

KNOWLEDGE ASSESSMENT OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES (KAPS) EXAMINATION – (New Zealand Candidates only)

- The Knowledge Assessment of Pharmaceutical Sciences (KAPS) Examination is designed to test candidates' knowledge of basic pharmaceutical sciences related to the current practice of pharmacy in New Zealand.
- Candidates must have received confirmation from the [Pharmacy Council of New Zealand \(PCNZ\)](#) that they are eligible to sit the KAPS exam and APC will also have been notified of candidate eligibility.
- Candidates will liaise directly with APC on any matters relating to the KAPS exam.
- The KAPS Exam fee is currently **AUD 2,060** per attempt.
- Following the satisfactory completion of the KAPS Exam, candidates will be required to meet the registration requirements to be eligible for full registration.

TO REGISTER FOR THE KAPS EXAM

- The APC will email each candidate their account login details for use in the Candidate Portal
- Please sign-in to the APC's [Candidate Portal](#) using your account login
- Choose 'My Portal' from the dropdown menu at the upper right-hand corner of the page
- In section 2 select 'Register and Complete the KAPS Examination' and click on 'Book an Exam' (you will be redirected to the Pearson VUE website)
- Select your preferred test centre, exam date and time
- Proceed to checkout, and agree to Policies
- Submit order and review summary page
- Receive a confirmation email from Pearson VUE **temporarily reserving the selected seat**. Click the link in this email to return to the APC website
- Pay the exam fee (AUD 2,060) by a credit card (Mastercard or Visa) or a debit card
- Once payment has been successful, the exam booking will be secured.
- Payment must be completed within 30 minutes or the exam booking will be cancelled. If this happens you will need to start the process again.

An exam reminder email will be sent from the APC one week before the exam date.

NOMINATING AN AGENT / THIRD PARTY TO ACT ON CANDIDATE'S BEHALF

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

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

EXAM DATES AND PLACES

Candidates need to select their examination details including venue, date, and time, to complete the exam registrations.

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

FEES AND PAYMENT

Exam fee is **AUD 2,060** per attempt. Payment must be made by credit card (Visa or MasterCard) or debit card online. No any alternative forms of payment are accepted. Payment must be completed within 30 minutes.

Credit cards must be issued by a bank located in the same country that the candidates are resident in.

A payment receipt will be sent to the candidate's nominated email address after completing payment.

REFUNDS

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 candidates from attempting the exam on the day.

SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATION

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

Candidates having a condition that may affect their ability to take the exam are eligible to raise a request to exams@pharmacycouncil.org.au, and provide current supporting documentation, e.g., a medical certificate from an appropriately qualified practitioner,

along with the request. The documentation will be used to verify a condition and provide relevant and useful information in assessing appropriate adjustments or accommodations.

If the request is approved, the candidate will receive an email notification from the APC.

All special needs accommodation requests must be raised during exam registration.

Examples of special needs accommodations that can be provided 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 REQUIRED TO SIT THE EXAM

Two identity documents (IDs) are required 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

Refer to APC's [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:

- 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, Pharmacology and Physiology
- 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. Candidates will be given all the information required to answer the question.

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 candidates with basic information about the patient (e.g. age, weight, allergies) and also more detailed information like a presenting complaint(s), any 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:

- downloadable practice exams
- downloadable Guide for the KAPS Exam
- online tutorial to give candidates 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 4 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. Your Result Certificate can be downloaded from the APC Candidate Portal.

You are allowed 2 attempts at the KAPS Exam. A subsequent attempt may be allowed at the discretion of the Registrar. Once a candidate has passed both papers, the KAPS result remains valid for two years. This may be extended at the discretion of the Registrar.

UPDATING CANDIDATES' 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.

CONTACT US

Australian Pharmacy Council

Candidate Portal Login Issues / Exam Registration

Enquiries: APC Exams Team

Email: exams@pharmacycouncil.org.au

Web: <http://www.pharmacycouncil.org.au>

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

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Pharmacy Council of New Zealand

Email: enquiries@pharmacycouncil.org.nz

Web: www.pharmacycouncil.org.nz

Phone: +64 4 495 0330