NORTH AMERICA · UNITED STATES · FOREIGN GRADUATE ROUTE

US Pharmacist registration in United States

Each US state licenses its own pharmacists. With a degree from outside the US, you first earn FPGEC Certification from the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP), then meet one state board's internship and exam rules. Facts checked against official sources on **20 November 2026**.

ENGLISH TEST CHANGES TOEFL iBT minimums now use the new ETS scale (Reading 4, Listening 5, Speaking 5, Writing 4.5) and must be sat at a centre in the US, its territories or listed Canadian provinces. OET for Pharmacy is accepted from 11 Jan 2027. The FPGEE runs once a year; the next date is 7 Oct 2027.

1	2	3	4	5	6
FPGEC apply	English test	FPGEE	Internship	NAPLEX + law	State licence
NABP e-Profile	TOEFL iBT or OET	once a year	state intern licence	state-approved	one state only
about 12 weeks review	3–6 months (est.)	1 date a year	about 9–12 months (est.)	3–6 months (est.)	set by each state (est.)

The route, step by step

1. **Apply for FPGEC Certification**
   Apply online and pay by card. Send sealed proof of your pharmacist licence to NABP and your degree papers to ECE for a General Evaluation Report.
   Time: about 12 weeks review · Cost: $750 + ECE fee
2. **Pass the TOEFL iBT at an approved centre**
   Sit it at an ETS centre in the US, a US territory or a listed Canadian province. At-home TOEFL is not accepted. OET for Pharmacy counts for tests from 11 Jan 2027.
   Time: 3–6 months (est.) · Cost: set by ETS
3. **Pass the FPGEE**
   200-question computer exam, 4.5 hours, at Pearson centres in the US only. Scaled pass mark 75. Next date 7 Oct 2027. Results in about 8 weeks.
   Time: 1 date a year · Cost: $750 ($850 resit)
4. **Complete state internship hours**
   Register as an intern with one state board and complete its supervised hours in the US. Kentucky, for example, asks for 1,500 hours. Rules differ by state.
   Time: about 9–12 months (est.) · Cost: set by state
5. **Pass the NAPLEX and the law exam**
   NAPLEX: 225 questions in 6 hours. Law exam: MPJE, UMPJE or a state's own test, as the board requires. Both at Pearson centres in the US.
   Time: 3–6 months (est.) · Cost: $620 + $270
6. **Receive your state pharmacist licence**
   Apply to the state board with your results and verified hours. The licence covers that state only; other states need a licence transfer and their law exam.
   Time: set by each state (est.) · Cost: set by state

Official fees	Amount
FPGEC application $650 document evaluation plus $100 administrative fee. Nonrefundable.	**$750**
ECE General Evaluation Report Paid to ECE, plus an extra copy sent to FPGEC. Current price on ece.org.	**see ece.org**
FPGEE First attempt. Second attempt $850, incl. $100 nonrefundable admin fee. Rescore $200.	**$750**
NAPLEX $100 eligibility + $520 exam. Resit $520. Some states add an $85 processing fee.	**$620**
MPJE (state law exam) $100 eligibility + $170 exam. The uniform UMPJE exam is $350 instead.	**$270**

Timelines

- NABP evaluation takes about 12 weeks after all documents, including a passing English score, arrive. Resubmitted documents add another 12 weeks.
- You have 2 years after applying to be accepted, then 2 years to pass the FPGEE. These deadlines are not extended for any reason.
- FPGEE results take about 8 weeks. Internship hours, the NAPLEX, the law exam and state processing come after certification.

Typical total: About 3–5 years (est.)

Exam pattern: online or onsite?

FPGEE TEST CENTRE
200 computer questions, fixed form · 4.5 hours (5.5 hours seat time) · Biomedical 12%, pharm. sciences 31% · Social/admin 20%, practice and clinical 37%

NAPLEX TEST CENTRE
225 questions, 200 scored · 6 hours, computer, fixed form · Mostly patient-scenario questions · Wait 45 days after a fail

MPJE or UMPJE (law exam) TEST CENTRE
120 questions, 100 scored · 2.5 hours, adaptive computer test · State and federal pharmacy law · UMPJE: uniform version from 2026

Keep these separate

- Licence ≠ visa ≠ job. FPGEC Certification is not a licence, and a state licence gives no right to enter, stay or work in the US.
- Visas and green cards are decided by USCIS and the State Department, not by NABP or a state board. An employer decides hiring.
- All FPGEC and licensing exams are sat in the US. Travelling for them, interning and working each need their own US immigration permission.

How ASGHCA supports you

- FPGEE and NAPLEX preparation
- 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

www.asghca.com
Book a free career-mapping consultation · LEARN | GROW | GO GLOBAL

inquiry@asghca.com
WhatsApp +92 335 0051800 · +61 491 787 335 · UK +44 7587 013834
Instagram & TikTok @asghcaofficial · facebook.com/asghca

Sources (checked 20 November 2026): NABP FPGEC and FPGEE pages (nabp.pharmacy/programs/foreign-pharmacy) · FPGEC Candidate Application Bulletin, Nov 2026 (read.nxtbook.com/nabp/bulletin/fpgec_bulletin) · NAPLEX/MPJE Candidate Application Bulletin, 2026 (read.nxtbook.com/nabp/bulletin/naplex_mpje_bulletin) · NABP news release on OET, Oct 2026 · Kentucky Board of Pharmacy (pharmacy.ky.gov) · USCIS H-1B cap season, weighted selection and H-1B FAQ (uscis.gov) · US Embassy Pakistan (pk.usembassy.gov) · travel.state.gov. **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.