

CALLING MANITOBA PHARMACISTS: RECRUITMENT of ASSESSORS for PEBC QUALIFYING EXAMINATION

The Winnipeg Exam Centre is seeking Manitoba pharmacists who have an interest in serving as assessors for the PEBC Qualifying Examination - Part II (OSCE), held in Winnipeg in May of each year. It is particularly important that practicing pharmacists be involved in assessing candidates for licensure, in accordance with the needs of the public and the standards of the profession. Some of you have already been involved in this examination. Many who have been assessors in this type of examination process attest that involvement as an assessor is both personally and professionally rewarding.

What is the PEBC Qualifying Examination Part II (OSCE)?

The PEBC Qualifying Examination - Part II is a performance assessment, approximately 3 hours in length. This part is based on an assessment model commonly known as the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) and is designed to assess communication and interpersonal skills, the application of knowledge to simulations of commonly encountered patient scenarios, and other aspects of professional competence that do not lend well to written examinations. The competencies to be assessed are those adopted (or adapted) by all member provinces of the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA). More information can be found on the PEBC web site at <http://www.pebc.ca>.

Who is qualified to serve as an Assessor?

If you have been licensed in Canada for at least three years and are currently providing or directly supervising patient care services (including dispensing, clinical and drug information services), you may be eligible to serve as an assessor for this examination. A full description of qualifications required is provided on the page that follows. If you meet the qualifications listed and would like to be considered as an assessor for this year's exam or future exams, please provide the information requested on the Response Form and forward your response to Marc Geirnaert, PEBC-MB Chief Administrator. The complete list of interested assessors is submitted for annual review by the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association, for confirmation that all assessors are members in good standing on the 'active' (patient care) register and are not under investigation.

2007 Pharmacy Graduates - you are now eligible to participate as an assessor

What if I previously applied or have been an assessor?

If you have previously applied or have been an assessor in a previous exam, your name remains on file. You should be receiving a response form in the mail in the next few weeks. This form is to be returned to the Winnipeg Exam team to inform us of your availability to participate in this year's exam. If you have new information such as a change in address, please resubmit the attached form. If you wish to have your name withdrawn, please indicate that as well.

What if I have additional questions?

If you have questions about your eligibility to participate as an assessor you may contact by phone or e-mail the following members of the Winnipeg Exam team:

Arnold Chew, Co-Chief Examiner E-mail: achew5@shaw.ca

Dora Ma, Co-Chief Examiner Tel: 255-5229, E-mail: dma@sbgh.mb.ca

Marc Geirnaert, Chief Administrator Tel: 787-4483, E-mail: marc.geirnaert@cancercare.mb.ca

PEBC Qualifying Examination – Part II (OSCE) Guidelines for the Selection of Assessors

Objectives are to:

- Ensure that assessors have current practice experience in a patient care setting
- Ensure that assessors are well-trained to perform assessments
- Avoid perceived or unconscious conflict of interest (from the point of view of foreign candidates, students who are borderline, etc)
- Protect the security of the examination from unconscious or “good intentional” use of PEBC exam information in any manner other than for actual administration of the PEBC Qualifying Examination.

Eligibility

Assessor Qualifications:

- Is a “member in good standing” of one or more provincial regulatory authorities.
- Has been fully licensed in a Canadian jurisdiction for at least the last three years
- Is not, or has not been in the past three years, a subject of disciplinary action or unresolved investigation by any pharmacy or other professional body.
- Currently practices in a patient care environment, providing or supervising patient-care services on a regular basis, either full- or part-time. Such services may include: dispensing, patient teaching, responding to patients’ requests, consulting with other health professionals regarding patients’ needs (e.g. drug information)
- Is willing to sign and comply with the assessor confidentiality, security, conflict of interest and code of conduct agreements.
- Is willing to participate on the basis of the offered service fee, and limited remuneration for travel and (not accommodation) as shown on the response form.
- Has no limitations that would impair the ability to accurately observe, record and assess candidates’ performance over a 10 to 12 hour period.

Preceptors in the practice setting (e.g., for structured practical training, internship and clerkship programs) and occasional teaching assistants in years 1 and 2 of the academic program would normally qualify as assessors.

Pharmacists would NOT be eligible due to potential or perceived conflict of interest or bias if they were:

- Graduate students in the same faculty.
- A prospective candidate OR an immediate family member/close associate of a pharmacy student or of a candidate eligible to take the examination.
- Involved in the development of the curriculum for - or involved in the training/assessment of - practical/professional skills of *groups* of students (e.g. professional practice labs, or other small group sessions involving the use of standardized patients, role-playing scenarios or pharmacist to patient simulated interactions) in the third to final year of the undergraduate program.
- Involved in the development, review, administration or dissemination of practice exams, cases or preparatory courses or materials (designed to specifically prepare candidates for the examination) at any time during a three-year period from the time of participation in the PEBC Qualifying Examination - Part II (OSCE).

PEBC Assessor Recruitment Information and Response

Assessors are trained prior to the examination, so it is not necessary to have experience as an assessor. The most important qualification is current practice experience (either performing or directly supervising patient care activities such as dispensing, clinical and drug information services).

The examination will be held on **Sunday, May 30, 2010** in Winnipeg. The examination day is approximately 11 to 12 hours long. A service fee of \$385 is offered to assessors for the full day; in addition, eligible travel expenses are reimbursed (at economy travel rates) with receipts and/or documented mileage.

If you are interested in participating as an assessor please complete the following Response Form and mail it to the address indicated below. Your early response **on or before March 15, 2010** is greatly appreciated. This response is not considered to be a commitment or agreement to participate, but is an indication to have the Manitoba Chief Administrator or Chief Examiner follow up with you about participating in an upcoming examination.

Response Form

Please check the appropriate YES or NO responses and provide the information requested:

YES	NO				
		I am interested in participating as an assessor for the PEBC Qualifying Examination –Part II (OSCE).			
		I meet all qualifications listed on the ‘guidelines for selection of Assessors’.			
		I am currently involved in additional professional activities (in addition to my regular work), as follows (describe briefly if applicable):			
Name (print):		Signature:			
Mailing Address & Contact Information: _____ <i>Apt/Street</i> _____ <i>City Province Postal Code</i> (_____) _____ <i>Home Tel</i> (_____) _____ <i>Work Tel Ext.</i> (_____) _____ <i>Fax</i> _____ <i>E-mail</i>		Current Workplace & Address:			
		_____ <i>Current Workplace</i> _____ <i>Work Street Address</i> _____ <i>Work City, Prov. & Postal Code</i>		Your Practice Setting/s (please circle): <input type="checkbox"/> Community <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
		Registered as a Pharmacist in: (province)			
		Year Registered:		Diploma/Registration#:	

Please mail or e-mail your completed response to:

Marc Geirnaert
 CancerCare Manitoba
 ON3114-675 McDermot Avenue
 Winnipeg, MB R3E 0V9
E-mail: marc.geirnaert@cancercare.mb.ca