



Washington State Health Care Authority

## Pharmacies play a key role in safe medication storage.

Research shows that Washington residents know they should lock up their opioid prescriptions, but only 26% actually do. Pharmacies participating in Washington State Health Care Authority’s Pharmacy Safe Storage Program can help change that.

### How it Works

The program is based on the social marketing principle that making a personal commitment can affect positive behavior change. By asking patients to make a simple pledge, pharmacies can play a key role in safe medication storage. Participating pharmacies:

- Talk with patients receiving opioid prescriptions about safe medication storage.
- Ask patients to pledge to lock up their medication.
- Provide patients locking devices (at no cost to the patient or pharmacy).



Since the program began in 2020:

# 3,255

PEOPLE

have been talked to about safe storage.

# 1,877

PEOPLE

pledged to lock up their medications.

# 1,742

LOCKING DEVICES

have been distributed to patients with opioid prescriptions.

### Get Involved

Pharmacies in Washington that participate in this free four-month program receive:

- A supply of free medication locking devices to provide to patients who receive opioid prescriptions.
- Promotional materials including posters, informational rack cards, ready-to-use social media posts, eNews content and pledge forms.
- Promotion of your pharmacy’s involvement within your market area through media relations and social media.
- Ongoing support to ensure a straightforward and smooth implementation of the program.

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