



Notice of Proposed Changes in The Regulations of the Alaska Board of Pharmacy

Proposed Regulations - FAQ

March 2024

1. What is the purpose of the proposed regulations? What will this regulation do?

12 AAC 52.050. Closed Pharmacies; 12 AAC 52.060. Fire or other disaster

- This will amend regulations to clarify that a closed pharmacy must arrange for continuous patient care.
- This will avoid patient care interruption which can inhibit patients from receiving medications in a timely manner, which is a serious public health concern.
- This will assist businesses and organizations in providing the necessary regulatory guidelines to ensure their internal policies and procedures are geared toward the highest standard of practice.

12 AAC 52.070. Application for pharmacist license by examination; 12 AAC 52.310. Reinstatement of an expired pharmacist or pharmacy technician license; 12 AAC 52.985. Emergency Preparedness

- Corrects references and language based on the proposed removal of the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE) requirement.

12 AAC 52.090. Examination requirements and registration; 12 AAC 52.092. Eligibility to sit for examination; 12 AAC 52.095. Application for pharmacist license by reciprocity

- Remove the requirement to pass the MPJE administered by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP). This will have a positive impact on the public, community pharmacy business, and healthcare organizations.
- The MPJE is a barrier to become a licensed pharmacist in Alaska. MPJE questions are often outdated which causes high failure rates. This will be replaced with the Alaska pharmacy jurisprudence examination.
- Alaska has a severe shortage of pharmacists. Removing the Alaska MPJE will enable more pharmacists to become licensed more efficiently, and practicing in Alaska sooner.

12 AAC 52.098. Alaska pharmacy jurisprudence examination

- Proposed to be added to replace the MPJE. The Board of Pharmacy will create an Alaskan pharmacy jurisprudence examination for those applying by reciprocity which will then be graded alongside the application by the Division.

- This will remove additional wait time that applicants were experiencing with the MPJE.

12 AAC 52.150. Proof of licensure for individual pharmacists working for tribal health programs

- Proposed to be repealed – remove requirement for pharmacists practicing in the federal Indian Health Services system to submit an exemption for Alaska licensure.
- This will not have an impact on the public, as this will bring this regulation up to date with the VA healthcare system.

2. What are the costs to comply with the proposed regulations?

There are no known costs to implement these changes.

3. When will the regulations be effective?

After the public comment deadline, comments received are compiled and given to the Board for consideration. The Board may adopt the regulation as written/publicly noticed, may amend and adopt them, choose to take no action, or may withdraw the proposed regulations in part or in its whole. After Board action, the adopted regulations goes to Department of Law (DOL) for final review/approval. DOL either approves or disapproves regulations. Once approved by DOL, it goes to the Lt. Governor for filing. Regulation takes effect on the 30th day after they have been filed by the Lt. Governor.

Do you have a question that is not answered here? Please email RegulationsAndPublicComment@alaska.gov so it can be added.