



For Stakeholder Feedback – Criteria for Licensure

Issue Date: 4/15/2024

In accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, the Ohio Board of Pharmacy proposes amendments to the following rules:

- 4729:1-2-01: Criteria for licensure by examination. (AMEND)
- 4729:1-2-02: Criteria for licensure by reciprocity. (AMEND)

Comments on the proposed rules will be accepted until close of business on **Monday, May 6, 2024.** Please send all comments to the following email address:
rulecomments@pharmacy.ohio.gov

Rule 4729:1-2-01 | Criteria for licensure by examination. (AMEND)

~~(A) Pursuant to sections [4729.07](#) and [4729.13](#) of the Revised Code, pharmacist licensure by examination shall consist of the "North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination" (NAPLEX) and the "Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination" (MPJE) administered by the national association of boards of pharmacy (NABP).~~

(A) Pursuant to sections [4729.07](#) and [4729.13](#) of the Revised Code, pharmacist licensure by examination shall consist of:

(1) The "North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination" (NAPLEX) administered by the national association of boards of pharmacy (NABP); and

(2) A jurisprudence examination which shall be one of the following as determined by the board:

(a) The "Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination" (MPJE) administered by the national association of boards of pharmacy (NABP); or

(b) A jurisprudence examination approved by the board.

~~(B)(1)~~ Unless otherwise approved by the board, the minimum passing score on each examination shall be determined by NABP.

~~(a 1)~~ Any candidate who fails to receive a passing score on the NAPLEX examination shall make application and remit the fee established by the state board of pharmacy for re-examination.

~~(b 2)~~ Any candidate who fails to receive a passing score on the ~~MPJE~~ jurisprudence examination shall make application and remit the fee established by the state board of pharmacy for re-examination.

~~(B C)~~ A candidate may use the NABP process to transfer the candidate's NAPLEX score to Ohio only after the candidate has met all of the requirements set by the board for examination and licensure in Ohio.

~~(C D)~~ Pursuant to section [4729.08](#) of the Revised Code, graduates of unapproved schools or colleges of pharmacy located outside the United States who are using an approved examination to establish equivalency of their education shall:

(1) Obtain a passing score, as determined by NABP, on the "Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Examination (FPGEE)"; and

(2) Show oral proficiency in English by successful completion of the "Test of English as a Foreign Language, Internet-based test" (TOEFL iBT) pursuant to rule [4729:1-2-04](#) of the Administrative Code.

~~(D)~~ **(E)** Any examination candidate who fails to take both of the required examinations pursuant to paragraph (A) of this rule within twelve months from the date the board receives the application materials shall submit a new application for the required examination or examinations and remit the fee established by the board, as the original application shall be deemed abandoned.

(E) ~~(F)~~ The record of the passing score for an examination candidate who takes both of the required examinations pursuant to paragraph (A) of this rule, but successfully only completes one examination will:

(1) Be maintained up to three years if no more than twelve months has elapsed between attempts to successfully complete the remaining examination.

(2) Not be maintained if more than twelve months has elapsed between attempts to successfully complete the remaining examination. It will then be necessary for the examination candidate to repeat both examinations for Ohio licensure.

(F) ~~(G)~~ Any candidate who has requested to transfer their NAPLEX score to Ohio must **successfully complete** ~~take~~ the **MPJE jurisprudence examination** within twelve months from the date the candidate completed the NAPLEX examination or the score transfer will be denied.

(G) ~~(H)~~ Pursuant to section [4729.071](#) of the Revised Code, a candidate must submit electronic or ink fingerprint impressions for a criminal records check prior to receiving approval to take the required examinations. An examination candidate must submit fingerprint impressions no later than sixty days after the date the board receives the application materials. After sixty days, a candidate must submit a new application, the required fee, and fingerprint impressions, as the original application shall be deemed abandoned.

(H) ~~(I)~~ Candidates shall be limited to a total of five attempts to pass the NAPLEX and the **MPJE jurisprudence examination**. The board may grant one additional attempt to pass the NAPLEX and the **MPJE jurisprudence examination** in the event of extraordinary circumstances. A candidate that exceeds the limits set forth in this paragraph is no longer eligible to obtain licensure as a pharmacist by examination pursuant to this rule.

(† **J**) Pursuant to section [4729.16](#) of the Revised Code, a limited or restricted license may be issued to an applicant upon the determination of the board.

Rule 4729:1-2-02 | Criteria for licensure by reciprocity. (AMEND)

(A) An applicant seeking licensure as a pharmacist by reciprocity shall comply with all the following:

(1) Be at least eighteen years of age.

(2) Obtain a degree in pharmacy from a school of pharmacy approved by the state board of pharmacy.

(3) Have met the applicable practical experience requirements by either:

(a) Successfully graduating after December 31, 2006 with a doctor of pharmacy degree (Pharm.D.) from a school of pharmacy approved by the state board of pharmacy; or

(b) Obtaining a total of at least one thousand seven hundred and forty hours of documented supervised practical experience in Ohio or any other state or jurisdiction in which the credentials are at least the equivalent of those required by this state at the time the experience was obtained. If the reciprocating state or jurisdiction requires less than the required hours, the board may grant internship credit for practice as a pharmacist.

(4) Hold an active license or registration to practice pharmacy, which is in good standing, in a state or jurisdiction in which the credentials are at least the equivalent of those required by this state. Certification of these credentials shall be conducted by the national association of boards of pharmacy (NABP).

(B) An applicant who has met the requirements of the state or jurisdiction with which the applicant holds a certificate of good standing pursuant to a "Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Commission (FPGEC)" certificate shall be required to establish proficiency in spoken English by providing evidence of the successful completion of the "Test of English as a Foreign Language, Internet-based test" (TOEFL iBT) pursuant to rule [4729:1-2-04](#) of the Administrative Code.

(C) Except as provided in rule [4729:1-2-09](#) of the Administrative Code, candidates who qualify for licensure by reciprocity shall successfully complete a course developed by the board **or approved by the board**, that includes a scored evaluation component, on **Ohio's Ohio's** law and rules governing the practice of pharmacy.

(1) Candidates who do not successfully complete this course within six months following the submission of a completed application shall file a new application and required fee for licensure by reciprocity, as the original application shall be deemed abandoned.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (C)(3) of this rule, the board may require an applicant to complete **the jurisprudence examination as defined in rule 4729:1-2-01 of the Administrative Code** ~~the "Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination" (MPJE)~~ in lieu of completing the course if the applicant has never obtained a passing score on the MPJE for any state or jurisdiction.

(3) Paragraph (C)(2) of this rule does not apply to applicant who either:

(a) Received initial licensure prior to January 1, 2018; or

(b) Successfully passed a board approved state jurisprudence examination.

(D) Pursuant to section [4729.071](#) of the Revised Code, a candidate must submit electronic or ink fingerprint impressions for a criminal records check prior to receiving an initial license to practice as a pharmacist. A reciprocity candidate must submit fingerprint impressions no later than six months after the date the board receives the application materials. After six months, a candidate must submit a new application, the required fee, and fingerprint impressions.

(E) Pursuant to division (B)(2) of section [4796.03](#) of the Revised Code, the board hereby waives the requirements set forth in division (B)(1) of section [4796.03](#) of the Revised Code.

(F) Pursuant to division (F)(3) of section [4796.03](#) of the Revised Code, the required fee for reciprocity shall be three hundred thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents and any transaction fee as required by section [125.18](#) of the Revised Code.

(G) Pursuant to section [4729.16](#) of the Revised Code, a limited or restricted license may be issued to an applicant upon the determination of the board.