

Why Has Washington State “Suspended” Development of their PMP Program?

The Department of Health (DOH) was given funding to create a Prescription Monitoring Program. The program’s purpose is to identify and stop prescription drug misuse by collecting all the records for [schedule II, III, IV, and V](#) drugs. This information is then made available to medical providers and pharmacists as a tool in patient care. The State Law creating the program is [RCW 70.225](#).

Program Suspended Due to Budget Cuts:

The Department of Health has suspended the Prescription Monitoring Program. The department took this step to respond to the financial difficulties facing the state and nation. All state agencies are implementing program cuts and other cost-saving actions to cope with budget shortfalls. The department carefully looked through its entire budget to find savings. The suspension of this program was a difficult decision. Other programs have also been suspended or reduced.

For more information you can contact Lisa Salmi, Executive Manager, at (360) 236-2927.