



VAWD Accreditation Program

Established in 2004, the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy® (NABP®) Verified-Accredited Wholesale Distributors® (VAWD®) program was introduced to help protect the public from the threat of counterfeit drugs affecting the United States drug supply.

Steps to VAWD Accreditation

The following steps are required to become VAWD accredited:

- Submit an application, required documentation, and specified fees online via the NABP Web site.
- Verify wholesale distributor and designated representative licenses (if applicable).
- Check the NABP Disciplinary Clearinghouse for wholesale distributors.
- Perform applicable criminal and financial background checks.
- Review policies and procedures for the operation of the wholesale distributor.
- Complete an on-site survey.

The VAWD Accreditation Program:

- Is for wholesale distributors of prescription drugs and devices that reside in the United States.
- Provides assurance that the wholesale distribution facility:
 - Operates legitimately
 - Is validly licensed in good standing
 - Employs security and best practices for safely distributing prescription drugs from manufacturers to pharmacies and other institutions

Benefits of VAWD Accreditation:

- Provides assurance that the facility meets legal standards of practice for wholesalers
- Initial survey and regular resurveys serve as impartial, third-party audits of facility policies, procedures, and practices
- Accreditation relieves wholesale distributors of the burden of seller-to-buyer due diligence as may be required under state laws

Additional VAWD Facts:

- Indiana was the first state to require VAWD accreditation. Several other states either passed legislation or recognized through policy the accreditation concept or specifically recognize VAWD.
- A full listing of VAWD facilities is available under Accreditation Programs on the NABP Web site, www.nabp.net.
- To ensure continued compliance, all VAWD accredited sites are resurveyed once every three years.
- The VAWD program initial application fee is \$5,500. Annual participation fees range from \$1,000 to \$4,000 depending on if the facility is participating in a resurvey year.