

# Deadline Extended for Providers Renewing Pain Management and Opioid Use Training

UR Medicine prescribers with a DEA certificate and who are licensed to treat and provide patients with controlled substances, must complete 3 hours of course work in pain management, palliative care, and addiction every 3 years according to NYS and federal requirements. Providers originally scheduled for renewal on July 1, 2020, have been granted an extension to October 1, 2020 as a result of COVID-19.

URMC's Opioid Task Force has assembled the following options for providers to satisfy their training and attestation responsibilities.

- URMC: [Provider Pain Management NYS Training Renewal Curriculum](#)\*
- University at Buffalo: [Opioid Prescriber Training Program, Part 1 and Part 2](#)\*\*
- Medical Society of the State of New York (*free to MSSNY members only, \$150 for non-members*): [Pain Management, Palliative Care and Addiction Course](#)

The accredited courses can be found via the [Opioid Task Force portal](#) or by searching "Provider Pain Management NYS Training Renewal" within [MyPath/Achieve](#). Once the training is completed, prescribers must submit an [online attestation form](#) to the NYS Health Commerce System to officially be re-certified. A link and instructions on how to complete the form can be found within the curriculum.

These six topics and the New York State Mandatory Prescriber Education Requirements they satisfy are included in the curriculum:

- Destigmatization of Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) – Response to abuse and addiction (.5 CE)
- Naloxone Prescribing – Managing acute pain (.5 CE)
- Overview of Opioid Efforts – Response to abuse and addiction (.5 CE)
- Patient Centered Pain Management – Pain management (.25 CE)
- Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment and the Drug Abuse Screening Test – Prevention, screening and signs of addiction (.5 CE)
- Scope of Pain: Managing Pain and Opioid Use – Appropriate prescribing, palliative medicine and end-of-life care (1.0 CE).

"Through the Opioid Task Force's efforts, we've established an easy, comprehensive training package aimed to proactively prevent opioid misuse and practice," noted Michael Apostolakos, M.D., chief medical officer. "Continuous re-certification will ensure we're better able to identify patients who are at risk of drug abuse, and implement effective pain management plans for them."

Under Title Eight of the Education Law, providers must be re-certified once every three years to maintain an active license to prescribe in New York State. Prescribers are required to keep documentation of completed course work for a minimum of six years for audit purposes.

"It is vital that we continue to educate ourselves on practicing safe pain management in patient care," said Robert Panzer, M.D., chief quality officer and associate vice president. "All providers have an opportunity to alleviate the impact of the opioid epidemic within our community, and it starts with periodic training and education."

For questions about the NYS requirements, please contact [Robert Panzer](#).

*\*URMC course comes with \$20 fee for the Scope of Pain module through Boston University.*

*\*\*University at Buffalo course Part 1 and Part 2 is free.*