

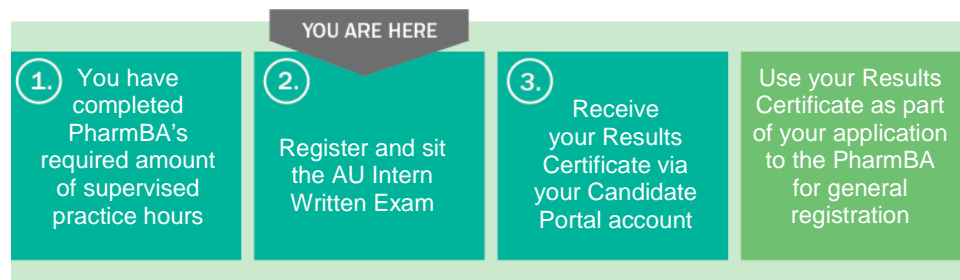
AUSTRALIAN INTERN WRITTEN EXAMINATION

Graduates of approved Australian and New Zealand pharmacy programs who hold provisional registration with the [Pharmacy Board of Australia \(PharmBA\)](#) or equivalent registration in New Zealand will be required to complete a number of steps before they can apply for general registration as a pharmacist in Australia or New Zealand. This includes successfully passing the Australian / New Zealand Intern Written Exam whilst they are completing a period of supervised practice (internship) through an accredited Intern Training Program (ITP). This requirement also applies to [overseas qualified pharmacists](#).

Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) deliver the Australian Intern Written Examination in Australia on behalf of the PharmBA. The exam is used to assess an intern's practical pharmacy competency and knowledge. Candidates may register to sit the exam if they have completed or will complete the required amount of PharmBA [approved supervised practice hours](#) by the date of the exam.

The Australian Intern Written Examination fee is currently **AUD 660** per attempt.

Candidates should carefully review this information sheet in its entirety before registering for an exam.



1. YOU HAVE COMPLETED PharmBA'S REQUIRED AMOUNT OF SUPERVISED PRACTICE HOURS

- ✓ You currently hold provisional registration with the PharmBA and you have, or will have completed, the approved amount of supervised practice hours by the date of the exam.

2. REGISTER AND SIT THE AUSTRALIAN INTERN WRITTEN EXAMINATION

- Check the [exam dates and places](#) page on the APC website for the exam schedules
- Sign-in the /create an account in the APC [Candidate Portal](#) and complete the online eligibility check
- Go to section 2. Click on 'Book an Exam' and commence the online registration. As part of the registration process, you will be requested to enter some basic information, such as, contact details, university, ITP. Special Needs Accommodation: If you have a special accommodation request, you will be required to upload your supporting documents in the APC [Candidate Portal](#) for further assessment. If your application is approved, APC will contact you with further information on how to complete the registration process
- Wait while the system is directing you to the Pearson VUE web site
- Select your test centre, date and time, and proceed to checkout
- Agree to Policies
- Submit order and review summary page prior to returning the APC web site to make payment
- Use a credit card (Mastercard or Visa) to pay the application fee which is currently **AUD 660** per attempt.
- You will have 30 minutes to complete payment. If you do not complete this in time, you will be logged out and you will have to start the process again.
- Receive your registration confirmation via email: Once your exam details are confirmed and payment processed, you will receive a confirmation email from Pearson VUE verifying your details and listing the exam rules and policies. It is very important that you read the confirmation email carefully and contact APC if you need to make any changes to your personal records.
- Receive the exam reminder: You will receive a reminder email approximately from APC 1 week before your exam date.
- Attend your exam venue and complete your exam.

3. RECEIVE YOUR RESULTS

- You or your nominated agent will receive an email from the APC approximately two weeks after the exam date with instructions on how to view/download the exam results in your [Candidate Portal account](#).
- If you pass the exam, you can view/download your Results Certificate in your [Candidate Portal account](#).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

AUSTRALIAN INTERN WRITTEN EXAMINATION ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

You may register to sit the Australian Intern Written Examination if you have completed the required amount of PharmBA [approved supervised practice hours](#) by the date of the exam.

Your exam registration will be verified by the PharmBA to confirm your eligibility. If you are ineligible to sit the Australian Intern Written Examination, you will receive an email notifying you about the cancellation of your exam and the exam fee refund arrangement. It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure their eligibility to sit the exam, before submitting exam registration and making payment.

Candidates having any questions regarding their exam eligibility should contact the PharmBA direct. The APC also requires that candidates complete an online eligibility check in the APC [Candidate Portal](#) prior to commencement of registration.

APC CANDIDATE PORTAL ACCOUNTS

First Time Users: Create an account in the APC [Candidate Portal](#) and register for the exam.

Returning Users: Candidates who have previously set up an account in the APC [Candidate Portal](#) can sign-in with their existing username and password.

KAPS Candidates: Candidates who have previously set up an account in the APC [Candidate Portal](#) can sign-in with their existing username and password.

KAPS Candidates who do not have an existing Candidate Portal account: They need to contact the APC at exams@pharmacycouncil.org.au and provide the following information:

- Your full name
- Your date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY)
- Your APC reference number

Candidates will be sent log-in details upon confirmation of the above details.

All Candidates: If you have created an account in our [Candidate Portal](#) at any time and you are unable to log-in, please contact the APC at exams@pharmacycouncil.org.au to report the issue for resolution. Please do not attempt to create a new account with a different email address as one candidate is only allowed one account in the Candidate Portal.

PEARSON VUE ACCOUNTS

The APC candidate portal will automatically login you into a Pearson VUE account. No account creation is needed on the Pearson VUE web site.

EXAM DATES AND PLACES

You will be requested to select your examination details including venue, date, and time.

Please refer to the APC's [exam dates and places](#) web page for details about where, when and what to bring for your exam.

FEES AND PAYMENT

AUD 660 per attempt

Payment must be made by credit card (Visa or MasterCard) online. The APC does not accept any alternative forms of payment. You will have 30 minutes to complete payment.

Your credit card must be issued by a bank located in the same country that you are resident in. If it is not, the payment will be suspended, and you will not be able to complete the transaction. Please contact your financial institution if you require any advice relating to credit card payments.

After making payment, you will receive your confirmation email from Pearson VUE containing exam venue, date and time along with other important information.

A payment receipt will be sent to your nominated email address after completing payment.

Other fees and charges:

- AUD 70 - Exam Remark fee (upon request)
- AUD 80 - Administration fee (for reprinting of APC official documents).
- AUD 450 - Appeal to the APC Appeals Panel (upon request)
- AUD 900 - Appeal to Independent Appeals Committee (upon request)

REFUNDS AND CANCELLATION

Please refer to the [APC Refund of Fees for Exam Cancellation Guidelines](#) for comprehensive information on the processes and procedures available to APC candidates wishing to withdraw from an exam. This policy is also applicable to candidates who may incur illness or personal circumstances that may prevent you from attempting the exam on the day.

SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATION

Special needs accommodation is the arrangement made by us to assist candidates who have physical or personal conditions that require support on the day of the exam.

If you have a condition that may affect your ability to take the exam, you should contact the APC at exams@pharmacycouncil.org.au and provide current supporting documentation from an appropriately qualified practitioner along with your request. The documentation will be used to verify a condition and provide relevant and useful information in assessing appropriate adjustments or accommodations. Your application will be reviewed, and you will be contacted if additional information is required from you.

If your request is approved, the APC will notify you by email.

It takes time for special needs accommodation requests to obtain approval. If you think you may require special needs accommodation, please contact the APC well in advance of the closing date of your exam registration.

Examples of special needs accommodations that we may be able to arrange for you are:

- additional time
- permission to leave the exam room for breaks
- permission for more leg room due to an injury

The APC is unable to facilitate any special needs accommodation requests after the exam registration closure date.

IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED TO SIT THE EXAM

Please provide two identity documents (IDs) to enter the exam venue and sit the exam.

Primary ID

- International Passport
- Government issued national/country identity card (with photo)
- Government issued citizenship card (with photo)
- Australian/NZ driver's licence

Secondary ID

- Debit (ATM) card
- Credit card
- Any form of ID on the primary list

Please refer to the APC [exam dates and places](#) page for information on the mandatory documents required to sit the Australian Intern Written Examination.

EXAM APPROACH AND DELIVERY

High-stakes exam development and delivery require the highest levels of security and accuracy.

In partnership with Pearson VUE, the APC delivers high-stakes pharmacy exams to thousands of candidates around the world.

Through regular subject-matter reviews and psychometric analysis, the APC ensures the reliability, defensibility and validity of its exams.

EXAM FORMAT

The AU Intern Written Examination is delivered by computer (via Pearson VUE).

- It consists of 125 multiple-choice questions.
- Candidates must complete the exam paper within 3 hours.
- Each question contains a stem (a question, phrase or short paragraph) and four to five possible answers.
- There is only one correct answer for each question.

- The computer will randomise the order of all the questions. However, the eight Domain 1 questions and eight Domain 5 questions will always appear in the first 16 questions of every exam.

EXAM SUBJECT AREAS

There are five content areas covered by the Australian Intern Written Examination. These content areas are based on the [National Competency Standards Framework for Pharmacist in Australia 2010](#). The areas covered in the exam are:

Domain 1: Professional and ethical practice, including the following standards

- practise legally
- practise to accepted standards.

Domain 4: Review and supply prescribed medicines, including the following standards

- consider the appropriateness of prescribed medicines
- dispense prescribed medicines.

Domain 5: Prepare pharmaceutical products, including the following standards

- consider product requirements.

Domain 6: Deliver primary and preventative health care, including the following standards

- assess primary health care needs
- deliver primary health care
- contribute to public and preventative health.

Domain 7: Promote and contribute to optimal use of medicines, including the following standards

- contribute to therapeutic decision-making
- provide ongoing medication management.

EXAM QUESTION TYPES

Questions may either stand-alone or be associated with a patient profile.

Stand-alone questions are those questions that are self-contained. You will be given all the information required to answer the question in the stem.

Patient profile questions are two to five questions that are linked to content found in a patient record or profile. The patient profile will provide you with basic information about the patient (e.g. age, weight, allergies) and more detailed information like a presenting complaint(s), any test results and the medication history.

You should answer the patient questions within the context of the profile. The answer to a question in the profile will not be dependent upon correctly answering another question. You will be able to answer each question independently of the other profile questions.

PREPARING FOR THE EXAM

The below resources are available to support candidates with preparing for an exam:

- four online training modules for exam preparation
- downloadable practice exam and answer sheet
- downloadable Guide for the Australian Intern Written Examination
- online tutorial to give you the chance to see the computer software used to deliver the exam.

All resources are located on our [exam resources](#) page.

APC exams are set on the latest information available through relevant journals, publications and textbooks. It is up to the candidate to obtain the latest information. APC does not endorse any reference sources.

ITEMS PERMITTED / NOT PERMITTED IN THE ROOM

Candidates may undertake an exam in a room with candidates who are sitting other exams. These candidates may have different requirements/reference material restrictions.

Australian Intern Written Examination is an open-book exam.

Permitted Items:

- printed/hand written reference materials permitted for use by candidates in the exam. This means you are allowed to bring any preferred printed handwritten materials to the venue
- calculators: There are no restrictions on the type of calculators you can bring into the room. An online calculator will also be available during the exam.

Non-permitted Items:

- wrist watches, mobile phones, tablets or other electronic devices at your workstation
- pens/pencils: (an erasable marker and notepad will be provided)

EXAM RESULTS AND NEXT STEPS

You will be notified that results are available for download at your Candidate Portal account after marking is finished. Results are posted approximately two weeks after the exam date. APC releases its exam results as PASS or FAIL only. Interns must pass the Australian Intern Written Exam as a part of their Pharmacy Board of Australia (PharmBA) mandated intern year.

If you fail the exam, you will receive a results breakdown email. You are strongly advised to discuss your results with your preceptor, ITP Provider and any other members of your professional network.

The Australian Intern Written Examination covers competency Domains from 1, 4, 5, 6, and 7 from the National Competency Standards Framework for Pharmacists in Australia.

Pass marks

You must achieve both the **overall pass mark** and the **minimum pass mark in each Domain area**.

You must achieve the following minimum pass marks to achieve a PASS on the Australian Intern Written Examination:

Overall pass mark: 65% or above

- Domain 1 pass mark: 63% or above
- Domain 4 pass mark: 50% or above
- Domain 5 pass mark: 63% or above
- Domain 6 pass mark: 50% or above
- Domain 7 pass mark: 50% or above

The overall pass mark is calculated by taking the number of questions answered correctly and dividing by the total number of questions in the exam.

Different domain areas have different total number of questions, so you cannot average your scores in the five domains to reach your overall score.

Interns who fail the exam more than three times will be offered counselling on the exam. The details of this counselling will be in the results email sent to interns after results are posted.

If you cannot view your results at your Candidate Portal, please email the APC at: exams@pharmacycouncil.org.au with your full name, and date of birth, for assistance.

UPDATING YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Candidates are required to provide us with written notification of a change in contact details/address. The [Change in Contact Details](#) form must be signed to be valid.

APPEALING A DECISION / REQUESTING AN EXAM REVIEW

Please refer to the [APC Appeals Policy](#) for comprehensive information on the processes and procedures available to APC stakeholders wishing to appeal an APC decision, including applying for an exam review.

CONTACT US

APC Exams Team

Email: exams@pharmacycouncil.org.au

Phone: +61 2 6188 4288 – select 2 for the Exams Team

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Pharmacy Board of Australia (PharmBA)

Web: www.pharmacyboard.gov.au

Phone: within Australia call 1300 419 495; from outside Australia call +61 3 9275 9009

