants, and other drugs. Legislation for the PDMP was passed in 2009.

### How does it work?

Authorized system users can logon to the PDMP Web-based system and request a report of the controlled substance medications dispensed to their patients. The patient report is a line list of prescriptions dispensed. Prescription records include information on the dispenser, prescriber and name and quantity of drug.

### What is its purpose?

The primary purpose of the PDMP is to provide practitioners and pharmacists a tool to improve health care. These medications place patients at risk for overdose, side effects, increased effect when combined with alcohol and/or other drugs, risk for physical dependence, and risk for developing patterns of drug abuse. The PDMP provides practitioners and pharmacists a means to identify and address these problems.

### Who can access PDMP information?

Access to PDMP information is regulated by law—ORS 431.966. Prescribing health care practitioners and pharmacists are encouraged to apply for an account. Ap-

proved applicants have 24-hour, seven-day-a-week online access to the PDMP. All others – including patients – may submit request forms to obtain a patient report. A patient report includes a list of anyone who queried the patient’s information to ensure proper access. Law enforcement requests must be pursuant to a valid court order. Health care regulatory board requests must be certified by the executive director.

### Is patient privacy protected?

PDMP patient information is protected by law—ORS 431.966.

### For more information:

Go to [www.orpdmp.com](http://www.orpdmp.com).

Top 12 Prescriptions, JAN 2012—NOV 2012		
Drug	Number of Rx	% of all Rx
Hydrocodone	1,850,404	29.3%
Oxycodone	1,060,866	16.8%
Zolpidem	501,186	7.9%
Lorazepam	394,077	6.2%
Alprazolam	353,773	5.6%
Clonazepam	309,656	4.9%
Amphet ASP/AMPHET/D-AMPHET	247,413	3.9%
Methylphenidate	225,887	3.6%
Morphine	222,113	3.5%
Diazepam	174,454	2.8%
Methadone	116,594	1.8%
Pseudoephedrine	112,382	1.8%

\*Data content source: Oregon PDMP Data System