



PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY
of New Zealand Incorporated



Te Pou Whakamana Kaimatū o Aotearoa

MEDIA RELEASE

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Hard work rewarded for 55 pharmacist interns now eligible to register as pharmacists

Fifty-five intern pharmacists successfully passed the May Assessment Centre, and are now eligible to register in the pharmacist scope of practice.

“Intern pharmacists work incredibly hard, using their years of learning to build practical, patient-focused skills during the intern programme,” said Michael Pead, Pharmacy Council Chief Executive.

“It is great to see some outstanding results from interns who simply needed a bit of extra time to consolidate their competencies and will now become fantastic pharmacists.”

The May Assessment Centre is for interns who did not complete the intern programme by the November 2025 Assessment Centre or who were unsuccessful at the November 2025 Assessment Centre. Both events maintain the same high standards required of candidates.

The 55 successful interns can now apply to register in the pharmacist scope of practice, joining the 153 people who passed the November Assessment Centre and potentially adding over 200 new pharmacists to the workforce in the last seven months.

The pass rate for this Assessment Centre was 59%, with fewer participants and a lower pass rate than May 2025.

Held in late May and delivered by the Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand (PSNZ), the Assessment Centre is the final step towards registration for aspiring pharmacists after completing the intern training programme.

“This is a team effort, with the Pharmacy Council and PSNZ working together to develop each Assessment Centre, creating an assessment that mirrors the real-life clinical scenarios encountered in pharmacies across the country,” said Michael.

“Thanks also to all the pharmacists who contributed their expertise over the last couple of months in case writing, piloting, standard setting and assessment. A lot of time and effort goes into making sure each Assessment Centre is psychometrically robust and runs smoothly for the participants.”

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