

Department of Health
Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission

Notice of Adoption – Policy Statement

Title: Commission Approved Examinations and WACs 246-945-165 and 246-945-205 | P014.1

Issuing Entity: Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission

Subject Matter: Clarified Examination Information for Pharmacy Technicians and Pharmacists

Effective Date: May 22, 2025

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Policy Statement

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Policy Statement Number:	P014.1
References:	RCW 18.64.005 ; RCW 18.64.080 ; RCW 18.64A.020 ; WAC 246-945-165 ; WAC 246-945-205
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Approved By:	Hawkins DeFrance, PharmD Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission Chair

This policy statement establishes the commission-approved examinations for pharmacy technicians and pharmacists described in WAC 246-945-165 and 246-945-205.

The Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission (commission) requires in WAC 246-945-205(3)(c) an individual applying for a pharmacy technician license to “pass a national certification examination approved by the commission.” The national certification examinations approved by the commission are the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board’s (PTCB) Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam (PTCE) and the National Healthcareer Association’s (NHA) Exam for the Certification of Pharmacy Technicians (ExCPT), including the new ExCPT effective July 9, 2025.

Pharmacist applicants must also satisfactorily pass exams approved by the commission. WAC 245-945-165(1) requires an individual applying for a pharmacist license to “take and pass a pharmacy licensure examination and jurisprudence examination approved by the commission.”

The commission-approved pharmacy licensure examination is the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX). The commission-approved jurisprudence examination is the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE). Both exams are administered through the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP).