



GLOBAL
TALENT
IDAHO

IDAHO PHARMACIST LICENSING GUIDE

GLOBAL TALENT IDAHO
UPDATED 2020

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION:

INCREASING PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND INELIGIBLE PHARMACY PROGRAMS

As of January 1, 2003, new pharmaceutical reforms in education require that new pharmacy graduates have a PharmD, doctor in pharmacy degree, to become licensed. This 5-year standard, unfortunately, is not the norm worldwide. Most international pharmacy schools only require a 4-year bachelor's degree in pharmacy.

If you graduated from a foreign 4-year pharmacy institute after January 1, 2003, you will be required to go back to school to complete a doctor of pharmacy, PharmD, degree. Please [click here](#) for more information.

If you received a 4-year pharmacy degree from a foreign institution before January 1, 2003 or received a 5-year Bachelors of Pharmacy degree after 2003, you do not need to go back to school. You qualify for the Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Evaluation Committee (FPGEC), which is the credentialing agency that will evaluate your degree and fast track you for licensure as a Registered Pharmacist in Idaho. Please, [click here](#) for more information.

****This guide is a general outline of the steps that individuals would need to complete in order to license as a Pharmacist in the state of Idaho. This is a supplementary guide and should not be used as a primary source for the licensing process. It is highly recommended that individuals directly communicate with the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy for detailed information about their specific case.****

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FPGEC Credential Evaluation and Licensing Pathway

1. HOW THE PROFESSION IS ORGANIZED IN IDAHO

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OVERVIEW

This licensing guide looks at what foreign trained pharmacists need to accomplish before becoming a licensed pharmacist in Idaho. While the process to becoming a pharmacist can take years, this guide also offers information into the broader opportunities for pharmaceutical employment that can be used in the short-term to help build your career.

REGULATING PHARMACISTS

The Idaho State Board of Pharmacy (IBOP) regulates the practice of Pharmacy in the state of Idaho.

EMPLOYMENT

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, pharmacists that work in independent or chain retail drug stores make up more than 60% of the pharmacist workforce, hospitals employ around 23%. The rest of the pharmacist positions are with insurance, government, and pharmaceutical companies.

There will be a 25% growth rate in pharmaceuticals between 2020-2025, due to an aging population, new drug treatments and discoveries, as well as new drug treatment. [The average salary](#) of a pharmacist in Idaho is around 128,000.

2. TIME AND COSTS

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Successfully licensing as a Registered Pharmacist in Idaho depends on a number of factors, including:

- The completeness of your education as evaluated through a Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee (FPGEC)
- Your performance on the FPGEE, NAPLEX, TOEFL iBT examinations

- How complete your professional and educational records, as well as access to your licensing and registration that allowed the practice of pharmacy where degree was earned
- Finding a suitable internship to complete your 1,740 hours
- The amount of free time and expandable income to study and intern.

The following is a hypothetical scenario outlining the licensing process. Please keep in mind that your living expenses are not included in the scenarios below.

HYPOTHETICAL SCENARIOS PHARMACIST LICENSING:

Step	Hypothetical Scenario <i>Approximate Time and Cost</i>
1 FPGEC Certification Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Your 4-year degree before 2003 or your 5-year Bachelors of Pharmacy degree qualifies you immediately for the Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee Certification Program. ● Your foreign credentials are well organized and in English. You complete all program requirements, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FPGEC Registration: \$1,200 ● ECE Credential Evaluation: \$160 for a course by course evaluation. (recommended) ● FPGEE passing score: Fee included in FPGEC registration ● TOEFL iBT passing score: \$225 ● Total: *\$1,585 and 1 year * If you need to retake the FPGEE exam the fee is \$750
2. Internship Permit and Completion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Register for Graduate Pharmacy Internship and complete 1,740 hours of interning under a licensed pharmacist.- \$50 ● Fingerprint Background Check- \$34.75 ● Total: \$84.75 and 15 months

3. ID licensing application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Apply for Idaho Pharmacy License- \$140 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fingerprint Background Check- \$34.75 ● Submit Pharmacist Controlled Substance Registration Application- \$60 ● Total: \$234.75 + 3 months.
4. NAPLEX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pre-NAPLEX practice test- \$65 ● Take and pass NAPLEX (first time)- \$575 ● Total: *\$640 + 3 months *If you need to retake the NAPLEX the fee is \$475
5 Pass MPJE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Due to a recent resolution in the Rules and Regulations of the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy, it is no longer a requirement to sit for and take the MPJE examination.
	<p>Total <i>\$4169.50 and 3years</i></p>

3. PROCESS OVERVIEW

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The process for getting a license as a pharmacist in Idaho is as follows:

1. Be awarded a Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee (FPGEC) Certification from the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy. In the process of certification applicants must:
 - a. Document educational backgrounds through Education Credential Evaluators.
 - b. Provide licensing/registration that allowed the practice of pharmacy where a degree was earned.
 - c. Pass the Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Examination (FPGEE).

- d. Pass the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a score of 550 or higher
2. After FPGEC certification, complete 1,740 internship hours as approved by the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy.
3. After completing the intern hour requirements, submit an application for an Idaho pharmacist license, completed fingerprint packet and fees.
4. After your application is approved, sit for and receive passing scores on the NAPLEX
5. Register for the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP).

I. FOREIGN PHARMACY GRADUATE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE (FPGEC)

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*You are required to download and read their [FPGEC Candidate Application Bulletin](#) before and during the application process.

The Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee (FPGEC) certification program documents the educational equivalency of your foreign pharmacy education. The application can be downloaded from the [National Association of Boards of Pharmacy \(NABP\)](#) website. The application fee is **\$1,200**. It requires the following supporting documents:

1. Application Form. An application form can be accessed from the [NABP website](#).
Send completed application and applicable fees to:

NABP

1600 Feehanville Dr

Mount Prospect, IL 60056-6014

2. All Applicable Fees. The initial application fee of **\$1,200** must be made to NABP. The only accepted forms of payment are by certified check, cashier's check, or money order, payable in US funds through a US bank. For more information on what is required to send your payment, see the [FPGEC Candidate Application Bulletin](#).
3. Two Recognizable Photographs. Two identical, passport-size, full-face photographs must be submitted with your application. For more important information about the requirements for the photographs, see the [FPGEC Candidate Application Bulletin](#).
4. Licensing and/or Registration Documentation. Proof of licensure and/or registration to practice pharmacy in the country or jurisdiction where you earned a degree is required, for more information on licensing and registration documentation, see the [FPGEC Candidate Application Bulletin](#).
5. Certified Copy of ID. You must submit a certified photocopy of a current form of photo identification to the FPGEC, for more information on the certified copy of ID see the [FPGEC Candidate Application Bulletin](#).
6. Request ADA Accommodations (Optional). If you require Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) testing accommodations, you must include a request letter along with your application materials. See the [FPGEC Candidate Application Bulletin](#) for more information.
7. Successful completion of the TOEFL iBT. You must submit your TOEFL iBT Score Report to FPGEC. For more information, see the [FPGEC Candidate Application Bulletin](#).

* If you do not have contact with the FPGEC office for two years after you submit your application your Certification Program file will close. To prevent this from happening, you must through an extension process.

EDUCATIONAL CREDENTIAL EVALUATORS (ECE)

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*In addition to the FPGEC application, you are required to submit an application and documentation to Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE), the organization that will verify your degree credentials.

The ECE application can be downloaded from the [Educational Credential Evaluators'](#) website. The application is **\$160** for a course by course evaluation. For more detailed information about the Educational Credential Evaluators' application process, review the [FPGEC Candidate Application Bulletin](#).

FOREIGN PHARMACY GRADUATE EQUIVALENCY EXAMINATION (FPGEE)

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* Even though this is a detailed overview of the Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Examination, you are required to review the [FPGEC Candidate Application Bulletin](#).

General Testing Content

The FPGEE is a multiple-response, multiple-choice, constructed-response, hot spot formats, ordered-response examination with 250 questions. The duration of the test is five-and-one half hours. Questions are presented in multiple-choice, multiple-response, constructed-response, ordered-response, and hot spot formats. The examination is administered twice a year at more than 200 Pearson VUE testing centers in the continental US. The nearest location in Boise is at: [Pearson VUE testing center is located at 1951 Saturn Rd. #200, Boise, ID 83709.](#)

FPGEE Registration Process

You will receive an FPGEE Identification card once FPGEC determines your eligibility to take the examination. This card provides instructions on how to register for the examination. Note you are required to [register online](#) with NABP before scheduling your examination appointment.

If you change your e-mail address, you must notify NABP Customer Service of the change, and provide both the old and the new e-mail address.

See the NABP website for the important dates pertaining to your assigned test date.

FPGEE Examination Process

Within one week of registering to test with NABP, you will receive your Authorization To Test (ATT) via e-mail from Pearson VUE. This email will provide you instructions on how to schedule your examination appointment. You will not be able to schedule an examination appointment until you receive your ATT.

Note: You should contact Pearson VUE if you have not received your ATT within one week of registering with NABP.

FPGEE Practice Test

The NABP developed the Pre-FPGEE practice examination. The Pre-FPGEE is a computerized examination delivered via the Internet. The goal of the Pre-FPGEE is to familiarize participants with the types of questions, content areas, and general test layout as it appears in the FPGEE.

Candidates are given 66 questions and allotted 85 minutes to complete the Pre-FPGEE.

Failing/Retaking the FPGEE

Candidates are allowed a maximum of five attempts to successfully pass the FPGEE. Candidates who did not pass the FPGEE and have not tested the maximum number of times will need to submit a new application and [\\$750](#).

Complete information on the FPGEE, including application procedures, rescheduling rules, rules of conduct, and testing accommodations, can be found in the FPGEE Candidate Application Bulletin. All candidates must review this document before taking the FPGEE.

TOEFL iBT ENGLISH ASSESSMENT

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- The TOEFL iBT is offered by Educational Testing Service (ETS). Candidates must register at ETS for information regarding the TOEFL iBT, including dates and location of examinations, fees, and application procedures. Boise has one testing center in the area. The cost for the examination is \$225, which is accepted by credit or debit card online.
- In order to sit for the exam, please fill out the online application form at www.toefl.org.
- For FPGE C program purposes, candidates choosing to take the TOEFL iBT **must** take each subsection of the TOEFL iBT.
- The minimum required scores on the TOEFL iBT are 21 in listening, 24 in writing, 26 in speaking, 22 in reading, and a minimum score of 550 (paper-based) or 213 (computer-based) on the TOEFL. All candidates **must** pass all sections of the TOEFL iBT in a single examination administration.
- The FPGE C requires original score reports directly from Educational Testing Service; copies are not acceptable. Please use **institution code 9103** when requesting score reports from ETS. Because ETS only maintains score reports for two years from the date of examination, candidates should plan accordingly to ensure that score reports do not expire before requesting that they be submitted to the FPGE C.
- Contact information for the TOEFL iBT: P.O. Box 6151, Princeton, NJ 08541; Web site: www.toefl.org; telephone: 609-771-7100.

II. REGISTER WITH IDAHO STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY AS INTERN

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Once you have passed the FPGE E and received your FPGE C Certification, you will need to

contact the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy to fill out and submit a [Pharmacist Graduate Intern Registration Application](#).

The fee for this application is a \$50 fee plus the applicable background check fee of [\\$34.75](#). Contact Idaho State Board of Pharmacy for up-to-date fees. Once you have completed your application, submit the application and fees to:

Idaho State Board of Pharmacy
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0067

Once this application has been accepted, you will be required to fulfill 1,740 hours in interning with a pharmacy, either retail or in a hospital. For information on how to find a pharmacy to intern under, contact the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy for specific inquiries:
wendy.muir@bop.idaho.gov.

III. SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR IDAHO PHARMACIST LICENSE [\(BACK TO TOP\)](#)

After you have finished your 1,740 hours under a licensed pharmacist, you need to check that you have completed all of the required steps:

1. Credentials Evaluated by FPGEC
2. Completed 1,740 hours of Interning with a licensed pharmacist

Next, you will need to submit the application for an Idaho pharmacist license. Please, read the Pharmacist Application Instructions for thorough information:

https://bop.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/99/2020/04/Pharmacist_Application_Instructions.pdf

IV. REGISTER AND TAKE THE NAPLEX

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*The following information has been provided by the National Association of Board of Pharmacy (NABP). You are required to download and read their [NAPLEX and MPJE Registration Bulletin](#) before and after taking the NAPLEX.

The North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) can be taken once the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy has received and approved your application for licensure.

General Testing Content

The NAPLEX is an exam that tests the ability to prepare and dispense medications, measure pharmacotherapy, and implement and evaluate information for health care.

The NAPLEX is a computer-based exam with 185 questions. It delivers constructed-response and selected-response questions with a scenario-based format. See the [NAPLEX and MPJE Registration Bulletin](#) for further information on the NAPLEX.

NAPLEX Registration Process

To register, you must create an account and log in to your NABP e-Profile. If you do not have a NABP e-Profile, you can create one by following the steps on the [NAPLEX and MPJE](#).

Online registration for the NAPLEX can be accessed via <http://www.nabp.net/programs/examination/naplex>. The fee for this exam is **\$575** USD and can be made with an online payment via Visa or MasterCard.

NAPLEX Examination Process

After the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy determines candidates' eligibility to take the examination, it will notify NABP. Candidates who have registered for the NAPLEX will receive an Authorization to Test (ATT) letter by or letter from Pearson VUE. The ATT letter includes

eligibility dates during which you may take the examination, instructions for scheduling your testing appointment, and other important information.

Candidates should make sure all information in their ATT letters is correct. Check to make sure your name on the ATT letter exactly matches the two forms of identification you will bring to check into the testing center. .

If you do not receive or have misplaced your ATT letter, contact Pearson VUE Customer Service Monday through Friday at 888/709-2679 7 am to 7 pm (CST). Be sure to check your spam or junk email folder before you call. ATT letters or numbers will not be issued via phone or fax.

Local location in Boise for the Pearson VUE testing center is:

Pearson VUE testing center is located at 1951 Saturn Rd. #200, Boise, ID 83709.

NAPLEX Practice Test

The NABP developed a Pre-NAPLEX practice examination. The Pre-NAPLEX is a computerized examination delivered via the Internet. The goal of the Pre-NAPLEX is to familiarize participants with the types of questions, content areas, and general test layout as it appears in the NAPLEX.

The Pre-NAPLEX consists of 100 questions; two forms of the Pre-NAPLEX are available. Candidates can sit for the Pre-NAPLEX at any time on any day. The cost for each Pre-NAPLEX attempt is [\\$65](#). There are no refunds once the practice examination has been purchased. More information for the Pre-NAPLEX can be found in the [NAPLEX and MPJE Registration Bulletin](#).

Failing/Retaking the NAPLEX

A candidate who fails the NAPLEX three (3) times must complete at least thirty (30) hours of continuing education accredited by an ACPE-accredited provider prior to being eligible to sit for

each subsequent reexamination. Candidates are limited to five (5) total NAPLEX attempts. Retest fee is [\\$575](#). If you have any questions, or require more information about the five-attempt limit, please contact NABP Customer Service, Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm Central Time, at 847/391-4406, or by email at custserv@nabp.net

V. MPJE WAIVER

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Due to a recent resolution in the Rules and Regulations of the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy, it is no longer a requirement to sit for and take the MPJE examination. In order to qualify for the exemption, an individual will need to sign a waiver. For more information, please review the Pharmacist application instruction:

https://bop.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/99/2020/04/Pharmacist_Application_Instructions.pdf.

VI. IDAHO PDMP REGISTRATION

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The Idaho State Board of Pharmacy requires Pharmacists and prescribers, except Veterinarians, to annually register with the board to obtain online access to the controlled substances prescription database. To register with the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, follow the link: <https://bop.idaho.gov/idaho-pmp/>

VII. RECEIVE IDAHO LICENSE AS A REGISTERED PHARMACIST [\(BACK TO TOP\)](#)

Once the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy receives the following, you will be issued your Registered Pharmacist License:

1. FPGEC Certification
2. Completed 1,740 hours of internship
3. Submit Licensure application through Idaho State Board of Pharmacy
4. Pass the NAPLEX
5. MPJE waiver
6. Register with Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)

4. OTHER CAREERS AND CREDENTIALS

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PHARMACY TECHNICIAN:

A Pharmacy Technician is an entry-level staff position in a hospital or retail pharmacy. It requires limited pharmacy education. For more information on how to become a Certified Pharmacy Technician, follow the link to the [Idaho State Board of Pharmacy](#).

Becoming a Pharmacy Technician can have some advantages:

- It will make you more employable and provide income to support you while you go through the FPGEC and licensing process.
- It will help you learn the U.S. job culture and get acquainted with the U.S. pharmacy career.
- It has the ability to make you more marketable when you start your 1,740 intern hours and can increase your responsibilities in your internship.
- You may improve your chances of receiving a salary as you complete your 1,740 internship hours

Registering as a Pharmacy Technician includes showing proof of some types of pharmacy education, plus an application packet, which you can find in the *Important Links* section.

5. BEYOND LICENSING

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ANNUAL CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Each pharmacist applicant for license renewal must complete fifteen (15) CPE hours each calendar year between January 1 and December 31.

01. ACPE. At least twelve (12) of the CPE hours obtained must be from programs by an ACPE that have a participant designation of “P” (for pharmacist) as the suffix of the ACPE universal program number. ACPE credits must be reported to and documented in CPE Monitor in order to be accepted.

02. CME. A maximum of three (3) of the hours may be obtained from CME, if the credits are:

a. Obtained from an ACCME accredited provider; and

b. A certificate is furnished that identifies the name of the ACCME accredited provider and a clear reference to its accreditation status, the title of the CME program, the completed hours of instruction, the date of completion, and the name of the individual obtaining the credit.

Upon audit, all CME certificates must be submitted to the Board.

03. Alternative to CPE. If audited, a pharmacist may substitute a current certification by a nationally accredited pharmacy practice-specific specialty certification program.

LICENSURE RENEWAL

Registered Licensed Pharmacists must renew their Controlled Substance license by December 31st of every year. Fee for renewal of a controlled substance license is [\\$60](#).

Registered Licensed Pharmacists must renew their license every year by June 30th. Fee for license renewal is [\\$130](#).

JOINING A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Joining state and national associations for pharmacists can help you increase your opportunity for professional development and networking. They are a valuable resource in providing information about state and national policies within the profession, as well as set working conditions. They also are great resources in learning more about the licensing and examination process, this includes test preparation. They also provide information on Continuing Education programs that are required of you.

- State:
 - [Idaho State Pharmacists Association](#)
 - [Idaho Society of Health-System Pharmacists](#)
- National:
 - [American Pharmacists Association](#)
 - [American Society of Health-System Pharmacists](#)

For more information about these associations, go to The *Important Links* section of this guide. There is a large variety of specialized professional associations for pharmacists based on workplace, specialty, ethnicity, gender, or religion.

6. IMPORTANT LINKS

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LICENSING AND REGULATION

The [Idaho State Board of Pharmacy](#) processes and regulates licensing for pharmacists in the state. All forms, guides to practice, and Laws, Rules, and Regulations can all be found at the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy.

Idaho State Board of Pharmacy

1199 W Shoreline Lane, Suite 303

Boise, ID 83702-9103

Phone (208) 334-2356

TESTING

- The [National Association of Boards of Pharmacy \(NABP\)](#) provides information on examinations (FPGEE, NAPLEX, MPJE), as well as the FPGEC certification process..

- The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy administers the NAPLEX and the MPJE and has the [NAPLEX/MPJE Candidate Bulletin](#) on its site available for download. You can take the Pre-FPGEE and Pre-NAPLEX practice exams for [\\$65](#) each; Phone: (847) 391-4406

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- [American Society of Health-System Pharmacists](#)
- [American Pharmacists Association](#)
- [Idaho Society of Health-System Pharmacists](#)
- [Idaho State Pharmacists Association](#)
- [US Food and Drug Administration](#)
- [National Association of Chain Drug Stores](#)
- [Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy](#)

ACCREDITED PHARMACY INSTITUTIONS IN IDAHO

Idaho State University College of Pharmacy

921 South 8th Ave

Pocatello, ID 83209

Paul Cady, PhD

Dean

Tel: 208-282-2175

FAX: 208-282-4482

E-Mail: cady@pharmacy.isu.edu

Web Site: pharmacy.isu.edu/live/

[Detailed PharmD Accreditation History](#)

7. TIPS

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REGISTER AS A PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

Receiving a position as a Pharmacy Technician can help you get into the pharmacy profession, as well as help you secure an internship for your 1,740 required hours for Idaho licensure. You will not be able to earn internship hours until Idaho State Board of Pharmacy approves your intern application part way through your licensing process.

SPEAK UP

Throughout the licensing process you will need to advocate for yourself. If you have questions or concerns about the licensing process, contact the official associations and seek clarification. If you feel your degree has been misinterpreted or you do not understand a fine point of the state regulations, organize your questions and contact the Idaho Board of Pharmacy for help.

PharmD Licensing Pathway

OVERVIEW

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There will be a 25% growth rate in pharmaceuticals between 2020-2025, due to an aging population, new drug treatments and discoveries, as well as new drug treatment. [The average salary](#) of a pharmacist in Idaho is around 128,000.

8. ENROLLING INTO A PHARM-D PROGRAM

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If you graduated from an international pharmacy school with a 4-year pharmacy degree after January 1, 2003, you can transfer credits from your foreign degree to a 5-year program in the U.S. and enroll into a program. Once you have graduated from the new institution you will be up-to-date on your credentials. The following are a list of programs in the U.S. that specifically

works with foreign trained pharmacists in helping them receive their Doctor in Pharmacy (PharmD), which is required to receive a license in the US.

[Idaho State University-Meridian](#)

College of Pharmacy
1311 E. Central Drive
Meridian, ID 83642
(208) 373-1802
dodsrobi@isu.edu

*[Nova Southeastern University](#)

PharmD for International Pharmacists
3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314
(800) 541-6682
nsupharmacyinfo@nova.edu

Nova Southeastern University offers a fast-track program for foreign trained pharmacists. Once you finish the pre-requisites and are enrolled into the program you can receive your PharmD degree in 3 years.

*[Western University of Health Sciences](#)

Doctor of Pharmacy International Track
200 Mullins Drive
Lebanon, OR 97355
(909) 469-5339
susie.fang@westernu.edu

Western University of Health Sciences offers a fast-track program for foreign trained pharmacists. Once you finish the pre-requisites and are enrolled into the program you can receive your PharmD degree in 3 years.

* Most programs that accept foreign trained pharmacists offer a 4-year PharmD program, however, Western University Health Sciences and Nova Southeastern University offer a 3-year PharmD fast-track program.

Returning Back To School:

- One option is to use transfer credits from your foreign degree to a 5-year program in the U.S. and enroll into a program. You may be able to gather pre-pharmacy coursework that you may have completed prior to starting your 4-year program and use this documentation towards your 5-year total. Once you have graduated from the new institution you will be up-to-date on your credentials.

9. ELIGIBILITY FOR LICENSING

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***For the purposes of this section, this guide will outline the steps required to enroll into Idaho State University's College of Pharmacy. NOTE: This section is specific to the requirements of Idaho State University and is not the process followed by other universities. If you wish to learn more about other programs, contact these programs and ask for their information packets.**

The process for getting a license as a pharmacist in Idaho is as follows

1. Contact universities to learn about the specifics of their program and the requirements that you need to fulfill before applying to their program.

2. Receive Credential Evaluation from an accredited institution in order to see what prerequisite courses you will need to fulfill in order to be up-to-date with course requirements prior to entering in the program.
3. Fulfilling pre-requisite and TOEFL-iBT requirements are required before applying to the program.
4. U.S. Pharmacy Experience: Even though this is not a requirement, you will need to have prior work experience in the U.S. under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist.
5. Apply to PharmD Program: Once you have successfully completed the previous steps, you are ready to apply to the PharmD program. Once in the program, you will also register as a student extern and complete 1,740 hours of required internship under a licensed pharmacist.
6. Receive your degree, apply for Idaho State Board of Pharmacy licensure, and take the NAPLEX exams.

I. RECEIVE CREDENTIAL EVALUATION

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If you have international coursework to be considered with your application, submit an official course-by-course evaluation report from an institution that is a member of the National Association of Credential Services Incorporated (NACSI). ISU recommends either:

Educational Credential Evaluators

PO Box 514070

Milwaukee, WI 53203-3470

(414) 289-3400

www.ece.org

World Education Services

Bowling Green Station

Box 5087

New York, YN 10274-5087

www.wes.org

Starting Fee: [\\$160](#)

Starting Fee: [\\$160](#)

II. CONTACT COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

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Candidates are required to contact the Idaho State University's College of Pharmacy before applying to the program. In order to

[Idaho State University-Meridian](#)

College of Pharmacy

1311 E. Central Drive

Meridian, ID 83642

(208) 373-1802

dodsrobi@isu.edu

III. PRE-REQUISITES AND TOEFL-iBT ENGLISH ASSESSMENT

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- a) Based on your foreign credential evaluation, you will be required to complete specific prerequisite courses before being eligible to apply to ISU's PharmD program. These prerequisites can be taken at College of Western Idaho to help reduce costs.

- b) Students coming from countries where English isn't the official medium of instruction are required to take and pass the TOEFL-iBT. If you did attend a University outside of the U.S. that did use English as their required English for coursework, please have your school provide documentation confirming English as the medium of instruction.

If you need to take the TOEFL-iBT, the following information will help guide you through the process:

- The TOEFL iBT is offered by Educational Testing Service (ETS). Candidates must register at ETS for information regarding the TOEFL iBT, including dates

and location of examinations, fees, and application procedures. Boise has one testing center in the area:

The cost for the examination is \$225, which is accepted by credit or debit card online.

- In order to sit for the exam, please fill out the online application form at www.toefl.org.
- For ISU's program purposes, candidates choosing to take the TOEFL iBT **must** take each subsection of the TOEFL iBT.
- The minimum required scores on the TOEFL iBT is a 62. You need a minimum score of 500 (paper-based) or 173 (computer-based) on the TOEFL. All candidates **must** pass all sections of the TOEFL iBT in a single examination administration.
- The ISU program requires original score reports directly from Educational Testing Service; copies are not acceptable. Please use **institution code 4355** when requesting score reports from ETS. Because ETS only maintains score reports for two years from the date of examination, candidates should plan accordingly to ensure that score reports do not expire before requesting that they be submitted to the FPGEC.

IV. U.S. PHARMACY EXPERIENCE

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You will also be required to complete and provide documentation of a minimum of 40 hours of U.S. pharmacy experience at either a retail or hospital pharmacy. There are two ways that you can complete this requirement:

- 1) Become a Pharmacy Technician and use your work hours towards the experience requirements.
- 2) Register as an intern through the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy and complete your hours through an internship.

10. APPLY TO PHARM-D PROGRAM

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Once you have completed these steps, you are ready to apply to ISU's College of Pharmacy program. The following is the outline of what you need to do to apply to the program:

1) Complete and submit on-line PharmD Application:

Creating Your Profile

You will be required to enter a valid email address and password when starting your application. Once this information has been entered, you will then receive a confirmation email with a link to activate your account. After you click on that link, you will be able to login into your account and begin filling out the application. You will need to remember your username and password in order to check the status of your application online.

Entering Your Application Information

You may enter all the required information on your application at one time or you may choose to enter each section at different times. You may return to your application and edit information as needed until you submit your application. Do not submit your application until all sections are completed.

2) Submit Application Fee:

A [\\$55](#) non-refundable application fee payable to College of Pharmacy through PayPal. The PayPal link will become available on your application page once your application

has been submitted.

3) Official College Transcripts:

Prior to completing the application, verify that your Official College Transcript Evaluation was sent and received from the credential evaluation agency that you chose to review your foreign degree.

4) Three recommendations:

Three letters of recommendation forms are required. We will only review three. One recommendation must be from a pharmacist licensed to practice in the United States, preferably one who has supervised you and not related to you. The pharmacist recommendation form can be viewed and printed at:

<https://pharmacy.isu.edu/application/pdf/PharmRec.pdf>.

The other two recommendations must be from individuals who have supervised you in a professional, work or academic setting. The general recommendation form

link: <https://pharmacy.isu.edu/application/pdf/regrec.pdf>

The letters must be received by the College of Pharmacy in sealed envelopes with the recommender's signature across the back of the sealed envelope. Electronic submissions will not be accepted. Recommendation letters can be mailed directly to the College of Pharmacy or included in a packet with other application documents; Personal Statement, etc.

5) One-page Personal Statement:

Explain in some detail your interest in becoming a pharmacist. Include (1) how you developed this interest and, (2) any attributes and related accomplishments you believe will enhance your future academic and career success. Limit your statement to one typed

page; double-spaced using no smaller than 10 point font. Your name must be on the statement. Please submit your personal statement to:

Mail your personal statement, letters of recommendation, and transcript(s) to:

ISU College of Pharmacy
921 South 8th Avenue
Campus Stop 8288,
Pocatello, ID 83209

I. REGISTER WITH IDAHO STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY AS INTERN

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Once you have been enrolled into a PharmD program , you will be enrolled into the Pharmacy Practice Experience. You will need to contact the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy to fill out and submit a [Student Pharmacist Intern Registration Application](#). Then, in your 4th year, you will complete the 1,740 intern hours through the Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience. This is the required amount of hours required under the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy Licensure application.

The fee for this application is **\$50** fee plus the applicable background check fee of **\$34.75**, contact Idaho State Board of Pharmacy for up-to-date fees. Once you have completed your application, submit the application and fees to:

Idaho State Board of Pharmacy
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0067

Once this application has been accepted, you will be required to fulfill 1,740 hours a student extern with a pharmacy, either retail or in a hospital.

II. FINISH PHARM-D PROGRAM

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Once you have completed your 4-years and graduate with your PharmD degree, you will then submit an application for Idaho Pharmacist License and register to take the NAPLEX.

11. SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR IDAHO PHARMACIST LICENSE [\(BACK TO TOP\)](#)

After you have finished your 1,740 hours under a licensed pharmacist and received your degree from an accredited college of pharmacy, you will need to submit the application for an Idaho pharmacist license. Review the Idaho Pharmacist License Application for specific information: https://bop.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/99/2020/04/Pharmacist_Application_Instructions.pdf

I. REGISTER AND TAKE THE NAPLEX

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*The following information has been provided by the National Association of Board of Pharmacy (NABP). You are required to download and read their [NAPLEX and MPJE Registration Bulletin](#) before and after taking the NAPLEX.

The North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) can be taken once the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy has received and approved your application for licensure.

General Testing Content

The NAPLEX is an exam that tests the ability to prepare and dispense medications, measure pharmacotherapy, and implement and evaluate information for health care.

The NAPLEX is a computer-based exam with 185 questions. It delivers constructed-response and selected-response questions with a scenario-based format. See the [NAPLEX and MPJE](#)

[Registration Bulletin](#) for further information on the NAPLEX.

NAPLEX Registration Process

To register, you must create an account and log in to your NABP e-Profile. If you do not have a NABP e-Profile, you can create one by following the steps on the [NAPLEX and MPJE](#).

Online registration for the NAPLEX can be accessed via <http://www.nabp.net/programs/examination/naplex>. The fee for this exam is **\$575** USD and can be made with an online payment via Visa or MasterCard.

NAPLEX Examination Process

After the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy determines candidates' eligibility to take the examination, it will notify NABP. Candidates who have registered for the NAPLEX will receive an Authorization to Test (ATT) letter by or letter from Pearson VUE. The ATT letter includes eligibility dates during which you may take the examination, instructions for scheduling your testing appointment, and other important information.

Candidates should make sure all information in their ATT letters is correct. Check to make sure your name on the ATT letter exactly matches the two forms of identification you will bring to check into the testing center. .

If you do not receive or have misplaced your ATT letter, contact Pearson VUE Customer Service Monday through Friday at 888/709-2679 7 am to 7 pm (CST). Be sure to check your spam or junk email folder before you call. ATT letters or numbers will not be issued via phone or fax.

Local location in Boise for the Pearson VUE testing center is:

Pearson VUE testing center is located at 1951 Saturn Rd. #200, Boise, ID 83709.

NAPLEX Practice Test

The NABP developed a Pre-NAPLEX practice examination. The Pre-NAPLEX is a computerized examination delivered via the Internet. The goal of the Pre-NAPLEX is to familiarize participants with the types of questions, content areas, and general test layout as it appears in the NAPLEX.

The Pre-NAPLEX consists of 100 questions; two forms of the Pre-NAPLEX are available. Candidates can sit for the Pre-NAPLEX at any time on any day. The cost for each Pre-NAPLEX attempt is [\\$65](#). There are no refunds once the practice examination has been purchased. More information for the Pre-NAPLEX can be found in the [NAPLEX and MPJE Registration Bulletin](#).

Failing/Retaking the NAPLEX

A candidate who fails the NAPLEX three (3) times must complete at least thirty (30) hours of continuing education accredited by an ACPE-accredited provider prior to being eligible to sit for each subsequent reexamination. Candidates are limited to five (5) total NAPLEX attempts. Retest fee is [\\$575](#). If you have any questions, or require more information about the five-attempt limit, please contact NABP Customer Service, Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm Central Time, at 847/391-4406, or by email at custserv@nabp.net

II. MPJE WAIVER

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Due to a recent resolution in the Rules and Regulations of the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy, it is no longer a requirement to sit for and take the MPJE examination. In order to qualify for the exemption, an individual will need to sign a waiver. For more information, please review the Pharmacist application instruction:

https://bop.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/99/2020/04/Pharmacist_Application_Instructions.

[pdf.](#)

III. IDAHO PDMP REGISTRATION

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The Idaho State Board of Pharmacy requires Pharmacists and prescribers, except Veterinarians, to annually register with the board to obtain online access to the controlled substances prescription database. To register with the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, follow the link: <https://bop.idaho.gov/idaho-pmp/>.

III. RECEIVE IDAHO LICENSE AS A PHARM-D

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Once the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy receives the following, you will be issued your Registered Pharmacist License:

1. Official Transcript
2. Completed 1,740 hours of externship
3. Submit Licensure application through Idaho State Board of Pharmacy
4. Pass the NAPLEX
5. Waive the MPJE exam
6. Register with the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)

12. OTHER CAREERS AND CREDENTIALS

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PHARMACY TECHNICIAN:

A Pharmacy Technician is an entry-level staff position in a hospital or retail pharmacy. It requires limited pharmacy education. For more information on how to become a Certified Pharmacy Technician, follow the link to the [Idaho State Board of Pharmacy](#).

Becoming a Pharmacy Technician can have some advantages:

- It will make you more employable and provide income to support you while you go through the FPGEC and licensing process.

- It will help you learn the U.S. job culture and get acquainted with the U.S. pharmacy career.
- It has the ability to make you more marketable when you start your 1,740 intern hours and can increase your responsibilities in your internship.
- You may improve your chances of receiving a salary as you complete your 1,740 internship hours

Registering as a Pharmacy Technician includes showing proof of some types of pharmacy education, plus an application packet, which you can find in the *Important Links* section.

13. BEYOND LICENSING

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ANNUAL CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Each pharmacist applicant for license renewal must complete fifteen (15) CPE hours each calendar year between January 1 and December 31.

01. ACPE. At least twelve (12) of the CPE hours obtained must be from programs by an ACPE that have a participant designation of “P” (for pharmacist) as the suffix of the ACPE universal program number. ACPE credits must be reported to and documented in CPE Monitor in order to be accepted.

02. CME. A maximum of three (3) of the hours may be obtained from CME, if the credits are:

a. Obtained from an ACCME accredited provider; and

b. A certificate is furnished that identifies the name of the ACCME accredited provider and a clear reference to its accreditation status, the title of the CME program, the completed hours of instruction, the date of completion, and the name of the individual obtaining the credit.

Upon audit, all CME certificates must be submitted to the Board.

03. Alternative to CPE. If audited, a pharmacist may substitute a current certification by a nationally accredited pharmacy practice-specific specialty certification program.

LICENSURE RENEWAL

Registered Licensed Pharmacists must renew their Controlled Substance license by December 31st of every year. Fee for renewal of a controlled substance license is [\\$60](#).

Registered Licensed Pharmacists must renew their license every year by June 30th. Fee for license renewal is [\\$130](#).

JOINING A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Joining state and national associations for pharmacists can help you increase your opportunity for professional development and networking. They are a valuable resource in providing information about state and national policies within the profession, as well as set working conditions. They also are great resources in learning more about the licensing and examination process, this includes test preparation. They also provide information on Continuing Education programs that are required of you.

- State:
 - [Idaho State Pharmacists Association](#)
 - [Idaho Society of Health-System Pharmacists](#)
- National:
 - [American Pharmacists Association](#)
 - [American Society of Health-System Pharmacists](#)

For more information about these associations, go to The *Important Links* section of this guide. There is a large variety of specialized professional associations for pharmacists based on

workplace, specialty, ethnicity, gender, or religion.

14. IMPORTANT LINKS

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LICENSING AND REGULATION

The [Idaho State Board of Pharmacy](#) processes and regulates licensing for pharmacists in the state. All forms, guides to practice, and Laws, Rules, and Regulations can all be found at the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy.

Idaho State Board of Pharmacy

1199 W Shoreline Lane, Suite 303

Boise, ID 83702-9103

Phone (208) 334-2356

TESTING

- The [National Association of Boards of Pharmacy \(NABP\)](#) provides information on examinations (FPGEE, NAPLEX, MPJE), as well as the FPGEC certification process..
- The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy administers the NAPLEX and the MPJE and has the [NAPLEX/MPJE Candidate Bulletin](#) on its site available for download. You can take the Pre-FPGEE and Pre-NAPLEX practice exams for [\\$65](#) each; Phone: (847) 391-4406

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- [American Society of Health-System Pharmacists](#)
- [American Pharmacists Association](#)
- [Idaho Society of Health-System Pharmacists](#)
- [Idaho State Pharmacists Association](#)
- [US Food and Drug Administration](#)
- [National Association of Chain Drug Stores](#)

- [Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy](#)

ACCREDITED PHARMACY INSTITUTIONS IN IDAHO

Idaho State University College of Pharmacy

921 South 8th Ave

Pocatello, ID 83209

Paul Cady, PhD

Dean

Tel: 208-282-2175

FAX: 208-282-4482

E-Mail: cady@pharmacy.isu.edu

Web Site: pharmacy.isu.edu/live/

[Detailed PharmD Accreditation History](#)

15. TIPS

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REGISTER AS A PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

Receiving a position as a Pharmacy Technician can help you get into the pharmacy profession, as well as help you secure an internship for your 1,740 required hours for Idaho licensure. You will not be able to earn internship hours until Idaho State Board of Pharmacy approves your intern application part way through your licensing process.

SPEAK UP

Throughout the licensing process you will need to advocate for yourself. If you have questions or concerns about the licensing process, contact the official associations and seek clarification. If you feel your degree has been misinterpreted or you do not understand a fine point of the state regulations, organize your questions and contact the Idaho Board of Pharmacy for help.

