



KENTUCKY ALL SCHEDULE ELECTRONIC REPORTING (KASPER) SYSTEM

September 5, 2025

Important Notice: Bromazolam Becomes a Schedule I Controlled Substance in Kentucky

Bromazolam Classified as a Schedule I Controlled Substance in Kentucky

Effective August 19, 2025, Bromazolam products became Schedule I controlled substances in Kentucky. All applicable provisions of KRS Chapter 218A and 902 KAR Chapter 55 apply.

What is Bromazolam?

Bromazolam is a triazolo-benzodiazepine originally developed in the 1970s. It has never been approved for medical use in the United States or any other country. Structurally, it is related to alprazolam (commonly known as Xanax), which has been classified as a Schedule IV controlled substance since 1981.

- First detected in 2016 in Sweden's illicit drug supply.
- Found in the U.S. illicit supply starting in 2019.
- 2,972 identifications of Bromazolam were reported nationally between 2019–2022, with cases rising sharply in 2021.

At the time of writing, Bromazolam is not scheduled under the federal Controlled Substances Act and is not internationally controlled by the World Health Organization.

Why is Bromazolam Scheduled in Kentucky?

Kentucky classified Bromazolam as a Schedule I controlled substance due to its high potential for abuse, lack of accepted medical use, and safety concerns.

- Even short-term use can lead to tolerance, psychological dependence, and potential physical dependence.
- There are no FDA-approved medical uses for Bromazolam.
- Bromazolam was linked to 48 overdose deaths in 2024



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Impact on Prescribers and Pharmacists

Since Bromazolam has never been available for prescribing or dispensing, there is no impact on prescribing practices or pharmacy operations.

Schedule I Controlled Substances

Schedule I drugs are those with:

- High potential for abuse
- No accepted medical use in the U.S.
- Lack of safety under medical supervision

Examples include heroin, LSD, and methaqualone.

For More Information

For additional details, please contact the OIG Drug Enforcement and Professional Practices Branch at (502) 564-7985.