

Louisiana Administrative Code

Title 46 – Professional and Occupational Standards

Part LIII: Pharmacists

Chapter 7. Pharmacy Interns

§701. Definition

- A. A *pharmacy intern* is an individual who is not yet licensed as a pharmacist in any jurisdiction, and is:
1. engaged in the practice of pharmacy while under the direct and immediate supervision of a pharmacist for the purpose of obtaining practical experience for licensure as a pharmacist, and is satisfactorily progressing in a board-approved college of pharmacy; or
 2. a graduate of a board-approved college of pharmacy awaiting examination for licensure; or
 3. a graduate who has established educational equivalency through a program approved by the board; or
 4. an individual participating in a residency or fellowship.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1211.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, amended LR 23:1306 (October 1997), amended LR 26:2284 (October 2000), amended LR 29:2086 (October 2003), effective January 1, 2004.

§703. Registration

- A. All pharmacy interns shall meet the following requirements for registration:
1. All pharmacy interns shall register with the board. The failure to register may result in disciplinary action by the board.
 - a. The applicant shall submit to the board office a properly completed application no later than the end of the first semester of the first academic year at a board-approved college of pharmacy.
 - b. The board may issue an intern registration to the applicant, upon receipt of a properly completed application, appropriate fee, and any other documentation required by the board office.
 - c. The intern registration shall expire one year after the certification of graduation from a board-approved college of pharmacy.
 - i. Intern registrations issued to foreign pharmacy graduates shall expire two years after the date of issue.
 - d. The board shall reserve the right to recall or refuse to issue any intern registration for cause.
 2. A pharmacy intern shall wear appropriate attire and be properly identified with his name and intern status while on duty at the preceptor site.
 3. A pharmacy intern shall notify the board in writing within 10 days of a change of address. This notice shall include the pharmacy intern's name, registration number, and old and new addresses.
 4. A pharmacy intern shall notify the board in writing within 10 days of a change in location(s) of employment. This notice shall include the pharmacy intern's name and registration number, the name and address of old and new employment, and the permit numbers of those pharmacies involved.
 5. The pharmacy intern shall be non-impaired.
 - a. The pharmacy intern is subject to confidential random drug screen testing and/or evaluations.
 - b. A positive drug screen may be self evident as proof of improper drug use. For the purposes of this Chapter, a missed screen, a screen submitted beyond the mandated period, and/or any screen submitted indicating the sample provided is diluted, substituted, or in any way adulterated is considered to be a positive drug screen.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1211.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, amended LR 26:2285 (October 2000), amended LR 29:2086 (October 2003), effective January 1, 2004, amended by the Department of Health, Board of Pharmacy, LR 43:2163 (November 2017), effective January 1, 2018.

§705. Professional Experience

- A. All applicants for licensure by examination shall earn professional experience in the practice of pharmacy concurrent with attending or after graduation from a board-approved college of pharmacy.
- B. The practical experience shall be predominantly related to the provision of pharmacy primary care and the dispensing of drugs and medical supplies, the compounding of prescriptions, and the keeping of records and making of reports as required under federal and state law.
 1. The practical experience earned shall have been under the supervision of a pharmacist, or in the alternative, a licensed practitioner.
 2. A pharmacy intern shall not practice in a permitted pharmacy site that is on probation with the board. A pharmacy intern shall not practice under the supervision of a pharmacist or other licensed practitioner whose license is on probation with their primary professional licensing agency.
- C. Professional Experience Hours. To qualify for pharmacist licensure, an intern shall supply evidence of the acquisition of at least 1,740 hours of professional experience, of which at least 1,500 hours of which shall be practical experience as described in Subsection B above.
 1. The board shall award 1,740 hours credit to an intern for his successful completion of a professional experience curriculum at a board-approved college of pharmacy. The dean of the board-approved college of pharmacy shall certify the completion of this requirement in the manner prescribed by the board office.
 2. In the event an applicant for pharmacist licensure by examination is unable to document the acquisition of 1,740 hours of professional experience through the successful completion of a professional experience curriculum at a board-approved college of pharmacy by means of an attestation from the dean of that college, then the applicant shall demonstrate the acquisition of at least 1,740 hours of pre-licensure practical experience in a licensed pharmacy, subject to the following limitations.
 - a. The pharmacy permit shall not have been on probation or otherwise restricted during the time the hours were earned.
 - b. The license of the pharmacist supervising the intern and signing the affidavit shall have been issued no less than two years before supervising the intern, and further, shall not have been on probation or otherwise restricted during the time the hours were earned.
 3. Practical experience hours that are submitted to the board for credit consideration (other than those attested to by the dean of the college of pharmacy for the successful completion of a professional experience curriculum at a board-approved college of pharmacy) shall be listed on an affidavit form supplied by the board office, and signed by the supervising pharmacist and pharmacy intern.
 - a. A pharmacy intern may receive credit for a maximum of 50 hours per week.
 - b. A separate affidavit shall be required from each permitted pharmacy site.
 - c. No credit shall be awarded for hours earned within the professional experience curriculum of a board-approved college of pharmacy, nor for hours earned outside the professional experience curriculum but at the same time and location as hours earned for that professional experience curriculum.
 4. Certification of Hours to and from another Jurisdiction.
 - a. Interns enrolled in a board-approved college of pharmacy in Louisiana who earn hours of professional experience in another jurisdiction, as well as interns enrolled in a board-approved college of pharmacy in another jurisdiction who earn hours of professional experience in another jurisdiction, may transfer those hours to Louisiana under the following conditions:
 - i. The hours of practical experience shall be listed on an affidavit form supplied by the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy, signed by the supervising pharmacist and the intern, and submitted to the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy for consideration of credit; and
 - ii. The board of pharmacy in the jurisdiction where the hours were earned shall certify those hours to the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy.

- iii. The Louisiana Board of Pharmacy may grant credit for all hours that comply with the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy's requirements as delineated in this section.
 - b. Upon written request by the pharmacy intern, the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy may certify professional experience hours earned in Louisiana to a board of pharmacy in another jurisdiction.
5. Credited hours of practical experience shall expire two years after the expiration date of the intern registration and shall no longer be valid for licensure purposes.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1211.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 14:708 (October 1988), effective January 1, 1989, amended LR 26:2285 (October 2000), amended LR 29:2086 (October 2003), effective January 1, 2004, LR 32:636 (April 2006), amended LR 33:1130 (June 2007), amended LR 34:1409 (July 2008), amended by the Department of Health, Board of Pharmacy, LR 43:2163 (November 2017), effective January 1, 2018.

§707. Impairment

- A. *Impairment or Impaired* – a condition that causes an infringement on the ability of a person to practice, or assist in the practice, of pharmacy sufficient to pose a danger to the public. Impairment may be caused by, but is not limited to, alcoholism, substance abuse or addiction, mental illness, or physical illness.
- B. Pharmacy interns shall be non-impaired.
- C. Pharmacy interns who have knowledge a pharmacist, pharmacy intern, pharmacy technician, or pharmacy technician candidate is impaired shall notify the board of that fact as soon as possible.
- D. Pharmacy interns may be subject to a medical evaluation for impairment by a board approved addictionist, as authorized by the Louisiana Pharmacy Practice Act, R.S. 37:1161 et seq.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1182.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 33:1130 (June 2007).

§709. Scope of Practice

- A. Pharmacy interns may perform any duty of a pharmacist provided he is under the supervision of a pharmacist.
- B. The ratio of pharmacy interns to pharmacists shall be 1:1. However, the ratio of pharmacy interns on rotation with a board-approved college of pharmacy to pharmacists shall be no more than 3:1.
- C. A pharmacy intern may not:
 1. present or identify himself as a pharmacist;
 2. sign or initial any document which is required to be signed or initialed by a pharmacist unless a preceptor cosigns the document;
 3. independently supervise pharmacy technicians; or
 4. administer immunizations unless properly credentialed as required by the board.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1182.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Pharmacy, LR 36:755 (April 2010).