



COUNCIL POLICY

Practice Experience to Register and License as a Pharmacist

Introduction

The *Registration, Licensing and Professional Accountability (RLPA) Regulations* s.7 sets out the requirements for completion of practice experience for registration and licensing as a pharmacist, including:

- 7(d) successful completion of structured practice experience as a registered student or intern;
- (e) successful completion of 560 hours of practice experience as a registered student or intern in addition to the structured practice experience referred to in clause (d), 280 of which must have been completed after graduation;

The RLPA Regulations define “structured practice experience” as practice experience that is structured as approved by the Council to attain specific competency requirements.

Given that completion of 20 weeks of structured practice experience has been approved as satisfying the requirement under s.7(d) of the RLPA Regulations to date (i.e., for BScPharm), clarity is needed on how additional structured practice experience included within a PharmD program may be counted towards overall practice experience requirements in satisfying licensing requirements to become a pharmacist.

Purpose

To clarify how structured practice experience completed within a PharmD program can be counted towards meeting the registration and licensing requirements set out in s.7(d) and (e) of the RLPA Regulations.

Policy

- 1.0 Applicants for licensure under RLPA s. 7(l) may count the completion of 20 weeks of structured practice experience within the accredited degree program in pharmacy as satisfying the requirement set out in s.7(d).
- 2.0 Structured practice experience hours completed by an applicant within the accredited program beyond those required by s.7(d) may be counted towards the successful completion of the pre-graduation practice experience hours set out in s.7(e) if they meet the definition of “practice experience” and “direct patient care” set out in the *Pharmacy Act and Regulations Definitions Regulations* s. 3(1) and (2), respectively.

3.0 Regardless of the quantity of practice experience completed prior to graduation or the degree awarded upon completion of the accredited pharmacy program, all applicants must complete 280 hours of practice experience after graduation in accordance with RLPA s. 7(l)e.

Approved: April 12, 2023