PHARMACY INTERN
FAQs

1) When may I register as a Pharmacy Intern with the Maryland Board of Pharmacy?
July 1, 2015.

2) What if I am a student currently registered as a Pharmacy Technician?
Pharmacy Students who are currently working under a Board-approved exemption as pharmacy technicians must be registered under the new Pharmacy Intern requirements on or before October 31, 2015 in order to continue working in a pharmacy.

Foreign pharmacy graduate candidates: must first be registered with the Board as interns before they are allowed to work in a pharmacy to acquire the required 1560 intern hours.

3) What is the cost of registration?
The current fee is $45.00 or as set forth in COMAR 10.34.09.

4) Do I have to get a Criminal History Records Check?
Yes. See Health Occupations Article, 12-6D-04 and COMAR 10.34.38.06

5) How recent should the Criminal History Records Check be?
Within 6 months.

6) What are the 3 categories of applicants?
(1) CURRENTLY ENROLLED and has completed 1 year of professional pharmacy education in a doctor of pharmacy program:
   (a) Accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education; or
   (b) Having precandidate or candidate status by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education;

(2) GRADUATED from a doctor of pharmacy program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education; or

(3) GRADUATE OF A FOREIGN SCHOOL OF PHARMACY who:
   (a) Has established educational equivalency as approved by the Board; and
   (b) Has passed an examination of oral English approved by the Board.

See Health Occupations Article, 12-6D-03 and COMAR 10.34.38.06

7) Would my hours as a pharmacy intern count toward experience hours in another state?
This would depend on the requirements of individual state boards. The Maryland Board will not require specific intern hours, and the nature of the work performed, to be submitted in relation to the Board’s intern registration. However, student experiential rotation hours, for Maryland students and those graduating from out of state schools, must be submitted to the Board on an
affidavit signed by the supervising pharmacist(s) upon application to become a Maryland licensed pharmacist

8) Would my hours working as a pharmacy intern count toward experiential learning rotation in Maryland?

No. The 1,000 hours required for pharmacist licensure must be in a school-supervised professional experience program conducted by a school of pharmacy accredited by the American Council of Pharmaceutical Education.

9) What happens if I leave pharmacy school for any reason?

A pharmacy intern, who has obtained a registration, must be an actively enrolled student (See COMAR 10.34.38.06). An individual is required to immediately notify the Board if the pharmacy intern’s registration as a student is revoked, suspended, terminated, or otherwise discontinued.

See COMAR 10.34.38.04

10) How often do I renew?

- A qualified registered pharmacy intern who is CURRENTLY ENROLLED in Pharmacy School may renew the registration one time if the registered pharmacy intern:
  
  (1) Submits to the Board a renewal application on the form that the Board requires; and
  (2) Pays to the Board a renewal fee set by the Board.

- A registered pharmacy intern who qualifies for registration as a GRADUATE or GRADUATE OF A FOREIGN SCHOOL OF PHARMACY may not renew the registration.

See COMAR 10.34.38.07

11) How long is a pharmacy intern registration valid for a GRADUATE or GRADUATE OF A FOREIGN SCHOOL OF PHARMACY?

No more than two years. See Health Occupations Article, 12-6D-09, Annotated Code of Maryland

12) What happens to my Pharmacy Intern Registration when I obtain my pharmacist’s license?

The registration of a pharmacy intern is void when the registered pharmacy intern becomes a licensed pharmacist.

See COMAR 10.34.38.07

13) Can first year pharmacy students register with the Board as pharmacy interns?
No. However, first year pharmacy students may work in pharmacies as registered pharmacy technicians or pharmacy technician trainees, after meeting requirements for COMAR 10.34.34.04.

14) Can a pharmacy intern begin working as a pharmacy intern upon submission of their application?

A pharmacy intern must receive his/her registration before beginning work as a pharmacy intern. See Health Occupations Article, 12-6D-02 and 12-6D-14, Annotated Code of Maryland

15) Are pharmacy students from out of state required to have a pharmacy intern registration to work as a pharmacy intern in Maryland?

Yes. COMAR 10.34.38.06A(1) includes students currently enrolled in a school of pharmacy accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education; or is a precandidate or candidate status by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education.

16) I am a first year pharmacy student and would like to begin working in a pharmacy to gain experience? How might I work in a pharmacy before my second year?

The first year student has three options if they would like to work in a pharmacy before their second year:
   a) Register as a pharmacy technician with the Board;
   b) Work in a pharmacy under a Board approved pharmacy technician training program for up to 6 months; or
   c) Work in a pharmacy as part of a school of pharmacy Experiential Learning Program.