

OUT-OF-PRACTICE STATUS UNDER 21 NCAC 46.1602(c)

Board Rule .1602(c) (21 NCAC 46.1602(c)) states that the Board “shall require” a candidate for licensure without examination – *i.e.*, licensure by reinstatement or licensure by reciprocity – who has not practiced pharmacy within two years of application “to obtain additional continuing education, practical pharmacy experience, successfully complete one or more parts of the Board’s licensure examination, or a combination of the foregoing, as the Board deems necessary to ensure that the applicant can safely and properly practice pharmacy.”

The policy below sets forth the Board’s default requirements for an applicant who has not practiced pharmacy for a period preceding an application for licensure without examination:

An applicant who, for at least two (2) years prior to application, has been continuously licensed to practice pharmacy by a state that deems licensees from this state to be equivalent is not subject to Rule .1602(c)’s additional requirements.

An applicant who first obtained a license to practice pharmacy by a state that deems licensees from this state to be equivalent less than two (2) years prior to application, but who has been continuously licensed by that state since, is not subject to Rule .1602(c)’s additional requirements.

An applicant who has not practiced pharmacy for less than two (2) years at the time of application must obtain fifteen (15) hours of continuing education for each year out of practice, five (5) of which must be contact (live), as well as take and pass the North Carolina version of the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Exam (MPJE).

An applicant who has not practiced pharmacy for more than two (2) years, but less than five (5) years, must obtain 500 hours of internship under the supervision of a North Carolina-licensed pharmacist, obtain 15 hours of continuing education for each year out of practice, five (5) of which must be contact (live), as well as take and pass the North Carolina version of the MPJE.

An applicant who has not practiced pharmacy for more than five (5) years must obtain 1500 hours of internship under the supervision of a North Carolina-licensed pharmacist, take and pass the North American Pharmacy Licensure Examination (NAPLEX), and take and pass the North Carolina version of the MPJE.

An applicant who wishes the Board to waive or alter any of these requirements may submit a written request to the Board’s executive director at the time of application. Any such request should include any supporting information that the applicant deems relevant. The Board shall consider all such requests on a case-by-case basis.