



DEA Controlled Substances

Controlled substances are any drugs or chemical substances whose possession and use are regulated under the United States Controlled Substances Act (CSA). These substances have stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effects on the higher functions of the central nervous system, and tend to promote abuse or physiological/psychological dependence.

Schedule

There are five schedules of controlled substances regulated under the United States CSA. Schedule I substances have the most restrictions and Schedule V substances have the least. View an [alphabetical list of the drugs and substances](#) currently regulated by the CSA and their corresponding schedule.

Only Principal Investigators registered with the appropriate federal license can order controlled substances. The registrant is then responsible for managing the controlled substances in accordance with all regulatory requirements including security, inventory, disposal, and recordkeeping.

Registration

1. If you plan to use controlled substances with animal research at UNC Charlotte, please contact the [Office of Research Protections and Integrity \(ORPI\)](#).
2. For all other controlled substance research at UNC Charlotte, please complete an application for [DEA registration](#) and notify EHS of your plans for use.

DEA Listed Chemicals

The federal Chemical Diversion and Trafficking Act (CDTA) lists approximately 40 chemicals as part of a system of regulatory controls intended to address the diversion of chemicals important for illegal manufacture of controlled substances.

The CDTA created two categories (called List 1 and List 2) which are precursor chemicals for making illicit drugs and substances. Labs that order these DEA listed chemicals are NOT required to obtain a DEA license; however, the purchaser may find that some of their chemical distributors may request additional information (e.g.: a “sign off” from a responsible official knowledgeable about the intended work with the precursor; a statement of why a precursor chemical has a legitimate research purpose; a signed Authorized Purchaser Form).

If you have questions regarding controlled substances, please submit a [Safety Service Request](#) to the Environmental Health & Safety Office.

