



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

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LICENSE INFORMATION FOR FOREIGN PHARMACY GRADUATES

In order to become licensed in Oregon, you are **not** required to be an American citizen, however, if you have not obtained a naturalization document from the Immigration and Naturalization Services Department of the Office of Homeland Security you must have a passport with a valid U.S. Visa authorizing you to work in the United States (such as an H1B). If you hold an Student Visa (F-1) you are not entitled to have a Oregon Intern License unless you also have an EAD (Employment Authorization Document) issued to you from the Office of Homeland Security.

All Pharmacist Applicants must have obtained their first professional degree from an ACPE accredited college of pharmacy within the United States, have passed the North American Pharmacist Licensure Exam (NAPLEX) and the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Exam (MPJE). If you do not have an ACPE accredited college degree, please read the following procedure for foreign pharmacy graduates' to become licensed as Pharmacists in Oregon.

For graduates of Universities in Canada, please note that even though the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) recognizes the accreditation decisions of the Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP), the Oregon Board of Pharmacy still requires Canadian graduates to become FPGEC Certified.

PROCEDURE FOR FOREIGN GRADUATES TO BECOME LICENSED PHARMACISTS IN OREGON:

- I. To be eligible to take the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination and Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination, you must first be Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee (FPGEC) certified.
 - a. On January 1, 2003, the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy® (NABP®) required foreign-educated pharmacists to have earned their professional degree from a five-year curriculum program in order to apply for Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee® (FPGEC®) Certification. The program change affects only those foreign-educated pharmacists who have earned a pharmacy degree after January 1, 2003. These pharmacists must have graduated from a five-year degree program. The new curriculum requirements do not apply to foreign-educated pharmacists who have earned a four-year degree prior to January 1, 2003. These individuals will remain eligible for the FPGEC Certification under the current program requirements.

- b. The FPGEC curriculum revision was prompted by the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education's (ACPE) decision to revise the standards for the entry-level pharmacy degree in the United States from a baccalaureate degree in pharmacy to the six-year PharmD. ACPE, the accrediting body for pharmaceutical education in the United States, required the six-year degree of all accredited colleges and schools of pharmacy in 2004.
- c. NABP provides the FPGEC Certification program as a means of documenting the educational equivalency of a candidate's foreign pharmacy education, as well as the license and/or registration. In the process of FPGEC Certification, candidates provide documents that verify their educational backgrounds and licensure and/or registration. Candidates are also required to pass the Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Examination™ (FPGEE®), the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), and the Test of Spoken English (TSE) or Test of English as a Foreign Language (Internet Based Test) (TOEFL iBT).
- d. If you are not FPGEC certified, you must contact the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy ((Tel:847/391-4406) / (website: www.nabp.net)) to request an application and to see if you meet FPGEC eligibility.

II. Exams

- a. You will need to take and pass the FPGEC exam and either the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language Examination) and TSE (Test of Spoken English) **or** take and pass the TOEFL(iBT) (Test of English as a Foreign Language/Internet Based Examination).
- b. If you take the TOEFL, you must have passed with either a 213 (for the Computer-based examination) or 550 (for the Paper-based examination). If you take the TSE, you must have passed with a minimum score of 50.
- c. If you take the TOEFL iBT, you must have passed the Written exam with a minimum score of 24; the Speaking part with a minimum score of 26; the Listening part with a minimum score of 18 and the Reading part with a minimum score of 21.

After you have taken the FPGEE, you will receive an exam score report. Please note that this exam score report cannot be used to obtain an Intern License from the Oregon Board of Pharmacy. You **MUST** have received your official FPGEC Certificate before applying to become an Intern.

- III. You will receive an official FPGEC certificate from the Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee.
- IV. Once you have received your official FPGEC certificate, you are eligible to become an Oregon Pharmacy Intern and can apply for the Oregon North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX). **NOTE: If you do not have a U.S. Passport or Naturalization Documents, then you must have a U.S. Visa that shows you are entitle to work, such as a H1B/H2B or EAD document. If you hold a B1/B2 or F1 visa, you are not entitled to have a Oregon Intern License.** You can find a Pharmacy Intern Application on our website (www.pharmacy.state.or.us).

- a. The Oregon Board of Pharmacy requires that you send your **original** FPGEE, TOEFL and TSE certificates to us with your Intern Application, as well as a recent photograph of yourself and a copy of your passport or birth certificate (translated if necessary). We will photocopy the FPGEE, TOEFL and TSE certificates, have them verified with NABP for authenticity, and mail back your originals via certified or Federal Express mail.
- V. After becoming an Oregon Intern, you are eligible to request for and apply to take the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX). Contact the Oregon Board of Pharmacy for a NAPLEX application.
- a. Fill out the Oregon NAPLEX Application, have it signed by a Notary Public and return it with a \$50.00 check or money order made payable to the Oregon Board of Pharmacy.
 - b. Submit a photograph (passport size or larger).
 - c. Submit a copy of your Birth Certificate, U.S. Passport/Passport and US Visa or Naturalization Papers.
 - d. You will need to go to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy website (www.nabp.net) and fill out the NAPLEX and MPJE Registrations. You can also review the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination/Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination Bulletin which contains instructions on how to fill out the NAPLEX/MPJE Registrations. The current NAPLEX exam fee is \$465.00 payable to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy via MasterCard or Visa. The MPJE exam fee is currently \$185.00.
- VI. The State of Oregon requires 2000 hours of internship **after you have taken and passed the FPGEE, TOEFL, and TSE exams and AFTER the certificates have been verified by NABP.** The Oregon Board of Pharmacy does not accept the FPGEE Score Report.
- a. Internship or practice as a pharmacist **outside the United States cannot** and will not be accepted toward Oregon's internship requirement. Intern or professional practice performed **before** taking and passing the FPGEE, TOEFL, and TSE exams **will not** apply toward Oregon's required 2000 hours of internship.
 - b. You may complete hours as a licensed intern in another state working under a preceptor. However, you will need to report the hours to the board of pharmacy in that state and have that state's board of pharmacy certify your hours to us.
 - b. Once you have completed 2000 hours of internship, you will be eligible to apply for and take the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Exam (MPJE).
- VII. Upon successfully passing the NAPLEX and MPJE examinations, you will be mailed an Application for Licensure as an Oregon Pharmacy. The fee for your Oregon Pharmacist License is \$120.00.

If you have not taken the FPGEE, TOEFL/TSE or TOEFL iBT exams, you are not eligible to have an Oregon Intern License nor are you eligible to take the Oregon NAPLEX or MPJE examinations. Contact the NABP for more information about the FPGEE Requirements at:

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOARDS OF PHARMACY
1600 Feehanville Dr
Mount Prospect IL 60056**

**Phone number: 847/391-4406.
NABP e-mail Address: comm@nabp.net
NABP Web Address: www.nabp.net**

If you have further questions that have not been answered by this information handout, please contact either the NABP or the Oregon Board of Pharmacy. The Oregon Board of Pharmacy's phone number is 971/673-0001. You may also e-mail michael.hunt@state.or.us.