COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

REGISTRATION EXAMINATION

Interpretation Guide

Last Revised February 2025

1. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the *Pharmacy Act, 2024*[1], applicants for registration as a pharmacist or a pharmacy technician must successfully complete a "registration examination based upon the professional competency requirements that the college may establish." For the purposes of this requirement, the College of Pharmacy of Newfoundland and Labrador (CPNL) Registration Examination is designed to assess the applicant's knowledge of and ability to interpret and apply provincial acts and regulations, bylaws, standards of practice, guidelines, and policies as they pertain to the practice of pharmacy in Newfoundland and Labrador.

2. EXAMINATION LOCATIONS AND DATES

2.1 Exam sittings will be held at College of the North Atlantic (CNA) campuses in the following locations:

- Corner Brook
- Grand Falls-Windsor
- St. John's

PLEASE NOTE:

Sittings may also be scheduled at sites in Labrador on a case-by-case basis with a minimum of six weeks notice. Please email registration@nlpb.ca for more information.

2.2 Exam sittings are held monthly, with the dates published on the Registration Examination page of the CPNL website. Other dates may be approved by the Registrar or designate on a case-by-case basis.

[1] Enabling Legislation: Pharmacy Act, 2024, sections 16.(1)(c) and 20.(1)(c)

2.3 The deadline to apply for each exam sitting is four weeks prior to the date of the sitting.

3. ELIGIBILITY / APPLICATION PROCEDURE

3.1 To be eligible for the registration exam, an applicant must be:

a) a pharmacy student who is enrolled in or has completed the final semester of a CCAPP-accredited pharmacy program, who is registered as a pharmacy student or pharmacy intern with CPNL;

b) a pharmacy technician student who is enrolled in or has completed the final semester of a CCAPP-accredited pharmacy technician program, who is registered as a pharmacy technician student or pharmacy technician intern with CPNL;

c) an international pharmacy graduate, who is registered as a pharmacy intern with CPNL; or

d) an approved applicant who is currently registered as a pharmacist or a pharmacy technician in another province in Canada (**Please Note**: candidates should contact CPNL to determine how to become an approved applicant if they do not meet one of the above three criteria).

3.2 Eligible applicants can register for the exam by following the instructions on the Registration Examination page of the CPNL website.

3.3 Applicants who wish to request testing accommodations should send details of this request to registration@nlpb.ca as soon as possible after submitting their application. These requests will be assessed on a case-by-case and the applicant will be notified of the result when they are sent the confirmation email noted below.

3.4 Once the application has been reviewed and approved, the applicant will be sent a confirmation email including their exam sitting date, location, and other related information at least two weeks prior to the date of the sitting.

3.5 Once approved, applicants may request a one-time change to a later date at the same location. The request must be made no less than one week prior to the original date of the sitting by emailing registration@nlpb.ca.

3.6 Registration exam fees are non-refundable and non-transferrable. Other than as noted in section 3.5, requests to reschedule a sitting will be considered only for exceptional circumstances, such as medical reasons or bereavement. The request must be made prior to the exam sitting by emailing registration@nlpb.ca or by phoning 709-753-5877, ext. 102.

4. EXAMINATION FORMAT AND CONTENT

4.1 The exam consists of multiple choice and fill-in type questions.

4.2 While emphasis is given to provincial legislation, regulations, bylaws, Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice, questions may also require knowledge of federal legislation and standards that govern the practice of pharmacy in Canada.

4.3 All applicable references (a summary of which can be found in Appendix A) can be found on the CPNL website. Applicants should consider these references as the primary and most current source of information about pharmacy legislation, standards of practice and policies. It is not intended that applicants memorize the entire content of these documents, but rather be able to locate, identify, interpret, and apply the pertinent legal requirements and procedures to be followed.

5. EXAMINATION DAY PROCESS

5.1 On the day of the examination, the examination will be administered as follows:

a) Prior to being given an exam paper, all applicants must show the invigilator valid photo identification in accordance with the *Interpretation Guide - Photo Identification Requirements for Registration*.

b) Applicants must leave personal items at the front/back/side of the room prior to starting the exam.

c) Applicants must sign the exam paper and a declaration of honesty and integrity before starting the exam. In doing so, applicants agree to maintain the confidentiality of all questions contained in the exam and to act with honesty and integrity in relation to the exam. Disclosure of information contained within the exam may result in the applicant being denied registration with the College of Pharmacy of Newfoundland and Labrador or being the subject of disciplinary action.

d) Applicants will be given three hours to write the exam.

e) This is an open-book exam - applicants may bring any written materials they wish with them to the exam.

f) Applicants are not permitted the use of any electronic devices including laptop computers, tablets, and cell phones during the exam. All electronic devices must be turned off and given to the invigilator or left with other personal items.

g) No communication between applicants is permitted during the exam.

h) All questions should be answered on the answer sheet provided, following the given instructions.

i) Either pen or pencil may be used to complete the answer sheet. Pens and pencils will not be provided.

j) Applicants are permitted to leave upon completion of the exam.

6. SCORING AND RESULTS

6.1 Satisfactory completion of the registration exam shall be a total mark of not less than 70%.

6.2 Applicants will be advised within two weeks following the scheduled exam date whether they were "successful" or "not successful" in completing the registration exam requirements. No final mark or exam paper will be returned to any applicant.

6.3 Applicants are permitted a maximum of three attempts of the registration exam. An appeal for a fourth attempt may be considered, if accompanied by evidence of successful completion of remediation acceptable to CPNL.

6.4 The results of the exam shall be considered valid for a period of two years from the date it is written. If an applicant has not completed all registration requirements during this time, they must successfully re-write the exam prior to being registered.

APPENDIX A

Applicable References

Provincial Pharmacy Legislation[1]

Pharmacy Act, 2024

Pharmacy Regulations, 2024

College of Pharmacy of Newfoundland and Labrador By-Laws

Standards of Pharmacy Operation[2]

Standards of Pharmacy Operation – Community Pharmacy

Standards of Pharmacy Operation – Hospital Pharmacy

Standards of Practice[2]

Administration of Drug Therapy by Inhalation or Injection

Continuous Quality Improvement & Medication Incident Reporting in Community Pharmacies

Medical Assistance in Dying

Prescribing by Pharmacists

Provision of Pharmaceutical Care to Long Term Care Facilities

Provision of Pharmaceutical Care to Personal Care Homes

Standards for the Provision of Compliance Packages

Standards for the Provision of Opioid Agonist Therapy Medications

The Sale of Exempted Codeine Products in Community Pharmacies

Standards for Pharmacy Compounding of Non-Sterile Preparations

Guidelines for Pharmacy Practice[3]

Guidance for Point of Care Testing in Community Pharmacies

Guidance for the Provision of Emergency Use Naloxone

Other

Code of Ethics and related Interpretation Guides[4]

Government of NL Tamper-Resistant Prescription Drug Pad Program Information and List of Affected Drugs

Summary of Federal and Provincial Narcotic, Controlled Drug and Benzodiazepine Regulations (Appendix B)

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[1] These documents can be found on the Legislation page of the CPNL website.
[2] These documents can be found on the Standards page of the CPNL website.
[3] These documents can be found on the Guidelines page of the CPNL website.
[4] These documents can be found on the Code of Ethics page of the CPNL website.

APPENDIX B

Summary of Federal and Provincial Narcotic, Controlled Drug and Benzodiazepine Regulations

Classification	Description	Examples	Prescription Requirements[1]	Refills	Record-Keeping Requirements[1]
Narcotic Drugs	• Any product containing only one narcotic • Any product containing one narcotic and less than two active non-narcotic ingredients • All narcotics for parenteral use • All products containing hydrocodone, methadone, oxycodone or pentazocine	buprenorphine, codeine, diphenoxylate, fentanyl, hydromorphone, methadone, morphine, nabilone, oxycodone, meperidine	Written[2] Faxed[3] Prescriptions must be filed separately from "regular" prescriptions	• Refills are NOT permitted • May be prescribed as a total quantity to be dispensed in divided portions (part-fills)	• All purchase records must be maintained • All sales records must be maintained
Narcotic Preparations	• Products containing one narcotic and two or more active non- narcotic ingredients in therapeutic doses	Robaxisal- C¼®, Robaxisal- C½®, Tylenol #2®, Tylenol #3®, Exempted Codeine Preparations	Written[2] Faxed[3] Verbal[4] Prescriptions must be filed separately from "regular" prescriptions	• Refills are NOT permitted • May be prescribed as a total quantity to be dispensed in divided portions (part-fills)	• All purchase records must be maintained • Sales records must be maintained when in relation to the provision of an "emergency supply"
Controlled Drugs Part I	• Products containing one	Amphetamines, methylphenidate,	Written[2] Faxed[3]	• Refills are permitted for written or faxed prescriptions if the	• All purchase records must be maintained

[1] All prescriptions, purchase records and sales records that are retained in accordance with the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) and its associated regulations must be retained for a minimum of two years.

[2] In NL, prescriptions for drugs listed in the Schedule of Drugs of the Tamper Resistant Prescription Drug Pad (TRPP) Program must be written on the approved prescription pad.

[3] In NL, faxed prescriptions for drugs listed in the Schedule of Drugs of the Tamper Resistant Prescription Drug Pad (TRPP) Program must be written on the approved prescription pad prior to being faxed.

[4] In NL, prescriptions for drugs listed in the Schedule of Drugs of the Tamper Resistant Prescription Drug Pad (TRPP) Program may not be accepted verbally.

	Part I controlled drug • Products containing combinations of controlled drugs	pentobarbital, secobarbital	Verbal[4] Prescriptions must be filed separately from "regular" prescriptions	prescriber has indicated, at the time the prescription is issued, the number of refills and the dates for, or intervals between, refills • May also be prescribed as a total quantity to be dispensed in divided portions (part-fills)	• All sales records must be maintained
Controlled Drug Preparations Part I	• Products containing one Part I controlled drug and one or more active non-controlled ingredients in therapeutic doses				• All purchase records must be maintained • Sales records must be maintained when in relation to the provision of an "emergency supply"
Controlled Drugs Part II	• Products containing only one Part II controlled drug	Butorphanol, most barbiturates nalbuphine	Written[2] Faxed[3] Verbal[4] Prescriptions must be filed separately from "regular" prescriptions	• Refills are permitted if the prescriber has indicated, at the time the prescription is issued, the number of refills and the dates for, or intervals between, refills • May also be prescribed as a total quantity to be dispensed in divided portions (part-fills)	• All purchase records must be maintained • Sales records must be maintained when in relation to the provision of an "emergency supply"
Controlled Drug Preparations Part II	• Products containing one Part II controlled drug and one or more active non-controlled ingredients in therapeutic doses				
Controlled Drugs Part III	• Products containing only one Part III controlled drug	Anabolic steroids & their derivatives	Written Faxed Verbal Prescriptions must be filed separately from "regular" prescriptions	• Refills are permitted if the prescriber has indicated, at the time the prescription is issued, the number of refills and the dates for, or intervals between, refills • May also be prescribed as a total quantity to be dispensed in divided portions (part-fills)	• All purchase records must be maintained • Sales records must be maintained when in relation to the provision of an "emergency supply"
Benzodiazepines & Targeted Substances	• Benzodiazepines, their salts and derivatives	alprazolam, clobazam, diazepam, lorazepam, triazolam, zolpidem	Written Faxed Verbal	• Refills are permitted • May also be prescribed as a total quantity to be dispensed in divided portions (part-fills)	• All purchase records must be maintained