

**Conditional Licensure
Guidelines for Conditional Licensees and Supervising Pharmacists**

On May 9, 2003, new bylaws became effective allowing the College to issue conditional licences to graduates of the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition. The purpose of these guidelines is to explain this category of membership and clarify the responsibilities of supervising pharmacists for graduates who convocate in May 2003 and thereafter.

The new curriculum of the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, University of Saskatchewan, is accredited by the Canadian Council for the Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP). The accreditation standards are based upon the competencies for entry to practice developed by the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA). Thus, accreditation means that the program achieves educational outcomes consistent with officially recognized NAPRA competencies at entry to practice. The curriculum includes a Structured Practice Experiences Program (SPEP) that requires pharmacy students to undertake practice experience during each of the four years of study as part of the curriculum to qualify for the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy. Because graduates of 2003 and beyond have completed this program, they have demonstrated having met those competencies that can best be assessed in a structured practice experience. This provides sufficient reason to believe that graduates from accredited programs possess these competencies which are verified when they pass both the written and observed structured clinical examination (OSCE) formats of the PEBC. Therefore, post-graduate internship is not justified and is no longer required.

The new bylaws authorize that U of S pharmacy graduates be granted a "Conditional Practising" membership, so that they may practise under the supervision of a licensed Saskatchewan pharmacist prior to receiving their Certificate of Qualification from PEBC. The supervising pharmacist assumes responsibility for the licensee and determines the level of supervision required based on the licensee's abilities and level of performance. Other conditions include that the licensee:

- is not eligible to be named as a practising member who will have the management of a pharmacy, nor can the licensee be a director of a corporation holding a pharmacy permit;
- is not eligible to nominate, vote or hold office with the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists;
- is not eligible to have signing authority for the purchase of Narcotics, Controlled or Targeted Substances.

Frequently Asked Questions

1) Who is responsible for the "Conditional" Licensee?

Ultimately, it is the pharmacy manager, unless the manager has expressly delegated that responsibility to other pharmacist(s) and that person(s) has agreed.

2) Can the "Conditional" Licensee practise as a pharmacist?

Yes, the licensee can perform all of the functions of a licensed pharmacist as determined by the supervising pharmacist.

3) Is the "Conditional" Licensee still an intern?

No, the licensee is a pharmacist and may use that title. The only difference is that a licensed pharmacist accepts responsibility for the licensee until the licensee provides evidence of passing the PEBC. At that time, the conditions on the licence are removed and the licensee is granted all of the privileges of a licensed pharmacist.

4) How closely must I supervise the "Conditional" Licensee? Can the licensee practice alone?

Supervision can range from "immediate" where the pharmacist is present and physically observes and checks each action of

the licensee, to “remote” where the pharmacist is not present, but is available for consultation, for example via telephone, when required by the licensee. The degree and nature of supervision depends upon the ability of the licensee and familiarity with the pharmacy.

If the responsible pharmacist is satisfied that the licensee can manage on their own, the licensee may practise alone. A “Conditional Licensee” practising alone is **NOT** practising independently because another pharmacist accepts responsibility for their actions.

5) Does my, or my pharmacy’s liability insurance cover the “Conditional” Licensee?

That will depend upon the policy. However, the licensee is required to obtain personal malpractice insurance like any other practising and licensed member.

6) How are “Conditional” Licensees identified?

The term “Conditional” will appear on the licence.

7) When are the conditions on the licence removed and is there a fee?

They are removed when the licensee provides the SCP office with evidence certifying successful completion of both the written and OSCE components of the PEBC. No additional fee is charged.

8) What happens if the licensee does not pass the PEBC?

The conditions on the licence remain until June 30 of the year following convocation when the annual license expires, or as otherwise directed by Council.