



INFORMATION ON BECOMING A PHARMACIST IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Glossary of Terms

BC Pharmacy Practice Manual: contains essential information about legislation and standards of practice

College of Pharmacists of British Columbia (CPBC): Is the regulatory authority for pharmacy and pharmacists in BC.

Canadian Pharmacy Practice Programme (CP3): Is the program offered by the UBC Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Division of Continuing Pharmacy Professional Development (CPPD). The program is designed to assist internationally-trained pharmacists to achieve the competencies for practice in Canada or Canadian-trained pharmacists to re-enter practice or provide updates on core competencies for practicing pharmacists.

English language proficiency (ELP): Is a requirement for all pharmacists practising in BC. Pharmacists need to be able to speak and write English so they can communicate effectively with patients and other health-care workers. A number of testing options enable international pharmacy graduates to demonstrate their English skills.

Framework of Professional Practice (FPP): Is the College's standards of practice document that describes good pharmacy practice, what BC pharmacists do in their daily work, and how they know they are doing it well.

HPA: Means the Health Professions Act, the provincial legislation describing the College's authority for pharmacists.

International Pharmacy Graduate (IPG): Is an applicant who has a degree in pharmacy from a university outside of Canada or the United States.

Jurisprudence Exam: Is an examination administered by the College that tests knowledge of the laws about the production, distribution, advertising, sale, and use of drugs in BC.

Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA): Is an agreement signed by most organizations that regulate pharmacy in Canada. This agreement makes it easy for qualified pharmacists to move from one region to another. The College recognizes the qualifications of pharmacists registered as practising and in good standing with provinces who have signed the MRA.

Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE): Is a practical exam that assesses communication, problem-solving skills and overall performance skills.

National Association of Regulatory Pharmacy Authorities (NAPRA): Is the national association of provincial regulatory authorities which enable a national approach to common issues.

Notarized or certified copy: Is a copy of an original document which is certified as a true copy by a lawyer, notary public, or other qualified official.

Notary public: Is an official who is authorized to certify or attest documents and take affidavits.

Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC): Is the independent national pharmacy examining body incorporated under Canadian federal laws.

Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) evaluating exam: Assesses applicants' knowledge of pharmacy theory.



Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) qualifying exam: Assesses applicants' expertise in clinical pharmacy practice.

PODSA: Means the Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act, the provincial legislation describing the College's authority for pharmacies and drugs.

Preceptor: Is a registered pharmacist who supervises interns and meets the College's qualifications for preceptors.

Professional Development and Assessment Program (PDAP): Is the College program that ensures BC pharmacists' knowledge and skills are current. All BC registered pharmacists need to meet the College's standards of practice. PDAP encourages lifelong learning while ensuring safe and effective pharmacy practice outcomes.

Registration: The process of becoming registered to practice pharmacy in BC.

Structured Practical Training (SPT) Program: Is a College program that helps you develop professionally by allowing you to apply your knowledge and skills under the supervision of a practising BC pharmacist. The length of internship varies depending on an applicant's qualifications and prior experience.

University of British Columbia: The only university in BC that offers a pharmacy degree program.