

PHARMACIST

Licensing Authority Debbie Jorgenson
Pharmacy Examiners Board
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Legal Authority Iowa Code 124, 147, 155A, and 272C

Job Description Pharmacists compound and dispense medications pursuant to prescriptions issued by physicians, dentists, or other authorized health professionals (MD, DO, DDS, DVM, DPM, OD, PA or ARNP). They weigh, measure, and mix drugs and other medicinal compounds, and fill bottles or capsules with the correct quantity and composition of preparation; dispense non-prescription medication to public; counsel patients and answer patients' questions regarding prescription medication; use refrigeration and other methods to store and preserve biological and other drugs, vaccines, and serums subject to deterioration; order and maintain supplies of drugs, chemicals, and other pharmaceutical stock; maintain up-to-date patient medication profiles; advise physicians on the proper selection and use of medicines and potential drug interactions or counteractions; and, perform prospective and retrospective drug utilization review.

"Practice of pharmacy" is a dynamic patient-oriented health service profession that applies a scientific body of knowledge to improve and promote patient health by means of appropriate drug use and related drug therapy.

Education & Experience Required An applicant for a license to practice pharmacy must be a graduate of an accredited college or school of pharmacy with a minimum of bachelor of science in Pharmacy. One thousand hours of internship credit is awarded upon graduation from an accredited college of pharmacy. Applicants for Iowa license by examination must complete an additional 500 hours internship in hospital or community practice. Credit may be granted for experience obtained non-concurrent with school. A maximum of 250 hours of the required 500 hours may be granted for preapproved non-traditional experience. Intern registration is required prior to employment as an intern. No credit will be granted prior to registration.

A license may be issued to anyone who has been licensed in another state if they are able to meet Iowa's licensing requirements. A fee is due to the Pharmacy Board for such reciprocal licenses in addition to the appropriate fees to the original license state, the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP), as well as an examination fee.

A license may also be granted to a graduate of a foreign college of pharmacy. The applicant must obtain certification from the Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Commission, complete 1,500 hours internship, and pass licensure examinations.

Continuing Education Pharmacists must complete thirty hours or 3.0 CEU of continuing education during a two-year period. At least fifty percent must be courses approved by the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE) dealing with drug therapy.

Examination Computerized examinations are administered daily at authorized computer testing centers nationwide.

Fees Application: Included in exam fee
Renewal: \$110 (renewal is completed by written application)
Exam: \$430 – (NAPLEX, computerized competency exam) to NABP.
\$170 – (MPJE-IA Edition, computerized federal & state pharmacy law exam) to NABP.
\$150 – Exam & License fee to Iowa Board of Pharmacy (includes a two-year initial license fee)
\$750 – Total fees for license by exam

Other: For a reciprocal license, the fee to the Iowa Board of Pharmacy is \$160 in addition to the \$170 fee for MPJE-Iowa Edition and a license transfer fee of \$300 payable to NABP, bringing the total to \$630.

SOC Code, Title & Avg. Hourly Wage 29-1051 – Pharmacists (\$33.39)

Number of Licenses Issued Total number of licenses active as of December 31,
2002: 4,849
2001: 4,800
2000: 4,729

For Additional Information Iowa Board of Pharmacy Web site: <http://www.state.ia.us/ibpe>
Iowa Department of Public Health Web site: <http://www.idph.state.ia.us/licensure>

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
1426 Prince St
Alexandria VA 22314

American Council on Pharmaceutical Education
20 North Clark St Ste 2500
Chicago IL 60602-5109

National Association of Boards of Pharmacy

700 Busse Hwy
Park Ridge IL 60068

Iowa Pharmacists Association
8515 Douglas Ste 16
Des Moines IA 50322