

KNOWLEDGE ASSESSMENT OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES (KAPS) EXAMINATION - STREAM A

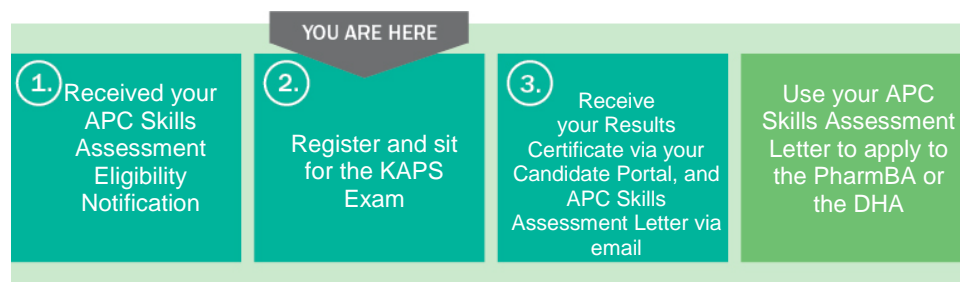
The [APC Skills Assessment-Stream A](#) is composed of an eligibility assessment and a knowledge assessment comprising two exam papers. Candidates will be required to successfully complete both components to receive the APC Skills Assessment letter.

The Knowledge Assessment of Pharmaceutical Sciences (KAPS) Examination comprising two examination papers is designed to test your knowledge of basic pharmaceutical sciences related to the current practice of pharmacy in an Australia setting.

The KAPS exam fee is currently **A\$2,060** per attempt.

Following the successful completion of the KAPS Exam, you will be considered suitable to gain entry to the registration process at the same point as an Australian pharmacy graduate and will be expected to complete the [Pharmacy Board of Australia's](#) (PharmBA) registration requirements to be eligible for general registration.

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



1. YOU RECEIVED YOUR APC SKILLS ASSESSMENT ELIGIBILITY NOTIFICATION

You received an APC Skills Assessment eligibility notification advising you were eligible under Stream A to sit the KAPS Exam.

2. REGISTER AND SIT FOR THE KAPS EXAM

- Check the [exams dates and places](#) page on the APC website for the exam schedules
- Special Needs Accommodation Requests: All requests should be emailed to exams@pharmacycouncil.org.au if you require special needs accommodation at the exam venue on the exam day
- Sign-in to APC's [Candidate Portal](#)
- Go to section 2. 'Register and Complete the KAPS Examination' and click on 'Book an Exam'.
- Wait while the system is diverting 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 to APC web page to make payment
- Use a credit card (MasterCard or Visa) to pay the application fee which is currently **A\$2,060** per attempt.
- You will have 30 minutes to complete payment. If you do not complete this in time, 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 us if you need to make any changes to your personal records.
- Receive the exam reminder email: The APC will send you a reminder email approximately one week before your exam date.
- Attend your exam venue and complete your exam

3. RECEIVE YOUR APC SKILLS ASSESSMENT LETTER

- You or your nominated agent will receive an email from us when the KAPS Exam result certificates are available to view / download in at your APC [Candidate Portal account](#).
- If you pass the KAPS exam, the APC will send the APC Skills Assessment letter to your / your nominated agent's email address.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For further information on the APC Skills Assessment process, please visit the Assessments section on the main page of our website and download the '[APC Skills Assessment-Stream A](#)' [information pack](#).

THE APC CANDIDATE PORTAL ACCOUNTS

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

Candidates who do not have existing sign-in details can contact us at exams@pharmacycouncil.org.au by providing the following information:

- the full name
- the date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY)
- the 6-digit APC candidate reference number
- a scanned copy of the APC Skills Assessment Eligibility notification / letter.

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

PEARSON VUE ACCOUNTS

The APC candidate portal will automatically direct you into a Pearson VUE account. No account creation is needed.

NOMINATING AN AGENT / THIRD PARTY TO ACT ON YOUR BEHALF

If you would like to appoint someone to liaise with APC on your behalf (e.g. migration agent, family member, or friend), you will need to upload the agent authorisation form that is available in the 'If You Use an Agent' section when setting up your profile in the APC [Candidate Portal](#). Both you and your agent must sign the [Agent's Authority](#) form. Under Australian privacy legislation, we must have a written authority form from you before communicating with anyone on your behalf.

Please note that APC will not correspond with you (the candidate) directly if you have nominated an agent/or third party to act on your behalf.

Please note that the email addresses for the candidate and the agent/third party must be different.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

Candidates are not required to provide evidence of their English language skills to be eligible to sit the KAPS Exam.

The [Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency](#) (AHPRA) will require you to provide evidence of English proficiency to complete the [Pharmacy Board of Australia's](#) (PharmBA) registration requirements to be eligible for general registration as a pharmacist in Australia..

You should consult the [Department of Home Affairs](#) (DHA) for further information on the English language requirements associated with visa / migration applications.

EXAM DATES AND PLACES

You need to select your examination details including venue, date and time, to complete your exam registration.

Please refer to our [exam dates and places](#) page for details about when, where and what to bring to the exam.

FEES AND PAYMENT

The exam fee of KAPS exam is currently **A\$2,060** per attempt. Payment must be made by credit card (Visa or MasterCard) online. We do not accept any alternative forms of payment. You must finish your payment within 30 minutes.

Your credit card must be issued by a bank located in the same country that you are a 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:

- A\$70** - Exam Remark fee
- A\$80** - Administration fee (for reprinting of APC official documents)
- A\$450** - Appeal to the APC Appeals Panel
- A\$900** - Appeal to Independent Appeals Committee

REFUNDS

Please refer to the [APC Refund of Fees for Examination 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 send your requests to exams@pharmacycouncil.org.au, and provide current supporting documentation, e.g., a medical certificate 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. We will then review your application and contact you if we require additional information.

If your request is approved, we will notify you by email. We will also notify the venue coordinator who will provide you further guidance on the day of the exam.

It takes time for special needs accommodation requests to obtain approval. If you think you may require special needs accommodation, please contact us 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.

We are unable to facilitate any special needs accommodation requests after the exam registration closure date.

IDENTIFICATION 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 our [exam dates and places](#) page for information about the mandatory documents required to sit the KAPS Exam.

EXAM APPROACH AND DELIVERY

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

In partnership with Pearson VUE, we deliver our high-stakes pharmacy exams to thousands of candidates around the world.

Through regular subject-matter reviews and psychometric analysis, we ensure the reliability, defensibility and validity of our exams.

EXAM FORMAT

The KAPS Exam is delivered by computer via [Pearson VUE](#).

- It consists of two multiple-choice question papers, covering theory and practice.
- You must complete each exam paper within 2 hours, i.e., 4 hours in total for both papers.
- Each paper consists of 100 questions.
- Each question contains a stem (a question, phrase or short paragraph) and 4 to 5 possible answers.
- There is only one correct answer for each question.
- Candidates attempting both paper 1 and paper 2 must sit both papers on the same exam day.

EXAM SUBJECT AREAS

The KAPS Exam covers the following four domains from the National Competency Standards Framework for Pharmacists in Australia 2010:

- Domain 1: Pharmaceutics
- Domain 2: Therapeutics
- Domain 3: Pharmaceutical Chemistry
- Domain 4: Pharmacology and Physiology

There are two papers of each KAPS Exam:

- Paper 1: Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Physiology, Pathophysiology and Pharmacology
- Paper 2: Pharmaceutics and Therapeutics

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 2 to 5 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 also more detailed information such as the presenting complaint(s), any available test results and the medication history.

Patient questions should be answered within the context of the profile. The answer to a question in the profile will not be dependent upon correctly answering another question. Candidates will be able to answer each question independently of other associated 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 exams and answer sheet
- Downloadable Guide for the KAPS Exam
- 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 EXAM ROOM

KAPS is a closed-book exam. Permitted items:

- calculator (must not be internet-capable)
- an online calculator will also be provided as part of the exam software.

Non-permitted items:

- wrist watches, mobile phones, tablets or other electronic devices at your workstation
- pencils/pens into the exam room (an erasable marker and notepad will be provided to you)

EXAM RESULTS AND NEXT STEPS

Results are available to view / download in the APC Candidate Portal account approximately 8 weeks from the exam date. APC releases its exam results as PASS or FAIL only.

To pass the KAPS Exam, you must achieve a **minimum overall pass mark** of 50% in Paper 1 and Paper 2. You must also achieve 50% in **each of the sub-sections** in both papers.

You or your nominated agent will receive an email from us when your exam result/s are available to download on our website. This email will contain the link to the APC [Candidate Portal](#), and information on how to login to access your results.

For both successful and unsuccessful candidates: Your **Result Certificate** can be downloaded from the APC Candidate Portal.

For successful candidates: Your Skills Assessment Letter will be emailed to you. You will require your **Result Certificate** and the **Skills Assessment Letter** to apply for provisional registration with [AHPRA](#).

You are allowed an unlimited number of attempts at the KAPS Exam. You must pass both papers before receiving the APC Skills Assessment letter. If you pass only one paper, you will have two years to pass the unsuccessful paper. If you cannot pass the unsuccessful paper in two years, you will be required to sit both papers again.

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.

VALIDITY OF EXAM RESULTS

If you pass, your exam pass result will be valid for APC purposes for 3 years from the date on the APC Skills Assessment letter.

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

Candidate Portal Login Issues / Exams Enquiries:

APC Exams Team

Email: exams@pharmacycouncil.org.au

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

Eligibility / Assessments Enquiries:

APC Assessments Team

Email: assessments@pharmacycouncil.org.au

Phone: +61 2 6188 4288 – select option 1 for the Assessments 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

Pharmacy Council of New Zealand

Email: enquiries@pharmacycouncil.org.nz

Web: www.pharmacycouncil.org.nz

Phone: +64 4 495 0330

Australian Department of Home Affairs

Web: <http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/>

Phone: Within Australia call 131 881; from outside Australia, please contact the relevant Australian Immigration office overseas.