

Pharmacist

Pharmacy in New Brunswick

Pharmacy is a regulated profession in New Brunswick. To practise as a pharmacist, you must be licensed or registered by the New Brunswick Pharmaceutical Society (NBPS).

While the majority of pharmacists are employed in community pharmacies, many others work in hospitals and other health-care facilities. A small number of pharmacists are employed with pharmaceutical companies, universities and government departments.

How do I get my credentials recognized?

You must apply to the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) for an assessment of your skills and experience.

After completing this step, you must also pass the Pharmacy Qualifying Examination (PQE) Part I (MCQ) and Part II (OSCE). Although PEBC does not test your language capabilities, you require a high level of English and/or French to be able to successfully take the exam.

The final step is to register with the New Brunswick Pharmaceutical Society and fulfill their requirements.

Step One: Document evaluation

Please consult the PEBC website (www.pebc.ca) to inquire about additional documentation you may need to submit. The evaluation takes up to eight weeks once all documentation is received.

Foreign qualification recognition is the process of verifying that the knowledge, skills, work experience and education obtained in another country are comparable to the standards established for Canadian professionals and tradespersons.

Candidates must submit the following:

- completed evaluation application form;
- document evaluation fee;
- witnessed copy of birth certificate, marriage certificate, or Canadian citizenship card;
- notarized university degree certificate;
- transcript sent by institution;
- proof of licensure/good standing sent by regulatory authority;
- evaluating exam application fee; and,
- additional evaluating exam fee if the exam is written in London, England.

Step Two: Evaluating exam

Once your documents have been evaluated and accepted, you have up to five years to pass the evaluating exam. Information on exam dates can be found on the PEBC website.

The mission of the New Brunswick Pharmaceutical Society (NBPS) is "governing the practice of pharmacy for a healthier New Brunswick."

Step Three: Pharmacist Qualifying Examination

Following successful completion of the evaluating exam, you may apply to sit for the Pharmacist Qualifying Examination. You must submit an application signed by an acceptable witness and two passport photos signed by the witness.

Part I of this exam consists of multiple choice questions (MCQ), completed during two half-day sessions.

Part II is an Objective Structured Clinical Exam (OSCE) which occurs on a different day and consists of a series of seven-minute simulations based on common and critical practical situations.

You can make three attempts at the PEBC examinations. The board will consider a request to attempt examinations a fourth time if you are able to present acceptable evidence of continuing education units, course work (for the Qualifying Exam Part I) or practical experience in pharmacy (for the Qualifying Exam Part II).

If you are unsuccessful in your fourth attempt, the PEBC Board does not permit any additional attempts, and you will not be able to proceed further in the PEBC certification process.

Step Four: Registration with the New Brunswick Pharmaceutical Society

After you have completed the first three steps, you will have to fulfill the following requirements:

- successfully take a jurisprudence exam confirming your knowledge of local laws pertaining to the practice of pharmacy;
- present proof of liability/malpractice insurance;
- demonstrate proficiency in one of the two official languages (English or French);
- complete a criminal record check; and,
- statutory declaration of good character.

In addition to submitting the required documentation you must complete an internship/preceptorship lasting at least 20 weeks.

Finding a job in New Brunswick

There is a need for pharmacists in various communities across the province and in both official languages.

You should take time to research job requirements and develop a plan for finding work. There are many resources that you can access before coming to New Brunswick and after you arrive.

Please make sure that you visit the PEBC website (www.pebc.ca) and the NBPS website (www.nbpharmacists.ca) to inquire about any additional requirements and/or documentation you may have to submit for registration.

There are many resources available to help you find employment in New Brunswick, including immigrant-serving agencies and job banks. Visit www.gnb.ca/immigration.

Additional resources

Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada
www.pebc.ca

New Brunswick Pharmaceutical Society www.nbpharmacists.ca

Horizon Health Network
www.horizonnb.ca

Vitalité Health Network
www.santevitalitehealth.ca

IEHP Atlantic Connection
www.atlanticcanadahealthcare.ca

National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities www.napra.ca

New Brunswick Immigration Portal
www.gnb.ca/immigration

Citizenship and Immigration Canada
www.cic.gc.ca

Service Canada
www.servicecanada.gc.ca

Foreign Credentials Referral Office
www.credentials.gc.ca

Service New Brunswick www.snb.ca

NB Jobs www.nbjobs.ca

Working in New Brunswick Tool
www.gnb.ca/immigration

Before you arrive

While you are waiting to come to New Brunswick, there are many important things you can do to improve your chances of success. You can start collecting all the required documents for qualification recognition.

The Foreign Credentials Referral Office (www.credentials.gc.ca) is a Government of Canada agency that provides you with helpful resources. The Government of New Brunswick also has specially designed tools to help you make Canada your home. Visit www.gnb.ca/immigration.

Although PEBC does not test your language capabilities, you require a high level of English and/or French to be able to successfully take the exam.

If you need to improve your language skills, start before you come to Canada.