EUROPE · SWEDEN · NON-EU/EEA PHARMACY DEGREE ROUTE

SE Pharmacist registration in Sweden

The licence is the legitimation som apotekare, issued by Socialstyrelsen, the National Board of Health and Welfare. Apotekare is a protected title. A parallel route exists for receptarie (prescriptionist, a shorter pharmacy degree). Facts checked against official sources on **20 November 2026**.

WORK PERMIT RULES 2026 The licence route has 5 fixed steps, and the knowledge test is held only in Swedish, in person at Uppsala University. Separately, since 1 June 2026 a first work permit needs a salary of at least SEK 34,470 a month (90% of the median), unless an exemption applies.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Assessment	**Swedish**	**Kunskapsprov**	**Law course**	**Praktik**	**Legitimation**
Socialstyrelsen	Svenska 3 or C1	Uppsala University	Lund University, web	6 months, pharmacy	full licence
about 3 months	12–24 months (est.)	6–18 months (est.)	1–3 months (est.)	6 months	2–4 weeks

The route, step by step

1. **Get your education assessed**
   Send degree, course list and passport copy. No Swedish is needed yet and you can apply from abroad. A degree shorter than 4 years is not seen as comparable.
   Time: about 3 months · Cost: SEK 990
2. **Learn Swedish to Svenska 3 or C1**
   The knowledge test is held in Swedish, and proof of Swedish is required when you apply for legitimation.
   Time: 12–24 months (est.)
3. **Pass the knowledge test**
   A theoretical part on computer, then a practical part, both in Swedish and in person at Uppsala University. Pass both within 5 years of your first sitting.
   Time: 6–18 months (est.) · Cost: free
4. **Course in Swedish regulations**
   A web-based course in Swedish law and regulations (författningar) from Lund University, full or part time. You start after your test result is approved.
   Time: 1–3 months (est.) · Cost: free
5. **Practical service: praktisk tjänstgöring**
   6 months at one community pharmacy that you find yourself. The pharmacy applies for your temporary permit (särskilt förordnande) at least 1 month ahead.
   Time: 6 months
6. **Apply for legitimation**
   Send the form, passport copy, Swedish proof and the original practice certificate. You need a Swedish personnummer or samordningsnummer.
   Time: 2–4 weeks · Cost: paid at step 1

Official fees	Amount
Assessment (granskning) Paid with the application to Socialstyrelsen. Not refunded after a decision. IBAN for paying from abroad.	**SEK 990**
Legitimation application Not charged again if you already paid SEK 990 for the assessment.	**SEK 990**
Knowledge test, both parts Uppsala University states the test is free of charge.	**Free**
Course in Swedish regulations Lund University web course. Socialstyrelsen states it costs nothing.	**Free**
Work permit (Migrationsverket) Fee for the employee. Not refunded if the application is refused.	**SEK 2,200**

Exam pattern: online or onsite?

Kunskapsprov: theoretical part ONSITE
Computer-based, in Swedish · Content of Swedish pharmacy programmes · Includes an English article, Swedish questions · All sections passed at one sitting

Kunskapsprov: practical part ONSITE
One day, in Swedish · Tests skills in the pharmacist role · Only after passing the theory part · Up to 3 attempts

Course in Swedish regulations ONLINE
Web-based, full or part time · Rolling admission, all year · Starts after the test is approved · Must be passed before legitimation

Timelines

- Socialstyrelsen decides on the assessment in about 3 months. A complete legitimation application currently takes 2–4 weeks.
- Uppsala University holds the knowledge test several times a year. You have 5 years from your first sitting to pass both parts.
- Practical service lasts 6 months. Socialstyrelsen says the whole route usually takes 2–4 years from assessment to legitimation.

Typical total: About 2–4 years

Keep these separate

- Licence ≠ visa ≠ job. Socialstyrelsen issues the licence, Migrationsverket decides permits and employers decide hiring. One never implies another.
- You may not work as a pharmacist without legitimation or a särskilt förordnande. With work rights, roles needing no licence are possible while you wait.
- A first work permit needs a signed job offer, health insurance and, from 1 June 2026, at least SEK 34,470 a month unless an exemption applies.

How ASGHCA supports you

- 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): legitimation.socialstyrelsen.se (pharmacists educated outside EU/EEA: overview and steps 1 to 5) · uu.se (Kunskapsprov för farmaceuter med utländsk utbildning; Kompletteringsutbildning för apotekare med utländsk examen) · migrationsverket.se (work permit for employees; salary requirements; new rules from 1 June 2026; permit to look for work) · swedenabroad.se (Embassy of Sweden, Islamabad: migration contact and Q&A) · scb.se (Lönesök, median salary). **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.