



Missouri Board of Pharmacy Pharmacist Licensing FAQ

(This FAQ provides general information for Missouri pharmacist applicants. This document addresses the most common pharmacist license questions and does not contain all licensing requirements. Applicants should consult 20 CSR 2220, Chapter 7, for applicable licensing requirements.)

Q: *Now that I've graduated, how do I get licensed as a Missouri pharmacist?*

A: To be licensed as a Missouri pharmacist, applicants must:

- File a Missouri Pharmacist Examination Application with the Board,
- Pay the application fee,
- Submit fingerprints and undergo a criminal history background check (instructions are in the application packet),
- Take and pass the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX), and
- Take and pass the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE) for Missouri.

In the past, the Board has received pharmacist applications from students who have completed their final courses but have not officially graduated. You should not apply for a Missouri pharmacist license until your degree has actually been conferred and officially given to you by your pharmacy school/college.

Q: *What application should I submit?*

A: New pharmacist applicants should submit one of the following:

- **The Missouri Pharmacist Examination Application:** For graduates seeking to be licensed by taking both the NAPLEX and MPJE. New graduates who are not reciprocating from another state should file a Missouri Pharmacist Examination Application.
- **The Missouri Pharmacist Licensure Transfer**

(Reciprocity) Application: For pharmacists who are currently licensed in another state that would like to apply for a Missouri license. The reciprocity application is for currently licensed pharmacists only and cannot be used by new graduates who aren't licensed pharmacists in another state.

- **Foreign Pharmacy School Graduate Examination Application:** For graduates of a pharmacy school college located outside of a U.S. state or territory who are applying to take both the NAPLEX and MPJE for licensure in Missouri.
- **Foreign Pharmacy School Graduate Transfer Reciprocity Application:** For graduates of a pharmacy school/college located outside of a U.S. state or territory who are currently licensed as pharmacists in another U.S. state or territory.

Application forms are available online at pr.mo.gov/pharmacists-forms.asp.

Q: *How do I register to take the exams?*

A: The NAPLEX and MPJE are administered by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP). To register to test:

- Register online with NABP to take the exams at www.nabp.net/programs. An examination fee will be charged by NABP for both exams that must be paid directly to NABP (online payments are accepted). The Board's license application is different from your NABP exam registration.
- Call or e-mail the Board at (573) 751-0092 or pharmacist@pr.mo.gov to notify the Board office that you've registered with NABP for the exams.

After you notify the office that you've registered, the Board will electronically notify NABP that you are eligible to test. You will not be declared eligible to test until your Missouri pharmacist application is complete and all required information has been received.

- After the Board declares you eligible to test, NABP's testing vendor will send you an Authorization to Test (ATT) that will include instructions for scheduling your examination date. You cannot schedule an exam date until you receive your ATT. The Board does not issue ATTs. Your ATT must come from NABP's testing vendor.
- Contact NABP's testing vendor to schedule a date and location to take the NAPLEX and/or MPJE (scheduling information will be provided with your ATT). Once completed, your exam scores will be electronically transmitted to the Board. The Board will notify you of your score results in writing within 7-10 days. Please note this timeframe may vary depending on application volume.

Visit www.nabp.net/programs/examination/naplex/schedule-your-exam for additional information on registering to take the exams.

Q: *When can I register to take the exams?*

A: You may register at any time. However, the Board will not declare you eligible to test until you've submitted a completed Missouri pharmacist application. NABP will accept your exam registration before your Missouri pharmacist application is filed but will not allow you to schedule a testing date until the Board declares you eligible to test.

Q: *How long does it take for the Board to declare me eligible to test?*

A: Candidates will not be declared eligible to test until a completed application has been filed that includes all required information. This includes verification of your intern hours and fingerprint results. During high volume periods, it may take 3-4 weeks to review a completed application and declare an applicant eligible to test.

Q: *How long will it take for me to receive my Authorization To Test (ATT)?*

A: Your ATT will be issued by NABP's testing vendor after the Board declares you eligible to test. It may take 1-2 weeks for NABP's testing vendor to issue an ATT after you've been declared eligible by the Board.

Q: *How do I request special testing accommodations?*

A: Special testing accommodations are reviewed by both the Board and NABP. To request a special accommodation:

- Complete the NABP official Testing Application for Disability Examination and submit it to the Board with your Missouri license application. The Testing Application for Disability Examination is available

on the Board's website at pr.mo.gov/pharmacists-forms.asp. You will be contacted by NABP if your request is approved. Note: As the Board's approved testing provider, NABP may request additional information regarding accommodation requests.

Q: *What topics are covered on the MPJE?*

A: Detailed information on the MPJE can be found in the Missouri MPJE Information & Fact Sheet available online at pr.mo.gov/boards/pharmacy/notcovered.pdf. The Fact Sheet also includes information on subjects not tested on the MPJE.

Q: *What if I don't pass the test(s)?*

A: Applicants must pass both the NAPLEX and MPJE to be licensed in Missouri. Reciprocity candidates are only required to take the MPJE. Applicants who are unsuccessful on one or both of the exams, must apply to retake the failed exam(s). To retake, applicants are required to:

- File a Pharmacist Examination Retake Application with the Board and pay the application fee.
- Register online with NABP to retake the exam(s) failed at www.nabp.net/programs. An additional examination fee will be charged by NABP.
- Call or e-mail the board at (573) 751-0092 or pharmacist@pr.mo.gov to notify the Board office that you've registered with NABP for the exams.
- After you notify the office that you've registered, the Board will electronically notify NABP if you are eligible to retake after your completed [Pharmacist Examination Retake Application](#) is received. Once again, you will not be declared eligible to retake until your retake application is complete.
- NABP's testing vendor will send you an ATT that will provide instructions for scheduling your exam date.
- Contact NABP's testing vendor to schedule a date and location to retake. The Board will notify you of your score results in writing.

NABP requires a 90-day waiting period before you are allowed to retake the NAPLEX. A 30-day waiting period is required for the MPJE. In addition to NABP's waiting periods, applicants who have failed any test more than two (2) times will be required to meet with the Board in person before being allowed to retake. The Board may require you to complete additional study or training before allowing you to retake after two (2) failed exams.

Q: *Can I transfer my MPJE score from another state to Missouri?*

A: No. The MPJE is different in each state. MPJE scores from another state cannot be transferred into Missouri.

Q: *How do I transfer my NAPLEX score from another state to Missouri?*

A: This is commonly called a "score transfer." Applicants seeking to transfer their NAPLEX scores to Missouri

must file a score transfer request with NABP asking to transfer your score. Score transfer requests can be submitted to NABP online at www.nabp.net/programs/examination/naplex/score-transfer. The request must be submitted to NABP within 90-days from taking the NAPLEX.

Missouri does not have a separate score transfer application. Interested applicants should submit a [Missouri Pharmacist Examination Application](#) and provide their NAPLEX testing date in the applicable section.

Q: *How do I transfer my NAPLEX score from Missouri to another state?*

A: The same process applies. Missouri applicants should file an official score transfer request with NABP to transfer their Missouri NAPLEX score to another state. Again, score transfer requests must be submitted to NABP within 90-days after taking the NAPLEX.

Q: *Can I still be licensed in Missouri if I miss the 90-day window to transfer my score?*

A: Yes. If you have a current pharmacist license in another state, you can apply to be licensed by transfer/reciprocity. All other candidates will have to file a Pharmacist Examination Application, retake the NAPLEX and take the MPJE for Missouri.

Q: *How long is my application valid?*

A: Missouri Pharmacist Examination Applications are valid for one (1) year. Applicants who do not complete the license process (including passing both exams) within the required one (1) year will be required to submit a new application and be fingerprinted again. See below for reciprocity applicants.

Q: *I'd like to be licensed in more than one state, how do I do that?*

A: Each state has different licensing requirements. You should contact the board in each of the states where you'd like to be licensed for more information. Contact information for all 50 state pharmacy boards is available online at www.nabp.net/boards-of-pharmacy. Remember, NAPLEX score transfer requests must be submitted to NABP within 90-days after taking the exam.

Q: *How many intern/pharmacy practice hours are required in Missouri?*

A: Missouri requires 1,500 pharmacy practice hours for a Missouri pharmacist license. Applicants with less than 1,500 hours may apply for a Missouri intern license to earn the missing hours. See the Missouri Intern Guide for Non-Missouri Students for additional information.

Q: *Will the Board accept my intern/pharmacy practice hours from another state?*

A: Yes, if the pharmacy practice hours relate to the practice of pharmacy and comply with rule 20 CSR 2220-7.030(1). The practice hours must be officially certified by another state board of pharmacy or by an ACPE accredited pharmacy school/college.

Q: *How do I get my Missouri intern hours verified to another state?*

A: Graduates should send a written request to the Board asking to verify your intern hours. The request should include your name, address, intern pharmacist license number and the contact name and address where the verification should be sent. Certification requests should be e-mailed to: intern@pr.mo.gov or mailed to: P.O. Box 625, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 (e-mail is preferred). Verification requests may take 7-10 days to process. The Board does not charge to verify hours.

Q: *How do I transfer my pharmacist license from another state to Missouri?*

A: In lieu of an examination application, individuals who currently hold a pharmacist license in another state may file a reciprocity application to be licensed in Missouri. Interested applicants should:

- Complete NABP's Preliminary Application and submit the Preliminary Application and the required application fee directly to NABP. The Preliminary Application must be submitted through NABP's online e-portal system at www.nabp.net/programs/licensure/licensure-transfer.
- After NABP processes the Preliminary Application, NABP will mail you an Official Application. The Official Application will have an assigned issuance date. The Official Application must be completed and submitted to the Board within three (3) months of the issuance date designated on the Official Application.
- In addition to NABP's Official Application, applicants must also submit a Pharmacist License Transfer Reciprocity Applicant Statement to the Board office. The Applicant Statement is a Board form and is available online at pr.mo.gov/boards/pharmacy/375-0486.pdf. Both NABP's Official Application and the Board's Applicant Statement must be submitted to the Board.
- Applicants must take and pass the MPJE exam for Missouri. MPJE scores from other jurisdictions cannot be accepted (see above for exam scheduling requirements).
- Applicants must submit fingerprints and undergo a criminal history background check by the Board's approved fingerprinting vendor. Fingerprint information is contained in the Board's application packet. *Fingerprints can be submitted at any time during the application process. However, you will be required to be re-fingerprinted and pay all

applicable fees if your completed NABP Official Application and Board Applicant Statement are not received by the Board within 6-months after your criminal history reports are received.

Q: *When will I receive my license?*

A: It may take 1-2 weeks after your exam scores are received to issue a license. This time may be extended in the event of high application volume. Your pharmacist license will be mailed to your address of record. Your license status and license number will be available on the Board's website within twenty-four hours after issuance.

Q: *Is my application fee refundable?*

A: By law, all application fees are non-refundable.

Q: *How do I apply for a Medication Therapeutic Services (MTS) certificate?*

A: Missouri law allows pharmacists to provide medication therapeutic services with a certificate of medication therapeutic plan authority (MTS certificate) issued by the Board. Visit the Board's website at pr.mo.gov/pharmacists-medication-therapy.asp for more information on MTS requirements.

Information for Graduates of a Non-US. Pharmacy School/College

Applicants that are graduates of a pharmacy school that is NOT located in a U.S. state or territory must file:

- A Foreign Pharmacy School Graduate Examination Application (for candidates who will be taking both the NAPLEX and MPJE), or
- A Foreign Pharmacy School Graduate Transfer Reciprocity Application (for non-U.S. graduates that are currently licensed as pharmacists in another U.S. State or territory).

All non-U.S. graduates must apply for and hold a Foreign **Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee (FPGEC) certification** from the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy. Applicants must be FPGEC certified before submitting a Missouri pharmacist application. Applications without proof of FPGEC certification will be deemed incomplete.

Except as otherwise provided for reciprocity candidates, non-U.S. graduates must have completed 1,500 pharmacy practice hours. The required 1,500 hours must have been completed after the date of your FPGEC certification. Hours earned before your FPGEC certification cannot be accepted. The Board will accept pharmacy practice hours that are earned in and certified by another state board of pharmacy, provided the hours comply with rule 20 CSR 2220-7.040(4) (F). Alternatively, applicants may apply for a Missouri intern license to earn the additional hours. See the Missouri Intern Guide for Non-Missouri Students at pr.mo.gov/pharmacists-forms.asp for additional information on Missouri intern requirements.

The 1,500 pharmacy practice hours are not required if the applicant has held an active pharmacist license in another U.S. state or territory for at least one (1) year.



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