

Registration Requirements for the Pharmacist Prescriber Scope of Practice

An applicant must satisfy all of the following requirements to apply for registration in the Pharmacist Prescriber Scope of Practice.

Registration requirements

1. Hold an annual Practising Certificate in the Pharmacist scope of practice;
2. Have at least three (3) years of recent and appropriate post registration experience working in a collaborative health team environment;
3. Hold a qualification accredited by the Pharmacy Council of New Zealand (the “Council”) for the purpose of the pharmacist prescriber scope of practice;
4. Submit a Practice Plan, endorsed by the clinical leader, which includes evidence to confirm that their prescribing practice occurs in a collaborative health team environment; and
5. Declare that their current practice includes competence standards M1, M2 and O1 from the *Competence Standards for the Pharmacy Profession, and all Pharmacist Prescriber Competence Standards*.

Each of the above requirements is explained below

Requirement a) *Hold an Annual Practising Certificate in the Pharmacist scope of practice.*

Applicants must be registered with the Council as a practising pharmacist and hold a current annual practising certificate.

Requirement b) *Have at least three (3) years of recent and appropriate post registration experience working in a collaborative health team environment*

The Council places paramount importance on recent, relevant experience in the area in which the pharmacist would be practising as a Pharmacist Prescriber. Based on feedback from submissions, the Council has revised this requirement to ensure the intent is clear.

Requirement c) *Hold a qualification accredited by the Council for the pharmacist prescriber scope of practice.*

The role of Council is to prescribe one or more qualifications that will lead to registration in a scope of practice and to accredit the course using agreed accreditation standards.

Prescribed and accredited qualifications for the Pharmacist Prescriber Scope of Practice include the following:

- Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Pharmacy in Prescribing, University of Auckland
- Postgraduate Certificate in Pharmacist Prescribing, University of Otago

Requirement d) *Submit a Practice Plan, endorsed by the clinical leader, which includes evidence to confirm their prescribing occurs within a collaborative health team environment.*

Pharmacist prescribers are *Designated Prescribers* under New Zealand legislation. They work as part of a collaborative health team. The Practice Plan provides Council with the assurance that the collaborative health team has a clear agreement as to the roles and responsibilities of the pharmacist prescriber to ensure patient safety.

The plan must include the following information:

- A full explanation of the defined area of practice, for example the type of patients and/or clinical conditions.
- Confirmation that the pharmacist prescriber has timely access to all relevant patient clinical information which includes history, physical examination results, and essential diagnostics.
- Plans for evaluation and peer review for assuring the quality of prescribing

Requirement e) Declare that their current practice includes competence standards M1, M2 and O1 from the *Competence Standards for the Pharmacy Profession* and all Pharmacist Prescriber Competence Standards.

On-going requirements

Council understands that Pharmacist Prescribers will, from time-to-time, amend or expand their defined area of practice or change the collaborative health team in which they work. To ensure that pharmacist prescribers continue to work in areas where they are competent to do so, Council will require a Practice Review to be conducted in these situations. This is a reflective exercise against the competence standards and will identify the areas where further learning is required. Any changes to the practice plan and the practice review are to be declared at the time of APC renewal.