COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
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INFORMATION FOR GRADUATES OF FOREIGN PHARMACY SCHOOLS (Rev. 7/09)

Pennsylvania requires a degree in pharmacy from an accredited pharmacy school. There are no accredited pharmacy programs outside of the United States with the following exceptions. Students who graduated after June, 2002 with a Pharm.D. degree from the Lebanese American University in Byblos, Lebanon graduated from an ACPE-accredited pharmacy school and are not considered graduates of a foreign pharmacy school. Applicants who graduated from baccalaureate programs accredited by the Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP) commencing in 1993 and continuing until June 30, 2004 are exempt from obtaining FPGEC certification.

As a graduate of a foreign pharmacy school, there are special requirements that you must meet before you will be eligible to be licensed to practice pharmacy in this Commonwealth. We hope the information in this letter will aid you in understanding these requirements.

1. You must obtain Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee (FPGEC) certification. Information on the FPGEC certification program is available to you from the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee, 1600 Feehanville Drive, Mount Prospect, IL 60056 (phone number - (847) 391-4406, web site - www.nabp.net). Please direct all questions regarding the FPGEC certification program to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy.

2. The Pennsylvania State Board of Pharmacy requires completion of at least 1,500 hours of approved internship in order to be eligible to be scheduled to take the licensure examinations. If you have had experience in the practice of pharmacy, demonstrate knowledge of American pharmacy practice, and are proficient in communicating in English, the Board may approve upon written request a special internship program of less than 1500 hours, but not less than 500 hours. Please note that to obtain intern hours, you must register as a pharmacy intern with the board of pharmacy in the U.S. state where you will be working.

*To register as a Pennsylvania pharmacy intern, graduates of foreign pharmacy schools must first have FPGEC certification (see the exceptions for FPGEC certification as noted in the first paragraph above).

3. After you have earned 1,500 intern hours, you are eligible to submit a Pennsylvania pharmacist license application. Once your pharmacist license application is in order and you have registered to take the exams, you will be authorized to take the NAPLEX and PA MPJE examinations. After you have passed the NAPLEX and PA MPJE, you would become licensed as a Pennsylvania pharmacist.

Applications are posted at www.dos.state.pa.us/pharm under "Licensure Information", "Board Forms." If you have any further questions regarding the licensing requirements, you may contact this office.