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Drug Enforcement Administration backs away from major changes in registration renewals

Starting January 1, 2017, The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will no longer send registrants their second renewal notification by mail. Instead, an electronic reminder to renew will be sent to the email address associated with the DEA registration.

At this time, DEA will otherwise retain its current policy and procedures with respect to renewal and reinstatement of registration. This policy is as follows:

- If a renewal application is submitted in a timely manner prior to expiration, the registrant may continue operations, authorized by the registration, beyond the expiration date until final action is taken on the application.
- DEA allows the reinstatement of an expired registration for one calendar month after the expiration date. If the registration is not renewed within that calendar month, an application for a new DEA registration will be required.
- Regardless of whether a registration is reinstated within the calendar month after expiration, federal law prohibits the handling of controlled substances or List 1 chemicals for any period of time under an expired registration.

Last fall the DEA announced several significant changes in the registration process, including the elimination a second renewal notice, the elimination of the grace period for renewals, and the elimination of the ability to renew a registration online after the expiration date. On December 20, 2016, the DEA released a notice that it would not pursue the changes, but will retain its current policy (described in this press release). The controversial changes had been scheduled to become effective January 1, 2017.

For more information go to: <https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drugreg/index.html>