

Department of Health
Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission

Policy Statement

<i>Title:</i>	Extension Process for Pharmacy Intern Renewal Limitation	<i>Number:</i> P012
<i>References:</i>	RCW 18.64.080 ; WAC 246-945-155 ; WAC 246-945-990	
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<i>Effective Date:</i>	February 1, 2024	
<i>Supersedes:</i>	N/A	
<i>Approved By:</i>	Ken Kenyon, PharmD, BCPS Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission Chair	

This policy statement establishes the approach of the Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission (commission) to grant renewal extensions to pharmacy interns who have reached the renewal limitation set in WAC 246-945-155(3).

RCW 18.64.080(3) states all registrations issued to pharmacy interns shall be valid for a period to be determined by the commission, but in no instance shall the registration be valid if the individual is no longer making timely progress toward graduation.

Chapter 246-945 WAC, the commission’s new rules chapter, went into effect on July 1, 2020. It replaced all former requirements, including those of pharmacy intern registrations. The new rule states that pharmacy intern registrations may be renewed twice following issuance. Pharmacy intern registrations must be renewed every two years (WAC 246-945-990).

The commission is aware that due to unforeseen circumstances, pharmacy interns are not always able to complete their internship hours prior to their registration’s second renewal expiration. The commission authorized rulemaking to explore extending the two-time renewal limit. However, while rulemaking is in progress, the commission will consider requests from pharmacy interns to allow them to renew their registration beyond the two-renewal limitation if the commission determines there is good cause to do so. “Good cause” includes, but is not limited to, a serious health issue or needing to care for a family member with a serious health

issue. Pharmacy interns must still meet all other requirements in RCW 18.64.080 and WAC 246-945-155.

To request an extension, a pharmacy intern must email WSPQAC@doh.wa.gov with the following information:

- Name;
- Intern registration number;
- Intern registration expiration date;
- Explanation of the reason for the request; and,
- Documentation for how the intern meets all other requirements of RCW 18.64.080 and WAC 246-945-155.

The commission will make every effort to timely process these requests; however, requestors should assume that these requests take up to 60 days to process.

Finally, the commission is in the process of filing a CR-101 to initiate rulemaking and consider amending WAC 246-945-155 in order to, among other things, convert this policy statement into rule.



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Olympia, Washington 98504

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION
POLICY STATEMENT**

Title of Policy Statement: Extension Process for Pharmacy Intern Renewal Limitation | Policy Number: P012

Issuing Entity: Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission

Subject Matter: This policy clarifies the Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission's renewal extension process for pharmacy interns who have reached the renewal limitation set in WAC 246-945-155(3).

Effective Date: February 1, 2024

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
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