INITIAL REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Pharmacy Council

This document outlines the criteria for registration as a pharmacist with the Pharmacy Council of Bermuda.

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1. Introduction

This document outlines the requirements for registration with the Pharmacy Council as a pharmacist. While this document provides an overview of the criteria for initial registration, each application will be independently assessed based on its own merits.

2. General Requirements

2.1. Application

All applicants must submit an electronic Health Professional Initial Registration Application. All supplemental documentation should be uploaded and attached to the application, with the exception of the Certificate of Professional Education Form (COPE) and evidence of professional standing from all jurisdictions of licensure. Please review the Pharmacy Initial Registration Checklist for a list of required documentation.

2.2. Fees

The fee for initial registration as a pharmacist is $245. Payment must be made via credit card after the submission of the electronic application.

2.3. Eligibility to Work

All applicants for initial registration must be eligible to work in Bermuda. Documentation showing eligibility to work must be attached to the application and can include:

- Bermuda or BOTC passport copy with stamp
- Letter of Employment/Job Offer Letter
- Spousal letter
- Valid Work Permit
- Permanent Residency Card

2.4. Proof of Identification

Proof of identification includes a **notarized** copy of a valid passport or birth certificate. If your name has changed and differs from the name on your supporting documentation, notarized name change certification documentation must be provided (i.e. marriage certificate).

2.5. Proof of True Likeness

A digital head shot photo must be attached to your application. You can take the photo yourself if the image of likeness is clear.

2.6. Resume/Curriculum Vitae

A copy of the applicant's resume, or C.V. must be attached to the application and reflect the most up-to-date information.

2.7. References

Four letters of reference are required and must be attached to your application for registration. **Two of the letters must be professional letters of reference and two must be character reference letters.** All references must be signed, current (dated within the last 12 months) and in an official letterhead.

3. Education Requirements

To register as a pharmacist, applicants must have a pharmacy degree that meets the minimum requirement for licensure in the jurisdiction of study at the time of graduation.

The degree must be from an academic institution accredited by one of the following organizations:

- Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) in the US;
- General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) in the UK;
- Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP);
- Australian Pharmacy Council (APC);
- An equivalent accrediting body.

If the academic institution is not accredited or approved by one of the above bodies (or by a similar national organization of the country of training or other national body governing the profession deemed by the Council to represent a comparable standard) or the standards are significantly different from the above, the Council will request that the applicant submit a UK ENIC Statement of Comparability with a score of **Band 12** (RQF Level 7 / SCQF Level 11).

All applicants must have the institution where their professional qualifications were obtained complete the Certificate of Professional Education Form and email it directly to professions@healthcouncil.bm.

A **notarized** copy of the applicant's professional degree must also be attached to the application.

4. Experience Requirements

Applicants must have at least six months of post-graduate practical experience prior to registration, of which at least one month has been spent under a registered pharmacist's supervision in Bermuda.

After the conclusion of the supervised internship, the supervising pharmacist must complete the Pharmacist Intern Evaluation and Assessment Form and email it to the Registrar at professions@healthcouncil.bm. If the applicant's internship evaluation is satisfactory, they will receive approval to sit the pharmacy examination. Please see relevant section below.

5. Examination Requirements

All applicants must sit a written examination set by the Pharmacy Council after the successful completion of a supervised internship. Applicants are permitted to make a maximum of three attempts to successfully pass the qualifying examination. Failure to achieve a passing score within three attempts will result in ineligibility for further examination and registration.

Applicant's knowledge of Bermuda's Pharmacy and Poisons Act 1979, Misuse of Drugs Act 1972, and the Pharmacy and Poisons (Control of Prescriptions) Regulations 2022 will be tested. These documents are available under "Consolidated Laws" on Bermuda Laws Online. Other examination topics include questions on pharmacology, over-the-counter advice, Rx counseling, calculations and abbreviations.

The Registrar will contact the applicant regarding scheduling of the written exam, which is proctored at the Registrar's office.

6. Overseas Licensure

Evidence pertaining to your professional standing in any jurisdiction in which you are licensed or registered is required. A letter or form attesting to your professional standing must be submitted directly to professions@healthcouncil.bm by the relevant statutory authority.

The Pharmacy Council has discretionary authority to evaluate and recognize foreign licensure for pharmacists. The Pharmacy Council aims to balance inclusivity for qualified international practitioners with the need to uphold professional standards and public safety.