

Requirements for sitting for the National Pharmacy Council knowledge assessment

August, 2015

Background

The National Pharmacy Council was established by law no 45/12 of 14/01/2013 on organization, functioning and competence of the council of pharmacist. The law provides competence to the council to assess pharmacists' knowledge before they get registered in its article 20 and 21

Article 20: Knowledge assessment

The National Council Board shall put in place a knowledge assessment system, organs responsible for conducting such assessment and monitor its conduct. The internal rules and regulations of the Council shall determine modalities for conducting the assessment. Each pharmacist must obtain the minimum score as determined by the **National Council Board** for him/her to be duly authorized to practice the pharmacy profession.

Article 21: Post-knowledge assessment measures

When a pharmacist fails to obtain the required score, the National Council Board shall take one or more of the following measures:

- to subject him/her to a specific ongoing training program;
- to require him/her to sit for a written examination;
- to require him/her to work under the supervision of another pharmacist or to impose him/her some restrictions;
- To remove his/her name from the Register of members of the Council.

Guidelines related to examinations and pre-registration procedures

As approved by the board meeting of 27th August, 2015,

Pursuant to law no 45/12 of 14/01/2013 on organization, functioning and competence of the council of pharmacist, especially in its article 20 and 21,

The national pharmacy council hereby adopts the following guidelines related to examination and pre-registration procedures.

Article 1

No pharmacist will be registered unless he/she sit for a pre-registration examination and pass at a score of 70% for written exam and 70% for the interview. The interview is conducted for those who passed the written exam at a score of at least 70% and the registration is done for those who pass both written and interview score at least 70%.

Article 2

Applicants can appeal the decision of the NPC's Education and Research Committee for the scores obtained. In this case, the appeal letter is addressed to the chair of the board, who is in charge of addressing this matter with the appropriate person(s). Appeal is addressed within a maximum of 5 days.

Article 2

Pre-registration examination is conducted twice a year. The first one is conducted in September of each year and the second one in February of each year. However under special conditions, a special sitting exam can be organized.

Article 3

Every applicant for the pre-registration examination submit the following documents

1. An application letter addressed to the NPC chair
2. A recognized, certified notarized degree from a recognized university
3. An equivalence issued by the High Education Council is required for foreign citizens and Rwandese who possess foreign qualifications.

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4. Proof of payment of registration fees of 30,000 Frw for nationals and 100\$ for foreign citizens
 5. Copy of the ID or passport bio-data page

Article 4

Two types of examinations shall be passed by each applicant willing to register with the National Pharmacy Council: the written examination and the interview. An applicant who will not pass as required will be subject to Article 21 (Post-knowledge assessment measures) of Law No 45/12 of 14/01/2013 on organization, functioning and competence of the council of pharmacist

Article 5

The following area shall be assessed during the pre-registration examination

1. Pharmacy laws and regulations in the pharmacy area
2. Pharmacology and toxicology
3. Applied therapeutics
4. Pharmacy practice
5. Pharmaceutics
6. Supply chains and logistics

Article 6

The pre-registration examination is a mix of multiple questions, open questions, short answers, fill in the blank, and fill in the tables, matching column, case studies and interviews

Article 7

The written exam last for three (3) hours. The interview shall not exceed 20 minutes per each interviewee.

Article 8

The Education and Research Committee is in charge of preparing the exam. The Education and Research Committee may seek advice from experts in the various filed specified in article 5. The vice chair of the NPC and the executive secretary of the NPC participate to the preparation of the pre-registration exam.

Article 9

Without prejudice from article 8, the NPC can also assign other approved institutions to organize for the pre-registration exams.

Article 10

On behalf of the board, the NPC bureau members approve and validate the results of the pre-registration examination and publish them.

Done in Kigali on 31st August, 2015



**Patrick Nganji M.
Ag Executive Secretary
National Pharmacy Council**