Licensure by Examination Instructions

In order to become licensed as a pharmacist in South Carolina, the law requires that an applicant present to the Board of Pharmacy satisfactory evidence that the applicant has:

1. Completed 1,500 hours of practical experience in pharmacy under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist, which shall be approved by the South Carolina Board of Pharmacy.
2. Received a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy or a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from an accredited school, college or department of pharmacy as determined by the Board, or has received the Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Certification issued by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP). Foreign graduates must also provide certified copies of their pharmacy school diploma.
3. Passed the examinations required and approved by the South Carolina Board of Pharmacy and paid all required fees.

Practical Experience Requirements

The required practical pharmacy experience must have been gained in accordance with South Carolina internship requirements. Completion of the practical experience is not required in order to take the licensure exam, but the practical experience must be completed prior to licensure. Practical experience worked in South Carolina will not be credited unless an internship certificate was issued prior to the experience.

- Foreign graduates must obtain their experience in the United States, after an internship certificate has been issued. Intern certificates require that you provide the Board of Pharmacy certified copies of (1) your Social Security card (2) your TOEFL scores and (3) your FPGEC.

Fifteen hundred (1,500) hours of practical experience, gained in accordance with South Carolina internship requirements in effect at the time the internship was gained, are required for licensure. Internship training shall be acquired under the supervision, direction and instruction of a licensed pharmacist in a pharmacy, site, or program approved by the Board as being a proper place for the training of a pharmacy intern. A maximum of five hundred (500) hours for a B.S. degree and one thousand (1,000) hours for a PharmD degree may be granted if your college of pharmacy awards that amount for an approved externship/clerkship program. At least 500 hours of experience must be acquired in a retail or institutional pharmacy.

Practical pharmacy experience gained outside of South Carolina may be acceptable only if it meets the same requirements as are in effect in this State. Applicants who expect to receive credit under these conditions should have certified copies to include places, dates and hours worked per week sent to this Board for consideration.
APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR EXAMINATION

The process of applying for examination in South Carolina consists of three separate forms:
- South Carolina Board of Pharmacy Application for Examination
- North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX)
- Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE)

Each application requires its own fee.

1. Download and read the entire NAPLEX/MPJE Registration Bulletin and follow instructions explicitly. The Registration Bulletin is on the web at www.nabp.net.

You can apply for the NAPLEX and MPJE exams on the NABP website, www.nabp.net.
- There is a $505 fee for the NAPLEX
- There is a $210 fee for the MPJE

The examinations are administered by Pearson VUE daily Monday through Saturday except holidays. Pearson VUE will provide the Authorization to Test (ATT) and confirmation letters. The ATT provides all the scheduling information you require and the confirmation letter will include verification of the exam date and time as well as the address of the testing center.

Study material recommendations and links can be found online at www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/pharmacy.

2. Complete the SC Board of Pharmacy Application for Examination. Pay the $100 fee. Submit a certified copy of your birth certificate, one of your two photographs with signed attachment, and the Certification of Clinical Experience completed by the Dean of your College of Pharmacy.

- Foreign graduates do not require the Certification of Clinical Experience or the College Affidavit. Foreign graduates must submit their original FPGEC certificate which will be returned upon verification.

If you move during the licensure process, please advise the Board of Pharmacy in writing of your new address, indicating that you are a candidate for examination.

Your application is valid for one year from the date of receipt. After one year, the application is null and void, and the entire process must begin again. There are no refunds of any fees under any circumstances.

NAPLEX and MPJE scores are received electronically from NABP approximately ten business days after the exam. You will be notified by mail of your scores. No information will be given over the telephone.

3. After you have passed the NAPLEX and MPJE, and completed the required practical experience, you will receive a Pharmacist’s Initial Licensure Application and an information sheet. You must complete both of these forms and pay the $70 initial licensure fee no more than thirty days after receipt. Your license will be mailed to you ten business days after the date on which the final requirements are received.