



# The Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada

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## Le Bureau des examinateurs en pharmacie du Canada

### Licensed Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians Invitation to Participate in the PEBC Qualifying Examination – Part II (OSCE / OSPE)

The Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) invites qualified pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to consider participating in the PEBC Qualifying Examination – Part II (OSCE and/or OSPE).

Since 2001, the **PEBC Qualifying Examination for pharmacists** has consisted of two components: Part I, the multiple-choice question examination given in two half-day sessions; and Part II, a performance assessment, approximately 3 hours in length, given on a third day. Part II is known as an **Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)**. It is designed to assess communications/interpersonal skills, the application of knowledge to simulations of commonly encountered patient scenarios and other aspects of professional competence that do not lend well to written examinations. The competencies to be assessed through both the written and practice-based exams are those adopted (or adapted) by all member provinces of the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA).

In 2010, PEBC implemented the new **PEBC Qualifying Examination for pharmacy technicians**, also consisting of a multiple-choice examination (Part I) and performance-based examination (Part II), the **Objective Structured Performance Examination (OSPE)**. The examination will be implemented in provinces as they move forward with regulation of pharmacy technicians. Once licensed in their own province, pharmacy technicians will be integrated into all PEBC examination administration and assessment processes.

#### PEBC Assessors

Many assessors find that involvement as an assessor is both personally and professionally rewarding. Although many return year after year there is always a need for new assessors. Each year, PEBC invites interested pharmacists who have been licensed in Canada for at least two years and who are currently providing or directly supervising patient care services (including dispensing, clinical and/or drug information services) to apply as assessors for both the OSCE and the OSPE. PEBC also invites interested pharmacy technicians who are currently licensed in their province to apply as assessors for the OSPE.

**Please refer to the PEBC Assessor Application Form (attached) for further eligibility details.**

It is particularly important that licensed pharmacists be involved in assessing candidates for pharmacist licensure as the examination reflects both the health care needs of the public and the standards of the profession. Likewise, it is important that licensed pharmacy technicians be involved as assessors in the OSPE.

The complete list of interested assessors is submitted for annual review by the licensing bodies, for confirmation that all assessors are members in good standing on an 'active' register and are not under investigation.

#### Professional Competencies for Pharmacy Technicians

PEBC very much appreciates the interest shown by practicing pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in PEBC's Pharmacy Technician Qualifying Examination – Part II (OSPE). As this is an emerging new profession, it is important that all participants in the examination support the vision for the new profession and the expanded role of the regulated pharmacy technician in the pharmacy and in the health care system as a whole.

PEBC has based the examination on the NAPRA competencies. More information about the role and regulation of pharmacy technicians is available on the provincial regulatory bodies' websites. If you have questions about the PEBC examination, the competencies being assessed or your eligibility to be an assessor, please contact

**Edmonton:** Badia Dennehy, Chief Examiner      **OR**      **Calgary:** Patricia Harasym, Chief Administrator  
[bdennehy@shaw.ca](mailto:bdennehy@shaw.ca)      [pmharasym@gmail.com](mailto:pmharasym@gmail.com)

**PEBC ASSESSOR APPLICATION FORM – PAGE 1 OF 4**

**If you are eligible and interested in participating as an assessor or in any other aspect of the OSCE or OSPE, or if you have previously participated but have moved to a different city, please complete and return all four pages of this application form in full and submit by email to:**

**Edmonton: Shelley Takacs: [takacs@ualberta.ca](mailto:takacs@ualberta.ca)  
 Calgary: Site Administrator: [pebc-calgary@shaw.ca](mailto:pebc-calgary@shaw.ca)**

You may also submit an application online at [www.pebc.ca](http://www.pebc.ca).

Assessor qualifications are listed on the ‘Assessor Eligibility & Selection Criteria’ found on pages 3 and 4 of this application form. Assessors are trained prior to the examination, so it is not necessary to have experience as an assessor. The most important qualification is current practice experience in a patient care environment performing or directly supervising patient care activities such as dispensing, compounding, clinical and drug information services (for both OSCE and OSPE assessors).

The examination day is approximately 11 hours long. A service fee of \$440 for pharmacists / \$305 for pharmacy technicians is offered for participating in a full-day examination. Eligible travel expenses are reimbursed (at the most economical travel rates) with receipts and/or documented mileage, up to a maximum as designated by the examination centre.

**Please Note: Your application is not considered to be a commitment to or confirmation of participation, but is an indication of your interest. You will be contacted by the Chief Administrator or Chief Examiner of the nearest examination centre, to follow up with you about participating in an examination.**

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*\*Examination Centre to retain Application Form for a period of 5 years from date of submission\**

**Please check the appropriate YES or NO responses and provide the information requested:**

Based on NAPRA’s professional competencies for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians:	YES	NO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I fully support the expanded scope of practice for regulated <b>pharmacists</b></li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I fully support the expanded scope of practice for regulated <b>pharmacy technicians</b></li> </ul>		
I am interested in participating in the:	YES	NO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Pharmacist</b> PEBC Qualifying Examination – Part II (OSCE) <b><u>Saturday, November 7, 2015</u></b></li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Pharmacy Technician</b> PEBC Qualifying Examination – Part II (OSPE) <b><u>Sunday, September 13, 2015</u></b></li> </ul>		
I meet the qualifications indicated (checked) on the ‘Assessor Eligibility and Selection Criteria’ (on pages 3 and 4)		
I am currently involved in additional professional activities (in addition to my regular work), as follows (describe briefly if applicable):		

**PEBC ASSESSOR APPLICATION FORM – PAGE 2 OF 4**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Salutation:     Ms.     Miss     Mrs.     Mr.

First Name:		Last Name:	
<b>Home</b>		<b>Business</b>	
Address:		Address:	
City:		City:	
Province:	Postal Code:	Province:	Postal Code:
		Workplace Name:	
<b>Phone Numbers</b>			
Home:	Cell:	Business:	Fax:
Email 1:		Email 2:	

**QUALIFICATIONS**

	Month/Year Registered	Province	PRA License #
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a Licensed <b>Pharmacist</b> with a PRA	mm    yy		
<b>OR</b> <input type="checkbox"/> I am a Licensed <b>Pharmacy Technician</b> with a PRA	mm    yy		
I currently practise in a patient care setting:	YES    NO		
Current Practice Setting(s) (please check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Community <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty <input type="checkbox"/> Other			

**ELIGIBILITY AND INTERESTS**

Have you ever worked at a Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada examination or other similar examinations?	YES – <u>where</u> and <u>when</u> and in what <u>role</u> ?:	NO
Are you aware of any family, friends, acquaintances, or colleagues who plan to take a PEBC examination?	YES – list name(s) and relationship(s):	NO
Do you anticipate being a candidate for any future PEBC examinations?	YES – please explain:	NO
Have you ever been or plan to be involved in an examination preparation program?	YES – please explain:	NO
Are you able and willing to sign the Assessor Confidentiality Agreement?	YES    NO – please explain:	
Why are you interested in participating in a PEBC examination?		
What was your source of information about the PEBC examination?		

**REFERENCES**

*Please list two professional references (non-family): a licensed pharmacist or pharmacy technician, pharmacy faculty member or other licensed health professional.*

Name	Relationship	Email	Telephone	Position
1.				
2.				

**SIGNATURES**

Applicant Signature:	Date:
Chief Administrator Signature (reviewed and accepted):	Date:

## Assessor Eligibility & Selection Criteria

### Objectives are to:

- Ensure that assessors have current practice experience in a patient care setting.
- Give preference to those who work along with or directly supervise pharmacists (OSCE) or pharmacy technicians (OSPE).
- Ensure that assessors are well-equipped to assess candidates' performance.
- Avoid perceived or actual conflict of interest or bias.
- Protect the security of the examination, avoiding intentional or unintentional use or distribution of PEBC exam information other than for actual administration of the PEBC examination.

### Eligibility - Assessor Qualifications - please **check** all that apply:

- Is a “member in good standing” of one or more provincial regulatory authorities, where applicable.
- Is a pharmacist, fully licensed in a Canadian jurisdiction for at least **two years**  
- OR -
- Is a pharmacy technician, **currently** licensed in a Canadian jurisdiction.
- Is not, or has not been in the past **three years**, a subject of disciplinary action or unresolved investigation by any pharmacy or other professional body.
- Currently practices in a patient care environment, providing or supervising pharmacy services on a regular basis, either full- or part-time. Such services may include: dispensing, compounding, patient teaching, medication reconciliation, responding to patients' requests, consulting with other health professionals regarding patients' needs (e.g., drug information), etc.
- Is willing to sign and committed to complying with the assessor confidentiality, security, conflict of interest and code of conduct agreements.
- Is NOT currently involved in planning, advising, developing content for or participating regularly in educational or bridging programs for current or prospective candidates.**
- Is NOT currently involved in any way in examination preparatory activities including practice questions, practice exams, educational sessions or coaching to assist one or more current or prospective candidates to pass or perform well on any PEBC examination.**
- Agrees to NOT become involved in any way in any such examination preparatory activities, practice questions, practice exams, educational sessions or coaching, from the time of participation as an assessor in a PEBC examination until three years after completion of service.**
- Has no limitations that would impair the ability to accurately observe, hear, record and assess candidates' performances over a 10 to 12 hour period.
- Is willing to participate on the basis of the offered service fee and limited remuneration for travel (NOT accommodation) to the nearest examination centre.

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PEBC's preference is to use assessors who have current experience working directly with or directly supervising pharmacists and/or pharmacy technicians, to be familiar with the work that they do and what to watch for. Please indicate below whether or not you have this experience:

- Currently works along with and/or directly supervises pharmacy technicians (for the Pharmacy Technician OSPE).
- Currently works along with and/or directly supervises recently licensed (within the past 2 to 5 years) pharmacists (for the Pharmacist OSCE).

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In specific locations, the examination is offered in both French and English. Standardized patients and exam staff respond to the candidate in the candidate's preferred language; assessors record performance in the same language. For these examinations assessors and standardized patients must be fully bilingual. Please indicate (check) the language(s) in which you are fully fluent, verbally and in writing:

- English
- French

**If you are regularly involved in teaching pharmacy or pharmacy technician students in an academic setting or bridging program you may NOT be eligible due to potential or perceived conflict of interest.**

**The following are NOT eligible. Please review and check all that apply to you:**

- Undergraduate or graduate student in a faculty of pharmacy or pharmacy technician training program.
- A potential candidate OR an immediate family member/close associate of a potential candidate.
- Person involved in the development of the curriculum for – or regularly involved in the training/assessment of – practical/professional skills of *groups* of students or candidates (e.g., professional practice labs, bridging programs or other small group sessions involving the use of standardized patients, role-playing scenarios or simulations).
- Person involved in the development, review, administration or dissemination of practice exams, cases or preparatory courses or materials (designed to specifically prepare candidates for the examination)

