

Frequently Asked Questions for Reciprocity

1. How do I begin the reciprocity process with North Carolina?

Complete a Data Questionnaire with the North Carolina (NC) Board of Pharmacy which can be obtained from the Board's website (www.ncbop.org) at Pharmacist Reciprocity and sign the release form (#1 on procedure sheet). Submit both of these to the NC Board and you will be mailed an acknowledgment letter with procedure sheet. **Thoroughly read the procedure sheet (also on website).**

2. On the application for reciprocity/data questionnaire, am I required to disclose any type of action taken against my pharmacist license? Yes. ANY AND ALL actions taken by any regulatory body must be disclosed regardless of when the action was taken. This includes any pending actions.

3. How do I know if I meet requirements to reciprocate to North Carolina?

The requirements are posted on the Board's website. North Carolina does not reciprocate with California.

4. I am a Foreign Graduate; can I still reciprocate to North Carolina?

If you are a foreign graduate and did not attend an accredited school in the US then you must take and pass the Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Exam (FPGEE), which is handled through the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP). You are required to pass the FPGEE before reciprocity with NC is possible and a copy of the certificate must be submitted to the NC Board.

5. Is there a waiting period before I can reciprocate to North Carolina from my state of licensure by examination? No, once you are licensed by examination in another state you can begin the process. (Except for California).

6. How do I obtain the law books as a study aide?

The law book can be reviewed or downloaded from the Board's website www.ncbop.org. (#5 on procedure sheet)

7. How long does it take for the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy to complete the Official Application? Normally it takes 4 to 6 weeks (sometimes longer). The Preliminary Application is also available on NABP's website www.nabp.net (under licensure transfer).

8. What is the MPJE and where do I find information about the exam?

The Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Exam (MPJE) for North Carolina is a computerized exam developed to assess the pharmacy jurisprudence requirements of NC; each state that requires the MPJE has its own individual exam. You may take the exam at different testing centers throughout the US. The Bulletin explaining the MPJE is located on NABP's website, www.nabp.net under exam.

9. Where do I send my MPJE registration and fee?

Registration for the MPJE is handled through NABP. You can register to take the exam online with a Visa or MasterCard on NABP's website www.nabp.net (under examinations). The fee for that exam is \$200.00.

10. Can I take the MPJE while waiting for my Official Application to be completed?

Yes, you can register and take the MPJE while waiting for the Official Application to be completed unless you have issues with your license such as past/pending disciplinary actions or criminal charges. You will not be permitted to take exam until you are approved.

11. What other materials can I use to aide me in studying for the MPJE?

You really need to read page 19 and 20 (Competency Statement) in the MPJE Bulletin, which explains the exam. The bottom of page 19, last paragraph before, "Please Note" references other study material. You can read Frequently Asked Questions and Past Newsletters on the Board's website. Review the NC Board's website for additional study aide material under Reciprocity.

12. If I have questions or comments about the MPJE whom do I contact?

The contact information is provided on page 21 of the MPJE Bulletin.

13. How do I find out my score for the MPJE?

The NC Board of Pharmacy receives scores electronically within 3 to 5 business days from the date in which the exam is taken. You then receive a letter from the NC Board with the score. If you fail the exam you must wait 30 days before retaking the exam. Resend the MPJE registration form and fee to NABP just like the first time you registered.

14. How long is the MPJE score valid in North Carolina?

The score is valid 2 years from the date of passing.

15. What is the purpose of the Reciprocity meeting?

The meeting is to verify that you meet the technical requirements for reciprocity. It is a “meet and greet” meeting as well as an opportunity for the candidate to ask questions and become more familiar with pharmacy laws in North Carolina. The Board believes in good communication with licensed pharmacists in NC. (#8 on procedure sheet). The Reciprocity Meeting Presentation is now available on the Board’s website for you to review. Make note of any questions you may have and bring to the meeting you attend.

16. When are the meetings and do I need to bring anything with me to the meeting?

Meetings are held on the odd-numbered months of the year. The dates are available on the Board Calendar (posted on the Board’s website). You need to bring the \$600.00 reciprocity fee (payable to North Carolina Board of Pharmacy). If you failed to submit a copy of your birth certificate, you will need to bring a copy to the meeting.

17. When should I expect to attend the meeting?

Once you have submitted your Official Application to the NC Board of Pharmacy and the Board has received your passing MPJE score you will receive a letter informing you when the next reciprocity meeting will be held. The Board works with all reciprocity candidates to consider their needs as well as making certain that candidates meet all of NC’s requirements to reciprocate.

18. How soon should I expect to wait to be licensed after attending the reciprocity meeting?

Please wait several days following the meeting to inquire about your license number (having met all reciprocity requirements). The full Board meets the day after the reciprocity meeting to approve reciprocity candidates. You are not required to be present for this meeting. Information has to be entered in the Board’s database and a license number assigned to practice. **If you need to obtain your license number you can now access your license number by going to Pharmacist then Verify a License on the Board’s website (www.ncbop.org), enter your name.** The certificate is normally mailed by the end of the week. Please do not plan to begin work the week of the reciprocity meeting. Again, we try to consider the needs of the candidates but licensing procedures must be followed.

19. Does my Official Application have an expiration date?

The Official Application is valid for one year from the date of issue by NABP. A candidate will be required to begin the reciprocity process again and pay all fees if the application expires before completing all the reciprocity requirements for NC.