

Past Accomplishments:

- 1879 - A convention for pharmacists/druggists convened in Utica. As a result, the New York State Pharmacists Association is formed. Its goal is to achieve formal recognition of Pharmacy as a profession.
- 1884 - The New York State Pharmacists Association has its first victory. Like other recognized professions, pharmacy will have a State board.
- 1884 - Governor Grover Cleveland (who was also elected President that same year) appoints the first members to the New York State Board of Pharmacy.
- 1906 - The State Legislature passes and the Governor signs legislation making New York the first state to require a college degree in order to obtain a pharmacists license.
- 1927 - The New York Pharmacists magazine founded.
- 1931 - The Association is established sufficiently to create a full-time position for its Executive Secretary.
- 1932 - The Association achieves another victory for the profession under a new law that prohibits anyone from practicing pharmacy without a diploma from a pharmacy or medical college. A licensing exam is also established. (The law was not strictly enforced and applied only to New York City.)
- 1934 & 1935 - Two important Association bills pass. Medicines containing poisonous, deleterious and/or habit forming drugs can be sold only at registered pharmacies.
- 1951 - Federal law known as the Durham/Humphrey Act creates legend drugs.
- 1957 - The New York State Pharmacists Association changes its name to the Pharmaceutical Society of the State of New York (PSSNY).
- 1960 - State law mandates five years for professional education.
- 1967 - NYS Medicaid program is established; fee is \$1.60.
- 1968 - NYS Medicaid fee increases to \$1.80.
- 1971 - PSSNY establishes House of Delegates.
- 1971 - Federal Justice Department rules that state associations of pharmacists may not negotiate directly with third parties, as this constitutes a violation of antitrust laws.
- 1972 - NYS enacts the two line prescription blank for physicians to specify brand or generic.
- 1972 - PSSNY's first mail ballot was sent out.
- 1977 - Medicaid fee increases to \$2.60 as a settlement to PSSNY vs. Perales.
- 1977 - PSSNY and the state enter into a "Stipulation of Agreement" that establishes the Pharmacy Advisory Committee, annual hearings on dispensing fees and surveys to determine average wholesale price.
- 1977 - 'Substitution Permissible' if written by a physician on script allows substitution of cheaper brand.
- 1985 - PSSNY moves headquarters to Albany.
- 1987 - PSSNY challenges and wins in state court the legal point that like physicians and lawyers, pharmacists practice a profession and are therefore exempt from New York's antitrust laws which apply to business.
- 1987 - PSSNY wins provisions in EPIC legislation; mandatory unwaivable co-payment, community pharmacy network and fees higher than Medicaid.
- 1987 - Pharmacy laws now require "Dispense as Written" (DAW) for brands.
- 1988, 1989 & 1991 - PSSNY wins important victories in both Federal District Court and Second Circuit Court of Appeals which uphold the Stipulation of Agreement between the

Society and the NYS Department of Social Services. (Keeping Medicaid reimbursement higher than the State wants to pay.)

- 1990 - PSSNY-sponsored legislation passes eliminating physician dispensing for profit.
- 1990 - OBRA '90 passes in Washington, creating prospective and retrospective DUR in Medicaid, mandating manufacturer rebates, and prohibiting reductions in dispensing fees for five years.
- 1991 - PSSNY defeats Governor Cuomo's .6% gross revenue tax on pharmacy.
- 1992 - PSSNY supports enactment of mandatory patient counseling regulations.
- 1992 - PSSNY sponsored legislation is enacted prohibiting physician ownership of a pharmacy and restricting the physician from dispensing quantities larger than a 72-hour supply.
- 1992 - PSSNY again defeats Governor Cuomo's Medicaid budget.
- 1993 - PSSNY suggests changes to professional discipline reform law.
- 1993 - PSSNY again defeats Medicaid budget cuts in pharmacy.
- 1993 - President Clinton proposes Health Care Reform. PSSNY joins NARD in support.
- 1993 - PSSNY defeats legislation that would have required expiration dates on prescription labels.
- 1993 - PSSNY fights Medicaid co-payments in federal court and prevents enactment of state law.
- 1994 - PSSNY fights Medicaid co-payments in state court and prevents enactment of state law; PSSNY appeals to Supreme Court Appellant Division.
- 1995 - Medicaid changes reimbursement formula to brand drugs AWP-10% plus \$4.50 and generics MAC+\$5.50.
- 1995 - Pharmaceutical Society of the State of New York changes its name to Pharmacists Society of the State of New York.
- 1995 - NYS Medicaid program implements co-payments.
- 1996 - Governor Pataki signs PSSNY supported bill mandating continuing education for pharmacists. New York becomes the 48th state to enact mandatory CE.
- 1996 - Professional Discipline reform with new Statute of Limitations passes Senate and Assembly.
- 1996 - PSSNY successful in NYS Legislature passing bill that carves out the Medicaid pharmacy benefit program from mandatory managed care.
- 1997 - Governor Pataki agrees to sign Medicaid Pharmacy Carve-Out bill after a technical amendment.