
Medicine disposal bins now available

January 30, 2020



The Department of Health Care Services and the California Product Stewardship Council are promoting a federal grant-funded California Statewide Drug Take-Back Program to help combat the opioid crisis and reduce the misuse of medications.

This program will expand options for the public to safely discard unwanted medicines by using a statewide network of take-back bins. The program will also promote a medication mail-back envelope program.

Applications are now being accepted for the free bins, with paid disposal, through August 2020. The bins can remain on the property of the host location beyond the duration of the grant.

The bins can be used for both controlled and non-controlled medications, for people and for pets. They will be placed across California at Drug Enforcement Agency-approved locations, including California-licensed pharmacies, hospitals or clinics with onsite pharmacies, and law enforcement departments.

Grant funds will cover the cost of the drug take-back bins, disposal services through August, technical assistance, and promotion of the bin location throughout the duration of the project.

The stewardship council is encouraging pharmacies, law enforcement agencies, and healthcare facilities to apply for a medicine collection bin.

Pharmacies, hospitals and law enforcement departments interested in a free medicine collection bin may complete a application at www.takebackdrugs.org/.