OCEANIA · AUSTRALIA · KNOWLEDGE STREAM (OPRA) ROUTE

AU Pharmacist registration in Australia

Pharmacists are registered nationally by the Pharmacy Board of Australia through Ahpra. With a degree from outside Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the UK or the USA, you start with the Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) Knowledge Stream and its OPRA exam. Facts checked against official sources on **20 November 2026**.

OPRA DATES FOR 2027 OPRA, the Overseas Pharmacist Readiness Assessment, is the APC exam for the Knowledge Stream. 2027 sittings: 22 to 24 March (register 19 January to 22 February), 26 to 28 July and 8 to 10 November. Registration closes about a month before each exam and late entries are not accepted. The APC asks you to lodge the eligibility check at least 8 weeks before registration closes.

1	2	3	4	5	6
English test IELTS, OET, PTE, TOEFL	**Eligibility** APC check	**OPRA** computer exam	**Provisional** Ahpra application	**Internship** 1,575 hours	**General reg.** written + oral exam
3–6 months (est.)	up to 4 weeks	results 4–6 weeks	1–3 months (est.)	about 10–12 months (est.)	after both passes

The route, step by step

1. **Meet the English language standard**
   Ahpra's standard, for example IELTS Academic 7 overall and in each band, with 6.5 in writing. Results are generally valid for 2 years before you apply for registration.
   Time: 3–6 months (est.) · Cost: set by test provider
2. **Pass the APC eligibility check**
   Upload passport, ID, degree, full transcript and NAATI translations in the APC Candidate Portal. A 4-year degree is needed if completed after 1 January 2006.
   Time: up to 4 weeks · Cost: AU$810
3. **Pass the OPRA exam**
   120 multiple choice questions in 2.5 hours on biomedical, pharmaceutical and clinical sciences. Sat at test centres in many countries, including Pakistan.
   Time: results 4–6 weeks · Cost: AU$2,245
4. **Get provisional registration**
   Apply to the Pharmacy Board through Ahpra. It must be approved before supervised practice starts. If you passed OPRA over 3 years ago, form APRO-60 is also needed.
   Time: 1–3 months (est.) · Cost: AU$421
5. **Supervised practice and intern program**
   Complete 1,575 hours of Board-approved supervised practice, the current modified requirement, and an accredited intern training program with all its assessments.
   Time: about 10–12 months (est.) · Cost: set by provider
6. **Pass both exams, then general registration**
   After 75% of your hours, sit the APC Intern Written Exam and the Board's oral exam. Pass both within 18 months, then apply to Ahpra for general registration.
   Time: after both passes · Cost: AU$756

Official fees	Amount
APC eligibility check Per request, non-refundable	**AU$810**
OPRA exam, per attempt Full fee again for each re-sit	**AU$2,245**
APC Skills Assessment Outcome Optional, after passing OPRA, to support a visa application	**AU$300**
Provisional registration (Ahpra) Application fee 169 plus registration fee 252 (NSW registration fee 228)	**AU$421**
Registration exams, per attempt APC Intern Written Exam 790 plus Board oral examination (practice) 510	**AU$1,300**

Exam pattern: online or onsite?

OPRA (APC) TEST CENTRE
120 multiple choice questions · 2.5 hours · Biomedical, pharmaceutical and clinical sciences · Result is Pass or Unsuccessful, no score released

Intern Written Exam (APC) TEST CENTRE
75 questions · 2 hours · Eligible after 75% of supervised hours · Result is Pass or Unsuccessful

Oral examination, practice (Board) ONSITE
Run by Ahpra for the Pharmacy Board · Duration not published by the Board · Paper form APOE-60 in set windows · Fee AU$510 per attempt

Timelines

- Eligibility check: the APC aims to reply within 5 working days, but allows up to 4 weeks. Lodge at least 8 weeks before OPRA registration closes.
- OPRA results come 4 to 6 weeks after the exam (for example, exam 23 to 25 November 2026, results 22 December 2026).
- Supervised practice: 1,575 hours. You may sit both registration exams after 1,181 hours, and must pass both within 18 months.

Typical total: About 2–3 years (est.)

Keep these separate

- Registration ≠ visa ≠ job. Ahpra registration gives no right to enter or stay in Australia. Visas are decided by the Department of Home Affairs.
- Supervised practice can start only after provisional registration is approved. Registration does not provide an internship place or an employer.
- The APC Skills Assessment Outcome supports a visa application. It is not registration, and nothing in this process is guaranteed.

How ASGHCA supports you

- OPRA exam preparation course
- International Career Mapping: consult, assess, roadmap, prepare
- Documentation and registration guidance
- English test preparation: IELTS, PTE and OET
- 1-on-1 mentorship, CV and interview support
- Webinars, CPD sessions and a lifetime community

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Sources (checked 20 November 2026): pharmacycouncil.org.au: Knowledge Stream (OPRA), Intern Written Exam, skills assessment fees, Competency Stream · pharmacyboard.gov.au: Overseas practitioner registration, Internships, Registration examination, Fees (from 1 Oct 2026), news 13 Nov 2026 · ahpra.gov.au: Accepted English language tests (reviewed 23 Apr 2026) · immi.homeaffairs.gov.au: Core Skills Occupation List, biometrics · pakistan.embassy.gov.au: Visas and Citizenship · fairwork.gov.au: Pharmacy Industry Award pay guide MA000012. **Important:** general information prepared from official sources, not legal or immigration advice. Fees, rules and dates change; always confirm with the competent authority before paying or applying. Durations marked (est.) are ASGHCA planning estimates, not official figures. ASGHCA provides education and career guidance and is not a regulator, law firm or licensed immigration adviser. ASGHCA does not guarantee exam success, registration, employment, sponsorship, visas or residence. For visa matters consult the official mission or an authorised adviser.