

Pharmacist Licensure by License Transfer Reciprocity in Minnesota

For pharmacists with an active license in another state

Click on the following link to review the licensure transfer requirements in **MN Rule 6800.1300**:

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/?id=6800.1300> and **MN Rule 6800.5500**:

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/?id=6800.5500>.

Licensure Transfer (Reciprocity) Standards

Pharmacists licensed in another state are *not* allowed to work as pharmacists in the state of Minnesota prior being license by the Minnesota Board of Pharmacy. The Board does not issue a temporary permit to work as a pharmacist. However, applicants for licensure by license transfer may work in the field of pharmacy if they register as a pharmacist-intern and work in that capacity under the direct supervision of a Minnesota registered preceptor. Application for registration as a pharmacist-intern can be made online by going to the [Online Services](#) portion of the Board's Web site. Alternatively, an [Application for Internship Registration](#) can be downloaded from the MN Board's website, completed, and submitted to the Board.

Substitution for internship

Deficiencies in internship experience will not preclude an applicant from being considered eligible, provided that the applicant has practiced as a licensed pharmacist for one week at 40 hours per week for each week or portion of a week that the applicant is deficient in internship experience. The number of weeks the applicant has practiced as a licensed pharmacist before applying for licensure transfer must be equal to or greater than the number of weeks or portions of weeks that the applicant is deficient in internship experience. For example, if an applicant completed only 1,500 hours of internship, rather than the 1,600 hours required by the Board, working an additional 100 hours as a licensed pharmacist is sufficient to complete the deficiency in internship hours.

Use this checklist to ensure you have completed the requirements to be licensed in the State of Minnesota.

1. Complete an e-LTP application through the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) and they will send the application electronically to the Board.
2. Register for the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE) through the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP).
3. Send a check with the total fee amount as indicated on the fee chart to the Board. This fee does include the fee for your criminal background check.

Additional Information

November 16, 2005, the Board eliminated the requirement that pharmacists applying for licensure transfer had to maintain their license in the state in which they were licensed by original examination. However, they do need to have a current and active license issued by one of the United States or Territories.

Criminal Background Checks

Minnesota statutes require that all applicants for *initial* licensure, licensure by *transfer* (reciprocity), or license *reinstatement* must complete a fingerprint-based criminal background check (“CBC”) ([Minn. Stat. § 214.075](#)). (Pharmacists with existing licenses may be required to have a one-time criminal background check (CBC) in the future in conjunction with license renewal.) Because pharmacist-interns and pharmacy technicians are registered and not licensed, they will not have to undergo criminal background checks. The Minnesota Health Licensing Boards have cooperatively established the Criminal Background Check Program to help applicants efficiently complete this mandatory background check.

When you apply for licensure, the criminal background check fee is bundled into your other licensing fees and paid at the same time. After you have paid all required licensing fees and the criminal background check fee, you will be provided with a packet containing additional information and directions from the Criminal Background Check Program. You are responsible for having your fingerprints taken promptly and for completing all required paperwork so as to not delay finalizing your license application. Previously taken fingerprints cannot be used. Some agencies charge a fee for fingerprinting services. Since the background check fee is bundled into the application fee that you pay to the Board, your fingerprinting can be done at the Criminal Background Check Program office at the address below. Please contact that office to make an appointment after you receive the information packet. The Criminal Background Check Program will not take walk-ins.

The time required for a CBC varies with the workload at the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) and cannot be expedited. Fingerprints are crosschecked with databases of the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and Federal Bureau of Investigation. During periods of high numbers of CBC requests, BCA’s search of records may take weeks. For the fastest service, applicants can come to the Board of Pharmacy office with their license application and check for all fees, and obtain the CBC packet. All of the CBC forms can be filled out on their site, and with a prearranged appointment, fingerprinting can be done the same day at the CBC Program office. Remember, the Criminal Background Check Program will not take walk-ins, you must have an appointment prearranged.

The report received from the BCA and FBI is only valid for one year. Applications that are not completed within a year of the CBC will be invalid.

All fees are non-refundable. You may direct any questions you have about the background check process to Criminal Background Check Program staff, and not the Board.

Criminal Background Check Program
2829 University Avenue SE, Suite 555
Minneapolis, MN 55414-4202
Phone: 651-201-2822
Email: cbc.staff@state.mn.us

Minnesota Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)

The Minnesota Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) is a tool that may be used by prescribers and pharmacists to assist in managing their patients' care. It contains information provided by Minnesota licensed pharmacies and prescriber dispensers. Pharmacies and prescribers who dispense from their office submit prescription data to the PMP system for all Schedules II, III, IV and V controlled substances, butalbital, and gabapentin that is dispensed within or into Minnesota. Minnesota licensed prescribers and pharmacists, and their delegated staff, may be authorized to access information from the PMP database. The program was implemented to promote public health and welfare by detecting diversion, abuse and misuse of prescriptions for controlled substances as defined in Minnesota Statutes §152.126.

All Minnesota licensed pharmacists practicing within the state are required by law to register for and maintain a user account with the PMP. Visit pmp.pharmacy.state.mn.us for more information on how to comply with this law once you are licensed.

Continuing Education Requirements

Licensed pharmacists are required to complete 30 credit hours for each biennial cycle. Each biennial cycle starts on October 1 of each even numbered year and ends on September 30 of the following even numbered year. Pharmacists are required to report to the Board when they complete their 30 CEs by the end of September at end of each biennial.

To confirm the number of completed CEs on file, log in to the Online Services portion of the Board's website and verify that the CE Total field matches the CE Hours Required field in your profile.

Continuing Education Audits

The Board randomly selects licensees for a CE audit. If you are notified that you are being audited, you will have 60 days to submit satisfactory documentation to the Board to prove that you have completed your required number of CE credits. Failure to submit the required documentation may result in you being unable to renew your license and work as a pharmacist.