

Prince Edward Island Pharmacy Board

Practice Experience Requirements for Registration as a Pharmacist Approved March 2008

Background:

Section 9(1) of the *Prince Edward Island Pharmacy Act* states that a person seeking to be licensed to practice as a pharmacist shall apply to the Board and shall provide proof of a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy degree program at a university approved by the Board, or of an equivalent course of study acceptable to the Board; successful completion of a practical training program approved by the Board; current competency, as demonstrated by such examination approved by the Board; and knowledge of the applicable laws, practice standards and guidelines necessary for pharmacy practice in PEI.

In 2005, the *Authorization Regulations* were amended to address professional education requirements, standards of practice requirements and professional competency requirements for compliance with the *Mutual Recognition Agreement for Canadian pharmacy regulatory bodies*.

Section 4 reads: Subject to the approval of the Board, knowledge of the standards of practice required by clause 9(1)(d) of the Act shall be demonstrated as set out in the NAPRA publication, *Framework for Assessing Canadian Pharmacists at Entry-to-Practice Through Structured Practical Training Programs*, as amended from time to time.

The Structured Practice Experience Program (SPEP) at the College of Pharmacy at Dalhousie University includes a 20 week structured practice experience component that is a requirement for the awarding of the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy degree. The Board has set this as the initial standard towards meeting the requirements discussed above. In addition to these 20 weeks, students applying for licensure as a pharmacist must complete an additional 16 weeks of Supervised Time Service, 8 of which must be completed “post-grad” and following a practice manual provided by the Board. The final eight weeks may be completed during any summer period after completion of **second** year.

Practice Experience Requirements of PEIPB as a Pharmacist

1. All students participating in the Practice Experience Program must be enrolled in the pharmacy program of Dalhousie University in Halifax and registered with the Prince Edward Island Pharmacy Board as a pharmacy student/Intern.
2. The total Practice Experience Program is administered by a joint committee on Structured Practice Experience operated by the PEI Pharmacy Board, the NS College of Pharmacists, the NB Pharmaceutical Society and the College of Pharmacy.
3. The 20 weeks of Structured Practice Experience (SPE) required by the College of Pharmacy will be recognized by the PEI Pharmacy Board towards the total 36 weeks Pharmacy Practice Experience required for registration as a pharmacist and is supervised by the College.
4. The 16 weeks of Supervised Time Service required by the Board beyond the 20 weeks SPE weeks required by the College will be supervised by the Pharmacy Board.
5. The 16 weeks of Supervised Time Service required by the Pharmacy Board beyond the 20 weeks SPE required by the College will be divided into:
 - a. 8 weeks (minimum of 4 weeks continuous) supervised during any summer after the 2nd or 3rd year of the pharmacy program.
 - b. 8 weeks supervised Final Internship served after successful completion of the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy degree requirements, and pending certification of the pharmacy graduate by the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada.
6. Pharmacy students are responsible for finding their own sites and preceptors for serving the SPE weeks required by the College as well as the 16 additional weeks required by the Board.
7. Pharmacy students must have their preceptor/site approval forms submitted and approved by the Board for the 16 weeks required by the Board prior to commencement of the Time Service. The College will approve the preceptors for the SPE weeks required by them.
8. Pharmacy students do not need to submit time service registration forms for the SPE required by the College. They must, however, submit time service registration forms for the additional 16 weeks required by the Board upon completion of the particular rotation.
9. Pharmacy students may complete more than one period of time service for the 8 week summer rotation and 8 week Final Internship period at the same pharmacy, or under the same preceptor. (Note: this is different from the SPE weeks of the College).
10. The outcomes expected by the Pharmacy Board from the total Practice Experience Program are that the newly registered pharmacist, at entry to practice, should be competent to meet the *Model Standards of Practice for Canadian Pharmacists* developed by the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA), which have been endorsed and adopted by the Pharmacy Board.
11. The SPEP and 8 week summer (supervised) sessions are intended to familiarize the pharmacy student with actual day-to-day practice of pharmacy and the preceptor is encouraged to involve the Pharmacy Student in that day-to-day practice at a level appropriate to their competency.

12. The Final Internship period is intended as a period during which the newly graduated pharmacy student assumes the role of independent practice, under the supervision and mentorship of a preceptor. It is expected that the preceptor, while supervising the pharmacy graduate, will encourage the graduate to assume all the roles of a pharmacist in preparation for independent practice.
13. The Pharmacy Student and preceptor must comply with all the legislation, regulations and standards of practice governing the practice of pharmacy during all time service rotations.
14. The SPEP and Supervised Time Service, including the Final Internship, will normally be served in a pharmacy with the opportunity for direct patient care (either a community or institutional setting). They may only be served in a non-patient care setting with the approval of the Joint Committee on Structured Practice Experience.
15. There is no requirement, or prohibition on payment to Pharmacy Students in the Supervised Time Service or Final Internship. (Note: this is different from the SPEP requirements).
16. A Student Evaluation will be required from the preceptor at the end of the Final Internship, as well a verification of completion of the program. The student must also forward an assessment of the preceptor/program upon completion.
17. No portion of the Supervised Time Service, including Final Internship periods may be served during the academic year.
18. No time off for vacation can be counted as part of the Supervised Time Service or Final Internship.

**STRUCTURE
OF
STUDENT PRACTICE EXPERIENCE**

The Joint Practice Experience
Program
(36 weeks)

**Dalhousie University
College of Pharmacy**
SPEP component
(20 weeks)

Prince Edward Island Pharmacy Board
Supervised Time Service component
(additional 16 weeks)

Comprised of

Comprised of

Pharmacy 2081 (2 weeks)

Supervised Time Service
(8 weeks)

Pharmacy 2082 (2 Weeks)

Pharmacy 3080 (4 weeks)

Pharmacy 4080 (6 weeks)

Pharmacy 4085 (6 weeks)

Final Internship
(8 weeks)