

Qualification details

Title	New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Specialist Technician) (Level 6)		
Version	1	Qualification type	Certificate
Level	6	Credits	120
NZSCED	060501	Health > Pharmacy > Pharmacy	
DAS classification	1570	Health > Pharmacy > Pharmacy Practice	
Qualification developer		Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand	
Next review		March 2019	
Approval date		17 April 2014	
Strategic purpose statement		<p>The purpose of this qualification is to provide the pharmacy sector with specialist pharmacy technicians who carry out a range of specialist pharmacy services.</p> <p>This qualification is for people who are already employed as pharmacy technicians, and who are wishing to enter into a specialist pharmacy technician role with management/leadership responsibilities.</p>	
Outcome Statement	Graduate profile	<p>Graduates of this qualification will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – develop and maintain communication with people, on complex matters, issues and ideas and/or in complex situations – contribute and participate in the development of pharmacy staff, in specified areas of pharmacy practice – supervise, co-ordinate and delegate work within a pharmacy team – understand and apply operational management practices to support business functions – understand and apply relevant legislation and standards to pharmacy practice – understand and apply pharmacy audit and compliance requirements – understand and apply knowledge of the NZ healthcare system and the interaction between healthcare providers to support the delivery of pharmacy services – provide specialist pharmacy services in a specific pharmacy role or pharmacy related situation. 	
	Education pathway	Graduates of this qualification will build on previously gained Pharmacy Technician qualifications at level 5 and have the ability	

		to progress to further training in other health related roles or to further study.
	Employment pathway	Graduates of this qualification will have the knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours required to work in a range of specialist technician or other specialist dispensary roles including those in community, hospital, industrial and educational pharmacy settings.

Qualification specifications

Qualification award	<p>This qualification will be awarded by the accredited Tertiary Education Organisation (TEO) 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 NZQF logo and may display the name and/or logo of the awarding body.</p>
Evidence requirements for assuring consistency	<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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.

	Further information about the consistency process can be found at http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/providers-partners/consistency-of-graduateoutcomes/
Credit transfer and recognition of prior learning arrangements	<p>Provider 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 before 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>
Minimum standard of achievement and standards for grade endorsements	<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>
Entry requirements (including prerequisites to meet regulatory body or legislative requirements)	Prerequisite: New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Pharmacy Technician) (Level 5) [Ref: 1889] or are able to demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.
Other conditions for qualification	<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>

Qualification conditions

Overarching conditions relating to the qualification

Conditions for programme structure	N/A
Conditions for programme context	N/A
Other conditions	Candidates must be employed in a pharmacy environment and have a minimum of 1 year experience in a pharmacy technician role, following award of a Pharmacy Technician Level 5 qualification.

Specific conditions relating to the Graduate profile

Qualification outcomes		Conditions	Mandatory or Optional
1	Develop and maintain communication with people, on complex matters, issues and ideas and/or in complex situations 9 credits	May include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Health literacy – Presentation skills and report writing – Interactions with other healthcare professionals 	Optional
2	Contribute and participate in the development of pharmacy staff, in specified areas of pharmacy practice 8 credits	May include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Continuing professional development (CPD) and self-management of lifelong learning – Critical evaluation, reflection and problem solving 	Optional
3	Supervise, co-ordinate and delegate work within a pharmacy team 8 credits	May include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mentoring and coaching – Training and assessing staff – Delegation 	Optional
4	Understand and apply operational management practices to support business functions 15 credits	May include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Human Resources management – Budgeting/forecasting for business operations – Business and operational planning – Inventory management 	Optional
5	Understand and apply relevant legislation and standards to pharmacy practice 15 credits	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cultural competence – Principles of ethics – Knowledge of the Pharmacist Code of Ethics 	Mandatory

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A broad knowledge of both legislation and standards as applicable to pharmacy and business operations 	
6	<p>Understand and apply pharmacy audit and compliance requirements</p> <p>10 credits</p>	<p>Must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quality assurance and safety processes - Standard operating procedure management - Records management - Audit requirements 	Mandatory
7	<p>Understand and apply knowledge of the NZ healthcare system and the interaction between healthcare providers to support the delivery of pharmacy services</p> <p>10 credits</p>	<p>Must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding of the healthcare system with specific relevance to medicines management - Role of Pharmac and District Health Boards in pharmacy services, funding and medicines delivery - Scheduling and claims processing and management 	Mandatory
8	<p>Provide specialist pharmacy services in a specific pharmacy role or pharmacy related situation</p> <p>45 credits</p>	<p>Candidates must select three topics in total, from at least two of the Groups below.</p> <p>Group 1 - Specialist dispensing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aseptic compounding - Non-aseptic compounding - Robotic dispensing - Clinical trials supply - Other nominated specialist topic <p>Group 2 - Patient and medicine management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advanced dispensary administration (e.g. managing chronic conditions) - Patient counseling (e.g. on discharge, warfarin) - Health screening and testing (e.g. diabetes, weight, heart) - Medicines reconciliation - Medicines information - Other nominated specialist topic <p>Group 3 - Operational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dispensary management - Specialist pharmacy related Information Technology 	Mandatory

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Education and training support- Quality assurance and risk management- Other nominated specialist topic | |
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Republication Information

Version 1 of this qualification was republished February 2017 to update the Other conditions for the qualification. The following were removed:

- Entry requirement
- Training plan
- Practical component for full time programmes.

Version 1 of this qualification was republished June 2015 to update the:

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