

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE AS A PHARMACIST IN NORTH CAROLINA

To become licensed as a pharmacist in North Carolina, an applicant shall present to the Board of Pharmacy satisfactory evidence that the applicant:

1. has obtained 1,500 hours of practical experience in pharmacy under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist;
2. has graduated from an ACPE-accredited school of pharmacy, or has obtained Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Certification from the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy;
3. has achieved a passing score the NAPLEX (North American Pharmacy Licensure Examination) and the North Carolina version of MPJE (Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination).

EXPERIENCE IN PHARMACY

NOTE: The required practical pharmacy experience described below may be validated only through registration with the Board of Pharmacy or in structured academic programs approved by the Board. Persons eligible for registration under this program must have been accepted for admission to an accredited school or college of pharmacy or eligible to return to such school.

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The applicant shall show that he or she has obtained 1,500 hours of practical pharmacy experience under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist, said 1500 hours to be acquired after the satisfactory completion of two years of college work.

Foreign graduates may NOT begin internship prior to receiving the FPGEC certification. Foreign graduates must obtain their internship experience in the United States.

To practice as a pharmacy intern and obtain practical pharmacy experience in North Carolina, you must be registered with the Board of Pharmacy:

- Instructions for students enrolled in a school of pharmacy are found here:
<http://www.ncbop.org/Forms%20and%20Applications%20-%20Pharmacists/InternshipInstructionsPharmacyStudents.pdf>
- Instructions for licensure candidates holding FGPEC certification are here:
<http://www.ncbop.org/Forms%20and%20Applications%20-%20Pharmacists/InternshipInstructionsForeignGrads.pdf>

The Board recognizes all practical experiential training obtained as part of a Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum at an ACPE-accredited school of pharmacy.

Practical pharmacy experience gained during military service, after the satisfactory completion of two years of college work, and under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist is acceptable.

All practical pharmacy experience obtained in North Carolina outside of an ACPE-accredited Doctor of Pharmacy academic program shall be reported by a registered pharmacy intern via the Licensure Gateway. Detailed instructions here: <http://www.ncbop.org/Forms%20and%20Applications%20-%20Pharmacists/InternRecordingHoursHowTo.pdf>

EXAMINATIONS

The NAPLEX and MPJE exams will be administered daily, Monday through Saturday, excluding holidays, through Pearson VUE. You may register for the NAPLEX and MPJE online by visiting the National Board of Pharmacy's website: <http://www.nabp.pharmacy>.

NABP determines eligibility to sit for the licensure exams in North Carolina. Please contact NABP directly for their most current fee schedule. The Board of Pharmacy determines eligibility for licensure upon a candidate's successful completion of the exams and review of a complete application for licensure.

The NAPLEX is a 6 hour theoretical computer-adaptive examination that consists of 225 multiple-choice test questions. The MPJE is a 2.5 hour, computer-adaptive jurisprudence examination that consists of 120 test questions. A candidate who is unable to achieve a passing score on a licensure examination in five attempts is ineligible for licensure in North Carolina. 21 NCAC 46.1505(d).

Study materials for the NC MPJE are found on our website, under the Pharmacy Law/Rules tab (<http://www.ncbop.org/lawandrules.htm>).

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Additional guidance on the licensure application process for pharmacy students is found here: http://www.ncbop.org/faqs/Pharmacist/faq_PharmacyStudents.htm

Additional guidance on intern registration and recording non-curricular pharmacy experience is found here: http://www.ncbop.org/faqs/Pharmacist/faq_Internship.htm