



Pharmacy Board of Australia

REGISTRATION STANDARD: CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1 December 2015

Summary

This registration standard sets out the Pharmacy Board of Australia's minimum requirements for continuing professional development (CPD) for pharmacists to competently and safely provide services to the public.

Does this standard apply to me?

This standard applies to applicants for general registration and all registered pharmacists, including those changing registration type.

It does not apply to pharmacists with non-practising registration or to students.

What must I do?

Individuals applying for general registration are required to declare whether they meet this standard.

Pharmacists who are seeking to renew their registration must declare whether they have met this standard during the previous registration period.

To meet this registration standard you must:

1. plan your CPD on an annual basis by:
 - a. reflecting on the role you perform and the services you provide (i.e. your scope of practice), and any proposed changes to your practice, against the current National Competency Standards Framework for Pharmacists in Australia to identify relevant competencies
 - b. identifying professional development needs relevant to these identified competencies, and
 - c. identifying suitable CPD activities which address your professional development needs.
2. complete CPD activities that have an aggregate value of 40 or more CPD credits during each 12-month CPD period ending 30 September, which:
 - a. consist of at least 20 CPD credits from Group 2 and/or Group 3 activities (that is, a maximum of 20 CPD credits from Group 1 activities)

- b. consist of a range of types of activities (examples may include education programs, seminars, workshops, lectures, conferences, discussion groups, multimedia or website-based programs, research and preparation for the publication of an article in a peer-reviewed journal, review of professional journals and reference texts)
- c. are of significant intellectual or practical content and deal primarily with matters directly related to the practice of pharmacy
- d. are conducted by persons who are qualified by practical or academic experience in the material covered and/or comprise subject material from reputable sources
- e. are relevant to your scope of practice, and
- f. address your professional development needs, upon reflection of how the activity has impacted your practice.

Are there exemptions to this standard?

The Board may grant an exemption or variation from this standard in exceptional circumstances, such as serious illness or bereavement, that result in a substantial absence from practice.

What does this mean for me?

When you apply for registration

You need to meet this standard when you apply for general registration. However, you don't need to meet this standard when you apply for provisional or limited registration for the first time in Australia.

When you apply for renewal of registration

When you apply to renew your registration, you are required to declare whether you meet this registration standard.

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During the registration period

Your compliance with this standard may be audited from time to time. It may also be checked if the Board receives a notification about you.

Evidence

You should maintain records of your CPD activity undertaken during the previous three full CPD periods.

What happens if I don't meet this standard?

The National Law establishes possible consequences if you don't meet this standard, including that:

- the Board can impose a condition or conditions on your registration or can refuse an application for registration or renewal of registration when you do not meet a requirement in an approved registration standard for the profession (sections 82, 83 and 112 of the National Law)
- a failure to undertake the CPD required by this standard is not an offence but may be behaviour for which health, conduct or performance action may be taken by the Pharmacy Board of Australia (section 128 of the National Law), and
- registration standards, codes or guidelines may be used in disciplinary proceedings against you as evidence of what constitutes appropriate practice or conduct for the pharmacy profession (section 41 of the National Law).

Guidelines on continuing professional development for pharmacists and frequently asked questions

The Board's *Guidelines on continuing professional development* provide more information about how to meet this standard. You are expected to understand and apply these guidelines together with this registration standard.

You can also access the Board's *Frequently asked questions – continuing professional development* and *Frequently asked questions for pharmacy interns – continuing professional development* for further information and clarification on specific issues relating to CPD.

Authority

This registration standard was approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council on 27 August 2015.

Registration standards are developed under section 38 of the National Law and are subject to wide- ranging consultation.

Definitions

National Law means the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory.

Continuing professional development is the means by which members of the profession maintain, improve and broaden their knowledge, expertise and competence, and develop the personal and professional qualities required throughout their professional lives.

Practice means any role, whether remunerated or not, in which the individual uses their skills and knowledge as a pharmacist in their profession. For the purposes of this registration standard, practice is not restricted to the provision of direct clinical care. It also includes working in a direct non-clinical relationship with clients; working in management, administration, education, research, advisory, regulatory or policy development roles; and any other roles that impact on safe, effective delivery of services in the profession.

Scope of practice means the professional role and services that an individual health practitioner is educated and competent to perform.

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Review

This standard will be reviewed at least every five years.

Last reviewed: 1 December 2015

This standard replaces the previous registration standard dated 1 July 2010.