



Pharmacy Board of Australia

REGISTRATION STANDARD: EXAMINATIONS FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR GENERAL REGISTRATION

1 December 2015

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This registration standard sets out how an individual can meet the examination requirement for eligibility for general registration as required under section 52(1)(b)(ii) of the National Law. To be eligible for general registration, an individual must successfully complete an examination or examinations determined by the Board, to demonstrate their ability to competently and safely practise as a pharmacist. These examinations assess against the competencies outlined in the current *National Competency Standards Framework for Pharmacists in Australia*.

Does this standard apply to me?

This registration standard applies to applicants who must meet the eligibility requirements for general registration outlined in section 52 of the National Law and applicants for general registration who have previously met the eligibility requirements for general registration. It does not apply to those individuals entitled to register pursuant to the *Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997*.

What must I do?

To be eligible for general registration, you must successfully complete a registration examination conducted by or on behalf of the Board which may consist of:

1. a written examination or examinations, and/or
2. an oral examination or examinations.

An individual holding provisional registration will be required to undertake a written examination conducted by the Australian Pharmacy Council on behalf of the Board, and an oral examination (practice).

An individual holding limited registration will be required to undertake an oral examination (pharmacy law and ethics) or other examination(s) deemed appropriate by the Board to assess their competence to practise.

The examinations will be conducted in accordance with policies published by the Board.

Are there exemptions to this standard?

The Board reserves the right to consider and / or grant an exemption to this standard on the basis of applicable Board guidelines or policies, and reserves the right at any time to revoke such an exemption.

Guidelines and explanatory notes

The Board's *Oral examination candidate guide* has been published to assist applicants in understanding the eligibility criteria and the rules for conduct of the oral examination for general registration. Information regarding the written examination is published on the website of the Australian Pharmacy Council.

The Board has also published criteria for entry to examinations and issued policies regarding the applicable examinations required for eligibility for general registration which:

- are based on qualifications held by applicants for general registration, and
- specify validity periods for examination results for general registration.

What does this mean for me?

Prior to registration

You will be required to lodge an application to undertake a registration examination, entry to which is subject to eligibility criteria contained in policies published by the Board.

When you apply for registration

When you apply for general registration as a pharmacist, evidence of successful completion of the applicable examination(s) must be available.

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What happens if I don't meet this standard?

If you do not meet this standard, you do not meet the requirement of section 52(1)(b)(ii) of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law as in force in each state and territory (National Law) and are ineligible for general registration.

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.

Eligibility criteria are a set of requirements that must be satisfied in order to indicate when an applicant may be eligible to be granted entry to a written or oral examination.

Oral examination (pharmacy law and ethics) is an oral examination delivered by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) on behalf of the Board, on pharmacy law and ethics.

Oral examination (practice) is a national oral examination delivered by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) on behalf of the Board, on pharmacy practice.

Written examination is a multiple choice examination on pharmaceutical calculations, pharmacy law and ethics, and pharmacy practice. It is conducted by the Australian Pharmacy Council on behalf of the Board.

More information

Pharmacy Board of Australia *Registration examination policy* (to be developed)

Pharmacy Board of Australia *Oral examination candidate guide*

National Competency Standards Framework for Pharmacists in Australia

Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) website

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.