

QUALIFICATION DETAILS

Qualification Title		New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Pharmacy Technician) (Level 4)	
Version	1	Qualification type	Certificate
Level	4	Credits	75
NZSCED	060501 Health > Pharmacy > Pharmacy		
DAS Classification	1570 Health > Pharmacy > Pharmacy Practice		
Strategic purpose statement	The purpose of this qualification is to provide the pharmacy sector with people who dispense medicines under the direct personal supervision of a pharmacist; and support the provision of safe, patient-centred healthcare. This qualification provides the minimum qualification required to work as a Pharmacy Technician.		
Outcome Statement	Graduate profile	<p>Graduates of this qualification will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Work ethically and professionally within the Pharmacy Council Code of Ethics as relevant to Pharmacy Technicians – Use appropriate communication techniques to inform customers/patients on health related matters – Apply and work within all legislation and regulations as appropriate to Pharmacy Technicians – Dispense and reconstitute medicines under the direct supervision of a pharmacist – Provide advice and guidance on the use of dispensed medicines including drug dosing and drug interactions – Understand the use of medicines as they relate to the treatment of a range of common health disorders – Manage dispensary stock and inventory using appropriate environmental and storage requirements – Complete calculations as appropriate to dispensing. 	
	Education pathway	Graduates of this certificate are able to progress to further training leading to the award of the New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Pharmacy Technician) (Level 5) [Ref: 1889].	
	Employment pathway	Graduates of this certificate will have the knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours required to work in either a community or hospital pharmacy as a Pharmacy Technician. Opportunities in employment include progression to senior technician roles or to other health related roles and occupations.	
Qualification Developer	Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand		

Qualification Specification

Qualification award	<p>This qualification will be awarded by any organisation that has an approved provider programme or industry training programme leading to the qualification.</p> <p>The certificate will display the title of the qualification; the logo of the NZQF and may display the name and/or logo of the awarding body.</p>
Review period	By 31 December 2016.

<p>Evidence requirements for assuring consistency</p>	<p>All tertiary education organisations (TEOs) either arranging training or delivering programmes that lead to the award of the qualification are required to participate in a consistency process scheduled by NZQA. This will involve review of evidence associated with graduate's achievement of outcomes, and agreeing acceptable thresholds for qualification outcome achievement, and areas for improvement. To demonstrate how graduates are achieving the qualification graduate profile outcomes, TEOs are required to produce their own evidence in a high level report.</p> <p>Evidence must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual programme reports with programme statistics including retention, completion, graduate progression data, and learner feedback. • Evidence from internal and external moderation processes that graduates meet the graduate profile outcomes. • Documentation of processes that ensure programmes continue to meet current and future needs (for example, of graduates, family, whanau, community, employers, relevant staff of destination programmes or educational organisations). • Documentation of intended pathways to next or future programmes. • Strategies used to build skills in literacy, numeracy, digital literacy and learning. • Any other relevant evidence as appropriate. <p>Further information about the consistency process can be found at http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/providers-partners/consistency-of-graduateoutcomes/</p>
<p>Credit transfer and recognition of prior learning arrangements</p>	<p>Education organisations must have policies and procedures in place for managing credit transfer, and assessing recognition of prior learning and recognition of current competency. These policies and procedures, and information about associated fees, must be available to the candidate prior to enrolment.</p> <p>To facilitate credit transfer, education organisations must clearly demonstrate the equivalency or comparability between each of the outcomes in the graduate profile, and the assessment components of their programmes.</p>
<p>Minimum standard of achievement and standards for grade endorsements</p>	<p>The minimum standard of achievement required for the award of the qualification will be the achievement of all graduate outcomes in the graduate profile through successful completion of an NZQA approved programme.</p> <p>There are no grade endorsements for this qualification.</p>
<p>Prerequisites to meet regulatory body or legislative requirements</p>	<p>There are no regulatory body or legislative requirements.</p>
<p>Other conditions for qualification</p>	<p>Entry requirement: New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Introduction to Pharmacy Practice) [Ref: 1886], or demonstration of comparable skills and knowledge.</p> <p>Delivery of this qualification will be supported by a training plan outlining the preferred or recommended progression of modules.</p> <p>Programmes leading to the award of this qualification can be delivered either: part time through distance education for those currently employed in a pharmacy; or through a full-time programme delivered by an accredited provider. Full-time programmes must include a practical component of a</p>

	<p>minimum of 160 hours experience in a pharmacy.</p> <p>The qualification developer will convene an annual external moderation meeting for providers offering this qualification.</p> <p>The purpose of the meeting will be to support providers through the moderation of their assessment of outcome achievement by the provider's trainees and will involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Peer review of evidence associated with trainees' achievement of outcomes in the qualification's graduate profile. - Determining acceptable standards of achievement - Identifying issues associated with outcome achievements. <p>Evidence will be in the form of a portfolio of student assessments or other evidence used to provide judgement against outcomes.</p> <p>Education providers will be required to meet their costs associated with participation in these meetings.</p> <p>A summary report will be prepared following the meeting and made available to providers together with any recommendations arising from the meetings.</p>
--	---

Conditions relating to specific outcomes

Qualification Outcomes (including indicative credit values for each outcome)	Conditions	Mandatory or Optional
<p>Work ethically and professionally within the Pharmacy Council Code of Ethics as relevant to Pharmacy Technicians.</p> <p>(3 credits)</p>	<p>Pharmacy Technicians must comply with the standards and codes applying to pharmacy. This will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pharmacy Council of New Zealand Code of Ethics 2011 - Health and Disability Services - Pharmacy Services Standard NZS 8134.7:2010 - Pharmacy SOPs (standard operating procedures) applicable to the specific worksite. 	Mandatory
<p>Use appropriate communication techniques to inform customers/patients on health related matters.</p> <p>(2 credits)</p>		

<p>Apply and work within all legislation and regulations as appropriate to Pharmacy Technicians.</p> <p>(10 credits)</p>	<p>Pharmacy Technicians must comply with the legislation applying to pharmacy, and the restrictions that are placed on the goods and services provided in a pharmacy.</p> <p>Relevant legislation will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Health and Disability Commissioner (Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers' Rights) Regulations 1996 – Health Information Privacy Code 1994 – Health (Retention of Health Information) Regulations 1996 – Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 – Health (Needles and Syringes) Regulations 1998 – Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 – Health and Safety in Employment Regulations 1995 – Medicines Act 1981 – Medicines Regulations 1984 – Misuse of Drugs Act 1975 – Misuse of Drugs Regulations 1977 – Privacy Act 1993. <p>Relevant reference documents will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – DHB Pharmacy Services Agreement – The New Zealand Pharmaceutical Schedule – The New Zealand Formulary. 	<p>Mandatory</p>
<p>Dispense and reconstitute medicines under the direct supervision of a pharmacist.</p> <p>(35 credits)</p>	<p>Minimum requirements:</p> <p>Dispensing medicines will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Prescription administration – Annotating prescriptions – Data entry for prescriptions – Labelling – Counting and pouring – Accuracy checks – Identify interventions and respond appropriately – Reconstituting medicines. 	<p>Mandatory</p>
	<p>Dispensing medicines may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Compliance packaging – Repacking. 	<p>Optional</p>
<p>Provide advice and guidance on the use of dispensed medicines including drug dosing and drug interactions.</p> <p>(5 credits)</p>	<p>The Pharmacy Council requires that any counselling provided to the public will confirm and explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Who the medicine is for – What the medicine is for – The directions for proper use and what special precautions to take – Foods or medicines to avoid – Common side effects or interactions, what to expect and how to treat, if needed – How soon to expect the medicine to work – What to do if you miss a dose – How to store your medicine and dispose of unused medicines safely – If there are repeats or a balance owing and how and when to collect them. 	<p>Mandatory</p>

Understand the use of medicines as they relate to the treatment of a range of common health disorders. (10 credits)	An understanding of basic human anatomy relating to common health disorders.	Mandatory
Manage dispensary stock and inventory using appropriate environmental and storage requirements. (5 credits)		
Complete calculations as appropriate to dispensing. (5 credits)	<p>Minimum requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Correctly interpret prescriptions to calculate the quantities required for increasing and decreasing doses – Quantify estimations – Pricing – Calculate specific dose requirements for medicine applicators, eg inhalers, drops, cartridges, and vials. 	Mandatory

Transition information

Replacement information	This qualification and the National Certificate in Pharmacy (Technician) (Level 5) [Ref: 1889] replaced the National Certificate in Pharmacy (Technician) (Level 5) with strands in Community, and Hospital [Ref: 0423]
--------------------------------	---

People currently working towards the replaced qualification must complete its requirements by 31 December 2017.

Republication Information

Version 1 of this qualification was republished June 2015 to:

- update the Evidence requirements for assuring consistency
- update Other conditions for qualification. This information was previously in Arrangements for managing consistency
- update the Qualification Developer.