



# PHARMACIST LICENSURE GUIDE *FOR FOREIGN-TRAINED PROFESSIONALS IN MAINE*



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## FOR FOREIGN-TRAINED PROFESSIONALS IN MAINE

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**New Mainers Resource Center – Who We Are.** The New Mainers Resource Center (NMRC) is a program within Portland Adult Education serving area immigrants and refugees. Our offerings are designed to help new Mainers overcome barriers to enter the US workforce. These include career guidance and employment case management, assistance with credential review and licensing requirements, intensive classes focused on job readiness skills, networking groups, workshops, and other offerings.

**The Purpose of this Guide** One major challenge faced by skilled professionals, such as pharmacists, is to successfully navigate complex licensing requirements if they want to practice as a licensed pharmacist in Maine. The purpose of this guide is to provide foreign-trained pharmacists with the information they need to make informed decisions about pharmacist job opportunities and pursuing licensure in Maine. **Please note, that there may have been changes in information since the date of this publication.**

**For additional information or assistance from the New Mainers Resource Center contact:** New Mainers Resource Center, *Maine's Welcome Back Center*, Portland Adult Education 14 Locust St. Portland, Maine 04101  
Phone: 207 874-8155, Website: [www.nmrcmaine.org](http://www.nmrcmaine.org), Email: Sally Sutton, Program Coordinator, [suttos@portlandschools.org](mailto:suttos@portlandschools.org).

# PHARMACIST LICENSURE GUIDE

## *FOR FOREIGN-TRAINED PROFESSIONALS IN MAINE*

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACPE	Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education
ECE	Education Credential Evaluators
FPGEC	Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee
FPGEE	Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Examination
MBP	Maine Board of Pharmacy
MPJE	Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Exam
NABP	National Association of Boards of Pharmacy
NAPLEX	North American Pharmacist Licensure Exam
IELTS	International English Language Testing System
PharmD	A Doctorate Degree of Pharmacy
TOEFL iBT	Test of English as a Foreign Language, Internet-Based Test

## INTRODUCTION AND GUIDANCE

The process of becoming a licensed pharmacist in the U.S. can be lengthy, costly and for some, contain hurdles that are not easy to overcome. There are factors to take into consideration before deciding if pursuing licensure is feasible. As you read through the detailed process starting on page 7 it is important to be able to realistically assess your ability to achieve the options available, and that you receive guidance and advice about the costs and time commitments needed to reestablish your pharmacy practice or pursue other opportunities in the healthcare field.

The Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee (FPGEC), which oversees the US licensure process for foreign trained pharmacists, has produced the ***Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Examination Candidate Application Bulletin***  
<https://nabp.pharmacy/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/FPGEC-ApplicationBulletin-2020.pdf>

which contains all the information needed regarding the process for licensure. This bulletin should be thoroughly reviewed as one of your first steps as you consider licensing. It contains more detail than we can include in this guide. It is critical that you understand what you need to do to meet each of these detailed requirements. This bulletin can assist you in determining which option is best for you by providing details, costs, and resources.

The following are questions that you should answer before making a decision about licensure, returning to school, or working in a related field.

- How much will it cost and how will I pay for it?
- How much time will it take?
- Is my English at the level necessary for success?
- Will I be able to meet the requirements for submission of my transcripts, diploma, and license?
- What jobs are available when I finish? What is the pay? Will I be a competitive applicant for those jobs?
- Can I balance the time I need to work with time to study for exams and attend school?
- Are there other factors I need to consider such as age, immigration status, or family commitment, work obligations?

## ALTERNATIVES TO PURSUING A PHARMACY LICENSE

**Pharmacy Technician** - A Pharmacy Technician is an entry-level position in a hospital or retail pharmacy that usually earns an hourly wage. Your education and experience will be an advantage to you if you apply for this job. Good oral communication skills will be necessary for these positions as you will need to communicate with customers, patients, and co-workers. This job could be a good step back into the pharmacy field. You will have a U.S. credential that makes you more employable and able to earn some income to support your licensing process. The licensing process for a pharmacy technician is simple. It does require that you have been offered a pharmacy tech position before you apply and that you list the past and future places of employment. The fee is \$41. The link to the application is here [https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/pharmacy\\_tech.pdf](https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/pharmacy_tech.pdf).

**Certification and Training** - There are no education or English proficiency requirements to become licensed and employed as a pharmacy technician. There is a national exam, however, that is available to become a certified pharmacy technician that you may want to consider taking. This may be of greater benefit for those who do not already have a pharmacy background. For foreign trained pharmacists, it could be one way to strengthen your English if you worked and studied in another language. There are different training programs and prep courses to prepare for this exam and certification.

**Additional Positions** - Other positions in the clinical setting that usually take under a year of additional training that include Medical Assistants, Surgical Technicians, Phlebotomists, Medical Interpreters, and Behavioral Health Counselors, or non-clinical positions in research or a lab may be available without additional training. Other positions that require licensure, but degrees are under two years include Registered Nurses, Respiratory and Lab Technicians. Non-clinical positions may include public health and education, medical insurance, and patient service representatives.

## ISSUES TO CONSIDER IF PURSUING A PHARMACY LICENSE

**English Proficiency** - How good is your English? How long will it take you to get to a point where you will be able to work in a healthcare job, study and be successful on the TOEFL, FPGEE, NAPLEX, MPJE exams necessary for your license.

**Immigration Status** - Make sure that you are aware of any limitations that your immigration status may have on this process. Generally, you will have the ability to work, attend school and internship, however there may be limitations in federal student financial aid, including ability to obtain loans if you do not have permanent status. Additionally, if you have a degree from another country you probably will not be eligible for federally backed financial aid.

**Pharmacy Degrees** - You must have at least a 5-year pharmacy degree from a recognized or accredited school of pharmacy. If you have graduated before January of 2003, a 4-year degree may be accepted. Pre-pharmacy coursework may also be considered toward curriculum requirements.

**PharmD** - In the U. S. all schools of pharmacy now only offer a 6-year PharmD (Doctor of Pharmacy). While there are pharmacist jobs available to pharmacists with a 4 or a 5-year degree, the PharmD is preferred and other degrees will likely be phased out. Would you be willing to move to accept a pharmacist job? It's important to consider that your degree could be accepted by FPGEC and the Maine Board of Pharmacy for licensure in Maine, but employers will only consider applicants who have the PharmD. See page 13 for more details about this issue.

**Documents** - Do you have access to your official transcripts, proof of degree in pharmacy, and proof of license, registration, or proof of practice? Will you be able to have them sent directly to ECE (Education Credential Evaluators) from your schools or licensing agencies?

**Exam Preparation** - Will you have time to study for the exams to achieve the necessary scores on each and adhere to the recommended prep time?

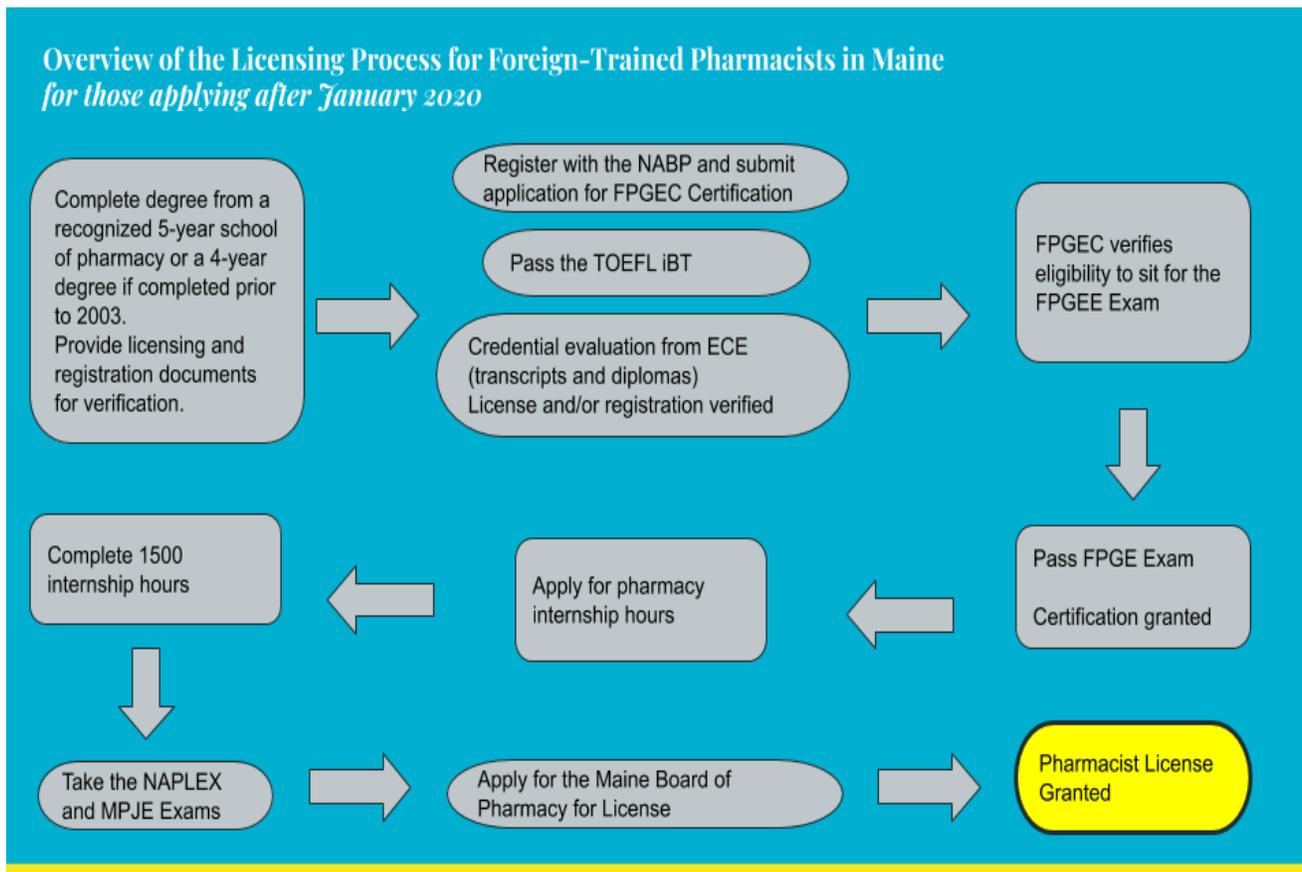
**Contacts and Connections** - Will you be able to find work in a local healthcare setting, as a pharmacy technician, to become familiar with the U.S. healthcare system? Will you be able to make connections for recommendations and an internship required for licensure?

**Internship** - Currently there is not an established path for internship availability for foreign-trained pharmacists. Before starting the licensure process, you must be confident that you will be able to secure an internship provider so that you are able to meet the licensing requirement to work as a Pharmacy Intern.

**Time Commitments** – Will you have the time to commit to studying for the tests you will need to take? How long will it take for you to become licensed? How old will you be when you finish the process?

**Financial Commitments** - Will you have the financial resources to cover the licensure costs, possibly cut back on your work so you have more time to study? How will you support yourself and family? Do you have other priorities within your family, legal expenses, family members to support back home, etc.?

## OVERVIEW OF THE MAINE PHARMACIST LICENSING PROCESS FOR FOREIGN-TRAINED PHARMACISTS



# OBTAINING A MAINE STATE PHARMACY LICENSE

## Step 1. Obtain a FPGEC Certificate

The Maine Board of Pharmacy requires all foreign pharmacy graduates to complete the **FPGEC Certificate** process administered by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP). While the process outline will be reviewed in this guide, it is strongly recommended that you read the detailed materials about the process at <https://nabp.pharmacy/programs/fpgec/> before making a decision.

As part of your application for FPGEC certification, you must also complete an application with Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) for an evaluation of your education and practice credentials, pass the TOEFL iBT, and pass the Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Examination (FPGEE). **You must obtain the passing scores on the TOEFL iBT before you will be accepted to take the FPGEE.** There are no waivers for the TOEFL iBT requirement. Once you begin the FPGEC application process, you will have two years to meet all the requirements. The evaluation by FPGEC may take up to eight weeks **from the time the last piece of supporting documentation is received.** If you have not received approval, FPGEC will let you know what documents may be missing.

### Submit your application, ECE Report and TOEFL iBT to FPGEC

Before applying to FPGEC, you will need to create an **e-Profile** if you do not already have one. The e-Profile ID will be your identifier for the FPGEC program and will be used when requesting a service from NABP or Pearson VUE. Information on how to create an e-profile can be found on the NABP website at this link [How do I create a new e-Profile and get my e-Profile ID? | National Association of Boards of Pharmacy](#)

**ECE** - Apply to ECE for an Evaluation Report for the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy/Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee. Below is a summary of the document requirements for this step in the process. Once all of the required documents are received by ECE, the report takes 7 days. This application can be submitted at the same time as your FPGEC application.

- At least a 5-year pharmacy degree from a recognized or accredited school of pharmacy. If you have graduated before January 1, 2003, a 4-year degree may be accepted. Pre-pharmacy coursework may be considered toward curriculum requirements.
- Official transcripts sent directly from your school of pharmacy to ECE. This includes pharmacy school transcripts, any qualifying pre-pharmacy, bachelor's degree, or post-baccalaureate coursework.
- Official proof of degree indicating the title of the degree and the date of issuance.
- Official documentation of license or registration of practice from where your degree was earned or other proof of practice including letters/affidavits if the country did not require either.

- Translation requirements for documentation vary depending upon the country where the degree was obtained. FPGEC considers an official translator to be a certified translator, a certified court interpreter, an authorized government official, or an official from the pharmacy school where you obtained your pharmacy degree.

**TOEFL.** A passing score on TOEFL iBT is required for acceptance to sit for the FPGEE. The TOEFL iBT must be completed by all foreign pharmacy graduates, even those who are native English speakers. There are no exemptions to this requirement. The at home TOEFL iBT is NOT accepted by the FPGEC program. You must receive at or above the following scores: Reading – 22 • Listening – 21 • Speaking – 26 • Writing – 24. You must complete all four sections in one testing session; scores for the four sections must be reported to FPGEC on one official score report directly from the International Educational Testing Service (ETS). If you score less than the minimum score in any section, your score report will not be accepted. The FPGEC will not consider a total score on the TOEFL iBT. Passing TOEFL scores are valid for the FPGEC program for two years from the date of the TOEFL iBT.

You will want to make sure that you are prepared to pass the exam. Compare some of the TOEFL test prep materials here <https://www.ets.org/toefl/ibt/prepare>.

**FPGEE Exam.** You will be notified by email that you are eligible to sit for the FPGEE after successfully completing the FPGEC evaluation process. The exam is offered once a year usually in the fall. Results take approximately 8 weeks.

There are some preparation materials online to compare including [Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Examination - FPGEE Questions](#), [FPGEE - Board Examination Preparation - LibGuides at Pacific University](#), and [FPGEE Practice Test Questions \(Prep for the FPGEE Test\)](#). Another resource is the NABP's Pre-FPGEE, which you can register to take through the NABP's website. The practice examination contains 66 questions, costs \$50.00, and must be taken within seven days of registration. For more information, visit <https://nabp.pharmacy/programs/fpgee/pre-fpgee/>

**FPGEC Certification.** After you have been accepted and successfully receive passing scores on the TOEFL iBT, the FPGEE, and meet NABP requirements on your ECE report, you will be granted your FPGEC Certificate. See details here <https://nabp.pharmacy/programs/fpgee/fpgee-certification-timeline/#next-steps>. The FPGEC Certificate will be mailed to the address provided in your e-Profile within ten weeks of the TOEFL iBT exam date or six weeks from the FPGEE score load date. **Your e-Profile will include a FPGEC Certification date which can be viewed by the boards of pharmacy.**

Complete details about the FPGEC process can be found in the 2020 FPGEC Application Bulletin <https://nabp.pharmacy/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/FPGEC-ApplicationBulletin-2020.pdf>

## STEP 2: Pharmacy Internship:

The Maine Board of Pharmacy [Maine PFR - Professions - Board of Pharmacy - Pharmacist Licensing](#) requires a minimum of 1500 hours of practical experience in one or more pharmacies under the direct supervision of working pharmacists following the internship guidelines established by ACPE. At least 500 of the required hours must be completed in the U.S. You may not begin the internship until the board has issued a pharmacy intern license. However, It will be up to the discretion of the Maine Board of Pharmacy if any internship hours that you may have completed before coming to the U.S. will be counted.

- To apply for an intern license, you must complete the application [https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/intern\\_educated\\_foreign\\_country\\_other\\_than\\_canada.pdf](https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/intern_educated_foreign_country_other_than_canada.pdf) and pay a \$21.00 fee. You will also need to submit your FPGEC certificate and verification of graduation. Accepted documents for verification of graduation include an FPGEC evaluation outcome report (or similar) from NABP. It's important to make sure that you have all of the supporting documents or reports before you apply because once the application process is started, it must be completed within 60 days or your application will be discarded.
- It is very important that you locate a practicing Maine-licensed pharmacist willing to provide a preceptor and internship for you before applying for your intern license. While a pharmacy setting is preferred, the MBP may consider other non-traditional settings such as a doctor's office or manufacturer's sales representative. It is beneficial if you are currently working in the healthcare system to secure an internship provider.
- It is up to you as the intern to report your hours (signed by the preceptor) to the MBP at the end of each year until hours are completed. The reporting form is available here [PHM - Reporting Intern Experience.pub](#). The MBP does not require that internships be paid or unpaid however, most internships listed by employers are paid.

## STEP 3: NAPLEX and MPJE EXAMS

Once you have been certified by the FPGEC and have successfully completed an internship, you are able to **apply for eligibility** to take the NAPLEX and MPJE exams necessary for licensure. To apply for the exams, log in to your e-Profile and follow the instructions. Be sure to choose the primary jurisdiction where you will be seeking licensure. The NAPLEX has an application fee of \$100 and the MPJE fee is \$85.

Once granted, eligibility to sit for the exams is generally valid for one year. Exam appointments are scheduled depending on availability. It is recommended to schedule your exam as soon as your authorization is received and once your exam is scheduled, make sure you check with the Pearson NAPLEX/ MPJE Bulletin for protocol and necessary identification. Exam results take approximately 7 days.

Details about the exams and how to apply are in the NAPLEX-MPJE 2020 Bulletin.

[https://nabp.pharmacy/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/NAPLEX-MPJE-Bulletin\\_July\\_2020.pdf](https://nabp.pharmacy/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/NAPLEX-MPJE-Bulletin_July_2020.pdf)

Pre-NAPLEX and Pre-MPJE prep tests are available through your e-profile and may be purchased and are strongly recommended. You should also make sure you can adhere to the preparation times. Other resources can be found online for purchase. Make sure you compare any materials that are for sale. Here are some examples, <https://www.rxprep.com/>, <https://www.tests.com/NAPLEX-MPJE-Testing>, <https://learn.passrxnow.com/courses/Free-NAPLEX-and-MPJE-Practice-Exams>, [https://tamu.libguides.com/pharmacy/test\\_prep](https://tamu.libguides.com/pharmacy/test_prep).

#### **STEP 4: Apply for a License with the Maine State Board of Pharmacy**

Once you have completed all of the steps you can apply for your Maine pharmacist license [https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/pharmacist\\_exam\\_score\\_transfer.pdf](https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/pharmacist_exam_score_transfer.pdf). You must submit your FPGEC certificate, evidence of internship completion, and application. You will have authorized the NABP to automatically send your scores to the MBP.

You may need to obtain a specialty license or certification from the MBP. In Maine, you must have a specialty certification to administer vaccines or drugs in an emergency and/or a license to engage in collaborative drug therapy with a practitioner. The Collaborative Drug Therapy Management license requires that you submit documentation proving that the areas of clinical practice covered in your agreement have been fulfilled either during your degree program, residency, or a continuing education course of at least 15 hours. The Certificate to Administer Drugs and Vaccines requires a CPR course and either transcripts or continued education certificate of a board-approved course including guidelines and recommendations from CDC, DHHS, or similar health authorities regarding all aspects of administering vaccines. Both requirements must be within three years of the application.

More details about both of the specialty licensing and the application is at the MBP website and below;

[https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/collaborative\\_drug\\_therapy\\_management.pdf](https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/collaborative_drug_therapy_management.pdf)

[https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/cert\\_administration\\_drugs\\_vaccines.pdf](https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/cert_administration_drugs_vaccines.pdf)

CPR classes are provided by the American Heart Association [Portland, ME - American Heart Association Training Center - Code One CPR Training](#) or the American Red [CPR Classes & Certification in Portland, ME](#) Cross and can cost up to \$125.00. You should check with your work as many places offer free CPR training on a regular basis.

## How Long will it take? What are the costs?

### 18 Months - 6 Years

Approximate Timeline to secure a Maine licensure with an international degree after a candidate has secured all official diplomas, transcripts, and English proficiency scores.

- Review the following requirements in order to determine how long it will take to secure transcripts and proof of licensure and complete TOEFL iBT.
- Obtain FPGEC Certificate - 6 months to 2 years
- 1500 hour internship - 7 months to 2 years
- Apply to sit for the NAPLEX and Maine MPJE - 6 months - 2 years

### Estimated Costs: \$2,826 - \$3,500

\*Application to the FPGEC Certification Program \$550

\*ECE fee - \$85.00      \* TOEFL iBT - \$225.00      \*TOEFL prep materials \$50 - \$225

\*FPGEE Exam Fee - \$650.   \*NAPLEX and MPJE applications and fees for 1 jurisdiction - \$825.00

\*Prep Exams for all exams - \$50-65.00 each      \*Prep materials from \$100 - \$500

\*Pharmacy intern application - \$21.00      \*Maine Licensure Application fee - \$95

## ACCELERATED PHARM-D DEGREE AT UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

The University of New England at their Portland campus offers an Advanced Standing Track PharmD program. This is a new program in 2020. This program is designed for those who hold a bachelor's degree or higher in Pharmacy from a school outside of the U.S. or Canada. This is a full-time, 3-year PharmD program that includes a bridge course in the summer before entering the program. <https://www.une.edu/pharmacy/admissions>

### Admission Requirements

A course-by-course **credential evaluation** from [World Education Services \(wes.org\)](http://World Education Services (wes.org)), showing degree equivalency to a U.S. bachelor's degree. The program is open to other credential evaluators, would likely approve ECE.

There are several methods to meet the [English Language Proficiency](#) requirements including TOEFL, Duolingo, and iLETS

The PCAT is not required.

Tuition is \$5800 for the AST Bridge Program. \$41,000 per year for a three year program. This does not include books or living expenses.

## DO I NEED A PHARM D?

If you are considering pursuing your pharmacy license you need to be aware that going through the FPGEC process with your existing degree may limit your job opportunities. In the U. S. all schools of pharmacy now only offer a 6-year PharmD and more employers either prefer a PharmD or will only consider candidates with a PharmD. While there are pharmacist jobs available with a 4 or 5-year degree, the PharmD is preferred while other degrees will likely be phased out. This trend in pharmacists' jobs should be considered when you are making your decisions. Issues to consider include: how competitive is the job market for pharmacists, what are the types of employers in the state who will hire licensed pharmacists who do not have a PharmD, even if being licensed is a minimum requirement for a job, can someone without a PharmD be competitive for the position, are you willing to move to another state to take a job as a licensed pharmacist.

### Compare PharmD to BS or MS in Pharmacy

	Licensing Path	PharmD at UNE
English Requirement	TOEFL iBT	TOEFL iBT, iLET, Duolingo
Transcripts	ECE	WES (and open to others)
Estimated Time (once transcripts are secured)	2-6 years	3 years (after the bridge course)
Internship	Difficult to secure	Part of the program
Costs	\$2,880 - \$3,500	\$120,000
Competitive Degree	Unknown	Yes

## EMPLOYERS

This section provides information about companies and facilities that employ pharmacists that may be useful when searching for a job not only as a pharmacist, but as a pharmacy tech, or pharmacy internship. Please note that many tuition programs are for full-time employees only, may be loans (not reimbursement) and may be offered on a department and facility basis only. The information below may also change.

Apothecary by Design: A specialty pharmacy located in Portland.

[https://www.abdrx.com/?WT\\_mc\\_id=LS\\_GOOGLE\\_10728](https://www.abdrx.com/?WT_mc_id=LS_GOOGLE_10728)

Central Maine Medical Center (CMMC): Pharmacy positions in the hospital and one retail setting in Lewiston/Auburn. [www.cmhc.org/cmmc/](http://www.cmhc.org/cmmc/)

- Tuition assistance program currently suspended.
- Pharmacy degree (BS or PharmD) from an ACPE accredited school of pharmacy; PharmD preferred

Coastal Pharmacy and Wellness: A compounding pharmacy in Portland.

<https://www.coastalpharmacyandwellness.com/>

CVS: Retail pharmacies throughout Maine [www.jobs.cvshealth.com](http://www.jobs.cvshealth.com)

- Tuition assistance programs
- Will hire non-PharmD pharmacists

Hannaford: Retail pharmacies throughout Maine [www.hannaford.com/about-us/careers/pharmacy-careers](http://www.hannaford.com/about-us/careers/pharmacy-careers)

- No tuition programs
- May hire non-PharmD pharmacists

MaineHealth: Health system in southern Maine including Maine Medical Center, The Pharmacy, Southern Maine Medical Center, and various practices and services. Pharmacists work in facility-based settings. [www.mainehealth.org/](http://www.mainehealth.org/)

- Tuition Reimbursement program for full-time employees
- PharmD preferred, however will accept a Masters or B.S. of Pharmacy

Martin's Point Healthcare: primary care, specialty care and services like lab, pharmacy, and radiology in Southern Maine and Portsmouth New Hampshire. <https://martinspoint.org/meet-martins-point/careers>

- Tuition reimbursement
- Unclear if PharmD is required

Northern Light Health: Pharmacy positions available mostly in hospital settings in Eastern and Northern Maine and Mercy Hospital in Portland. [www.northernlighthealth.org](http://www.northernlighthealth.org)

- Tuition reimbursement program
- Does not require PharmD for many positions

Shaw's: Retail Pharmacies throughout Maine. [www.albertsonscorporation.com/careers/en-our-companies/shaw-s.html](http://www.albertsonscorporation.com/careers/en-our-companies/shaw-s.html)

- Tuition reimbursement program for full-time employees
- PharmD not required

Walgreens: Retail pharmacies throughout Maine. [www.jobs.walgreens.com/](http://www.jobs.walgreens.com/)

- Tuition assistance program
- PharmD not required for most jobs

## DEFINITIONS AND RESOURCES

**ACPE** - Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education: An Accreditation Agency in which most pharmacy programs in the U.S. recognized. [Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education – Setting the standard in pharmacy education](#)

**Applications for Licenses** - All Maine Board of Pharmacy Licenses can be found on their website.

### **Pharmacist**

[https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/pharmacist\\_exam\\_score\\_transfer.pdf](https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/pharmacist_exam_score_transfer.pdf)

### **Pharmacy Technician** [Pharmacy Technician](#)

### **Pharmacy Intern**

[https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/intern\\_educated\\_foreign\\_country\\_other\\_than\\_canada.pdf](https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/intern_educated_foreign_country_other_than_canada.pdf)

### **Collaborative Drug Therapy Management**

[www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/collaborative\\_drug\\_therapy\\_management.pdf](http://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/collaborative_drug_therapy_management.pdf)

### **Administration of Drugs and Vaccines**

[www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/cert\\_administration\\_drugs\\_vaccines.pdf](http://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/pdf/cert_administration_drugs_vaccines.pdf)

**ECE** - Educational Credential Evaluators: The required credential evaluation service required by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy/Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee. <https://www.ece.org/ECE/Individuals/Professional-Licensure-Reports/NABP>

**E-Profile ID** - Before applying to FPGEC, you will need to create an **e-Profile** and get an **e-Profile ID**. The e-Profile ID will be your identifier for the FPGEC program and will be used when requesting a service from NABP or Pearson VUE. Log in to NABP e-Profile to start the process.

**FPGEC** - Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee. All foreign licensed pharmacists will need to obtain a **FPGEC certificate** before being eligible to take the NAPLEX and the MPJE: <https://nabp.pharmacy/programs/fpgec>

**FPGEE** - Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Examination: The standardized pharmacy test required to obtain the FPGEC Certificate. This links to the Candidate Application Bulletin which contains all of the specific requirement details about the process. <https://nabp.pharmacy/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/FPGEC-ApplicationBulletin-2020.pdf>

**IELTS:** An English proficiency test required by the FPGEC. <https://www.ielts.org/en-us>

**MBP** Maine Board of Pharmacy: The agency that regulates pharmacists and pharmacies in Maine and issues all pharmacy licenses.

[www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/index.ht](http://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/index.ht)

**MPJE** – Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Exam: One of two exams needed for a Maine Pharmacist License. This exam focuses on federal and state-specific pharmacy law. [MPJE | National Association of Boards of Pharmacy](#)

**NABP** National Association of Boards of Pharmacy: The organization that sets rules and standards for all the pharmacy boards in the US. [NABP: National Association of Boards of Pharmacy](#).

**NAPLEX** – North American Pharmacist Licensure Exam: Exam required in order to obtain a Maine Pharmacy License testing for skills and knowledge of pharmacy.

<https://nabp.pharmacy/programs/naplex/>

**NAPLEX MPJE 2020 Bulletin:** A detailed description of the process, guidelines, and other information about the taking the exams necessary for licensure. [https://nabp.pharmacy/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/NAPLEX-MPJE-Bulletin\\_July\\_2020.pdf](https://nabp.pharmacy/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/NAPLEX-MPJE-Bulletin_July_2020.pdf)

**Pearson VUE:** The organization that administers all of the pharmacist licensure exams. You will be working with them on all aspects of your exam including scheduling.

<http://www.pearsonvue.com/nabp>

**TOEFL iBT:** an English proficiency exam required by the FPGEC. <https://www.ets.org/toefl/test-takers/ibt/about>



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New Mainers Resource Center

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Portland Adult Education

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