

National Certificate in Pharmacy (Assistant) (Level 3)

Level 3

Credits 88

This qualification has been **reviewed**. The last date to meet the requirements is 31 December 2017.

*Version 5 of this qualification was republished to change the status of the qualification to **expiring**.*

Transition Arrangements

This qualification has been reviewed and replaced by the New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Introduction to Pharmacy Practice) [Ref: 1886].

People wishing to complete the requirements of the replaced qualification, must do so by 31 December 2017.

For detailed information see [Review Summaries](#) on the NZQA website.

It is intended that no existing candidate will be disadvantaged by this transition. However, if any candidate feels that they have been disadvantaged, they can appeal to the Pharmacy ITO, who will consider appeals on a case-by-case basis.

NZQF National Qualification Registration Information

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	May 1998	December 2003
Review	2	January 2001	December 2006
Revision	3	April 2005	December 2012
Review	4	December 2007	December 2013
Revision	5	January 2012	December 2017
Republished	5	November 2012	December 2017
Republished	5	April 2015	December 2017

Standard Setting Body

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National Certificate in Pharmacy (Assistant) (Level 3)

Level	3
Credits	88

Purpose

This qualification recognises people who have the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to work as a Pharmacy Assistant. The qualification is recognised by the pharmacy industry as the qualification for assistants in community pharmacy. The holder is able to advise customers on and sell them a range of pharmacy services. The target group is people either employed in a pharmacy or interested in having a career as such. The qualification covers the basic requirements for working in a pharmacy.

The compulsory standards in this qualification cover knowledge and skills in: safety, hazardous substance handling, and first aid; working professionally; providing written and oral advice; human anatomy and physiology of systems and associated organs of the human body; providing advice on treatment of minor health disorders, personal health care and products, eye-care products, nutrition and dietary requirements, treatment and prevention of minor injuries, management of infectious diseases and parasitic conditions, and management of minor wounds; performing calculations; and stock maintenance.

The elective section enables the candidate to choose standards relevant to their individual situation covering selection and use of cosmetics and toiletries and a range of retail related skills.

This qualification has some standards in common with, but does not necessarily lead on to, the National Certificate in Pharmacy (Technician) (Level 5) with strands in Community, and Hospital [Ref: 0423].

Special Notes

Entry requirements

Pharmacy Services standards require proficient communication skills. People entering programmes of education and training leading to the award of this qualification must demonstrate the capacity to understand requirements and instructions, and communicate to the required industry level. This might be evidenced by:

- Level 2 credits from the subfields of Communication Skills or English;
- IELTS test scores of 5.5; or
- The demonstration of equivalent knowledge and skills.

Credit Range

	Compulsory	Elective
Level 1 credits	5	0-10
Level 2 credits	21	0-10
Level 3 or above credits	52	0-10
Minimum totals	78	10
Qualification total	88	

Requirements for Award of Qualification

Award of NZQF National Qualifications

Credit gained for a standard may be used only once to meet the requirements of this qualification.

Unit standards and achievement standards that are equivalent in outcome are mutually exclusive for the purpose of award. The table of mutually exclusive standards is provided on the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) website: <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/standards/standards-exclusion-list/>.

Reviewed standards that continue to recognise the same overall outcome are registered as new versions and retain their identification number (ID). Any version of a standard with the same ID may be used to meet qualification requirements that list the ID and/or that specify the past or current classification of the standard.

Summary of Requirements

- Compulsory standards
- Elective – A minimum of 10 credits as specified

Detailed Requirements

Compulsory

The following standards are required

Community and Social Services > Health, Disability, and Aged Support > Core Health

ID	Title	Level	Credit
27457	Describe the anatomy and physiology of systems and associated organs of the human body	3	4

Health > Health Studies > First Aid

ID	Title	Level	Credit
26551	Provide first aid for life threatening conditions	2	1
26552	Demonstrate knowledge of common first aid conditions and how to respond to them	2	1

Health > Occupational Health and Safety > Occupational Health and Safety Practice

ID	Title	Level	Credit
497	Demonstrate knowledge of workplace health and safety requirements	1	3

Health > Pharmacy > Pharmacy Services

ID	Title	Level	Credit
9641	Apply legislation, codes, and standards to the supply of products and services as a pharmacy assistant	3	3
9643	Advise pharmacy clients on treatment of minor health disorders	3	15
9645	Advise pharmacy clients on personal health care and products to maintain optimal health	3	4
9646	Advise pharmacy clients on eye-care products	3	2
9653	Advise pharmacy clients on nutritional and dietary requirements for optimal health	3	2
9654	Advise pharmacy clients on the treatment and prevention of minor injuries	3	2
9655	Advise pharmacy clients on the management of minor wounds	3	2
9657	Advise pharmacy clients on the management of infectious diseases and parasitic conditions	3	3
23656	Demonstrate knowledge of procedures for handling hazardous substances in the pharmacy	2	2
23673	Demonstrate knowledge of human nutrition and nutritional states as a pharmacy assistant or pharmacy technician	2	2
23674	Provide written and oral advice as a pharmacy assistant	2	3
23681	Demonstrate professionalism as a pharmacy assistant or pharmacy technician	3	5

Service Sector > Retail, Distribution, and Sales > Retail and Distribution Core Skills

ID	Title	Level	Credit
24997	Demonstrate knowledge of theft and fraud in a retail or distribution environment	2	5
27229	Respond to customers' complaints in a retail or distribution environment during customer interactions	3	4

Service Sector > Retail, Distribution, and Sales > Sales Transactions

ID	Title	Level	Credit
403	Receive customer payments	2	3
11831	Apply skills and qualities of a salesperson in a retail or distribution environment	3	6

Service Sector > Retail, Distribution, and Sales > Stock Control

ID	Title	Level	Credit
406	Maintain and take care of stock	2	4

Service Sector > Service Sector Skills > Service Sector - Core Skills

ID	Title	Level	Credit
64	Perform calculations for the workplace	1	2

Elective

A minimum of 10 credits

Service Sector > Beauty Services > Beauty Therapy

ID	Title	Level	Credit
14139	Advise clients on selection and use of cosmetics and toiletries	3	8

Field	Subfield	Domain
Service Sector	Retail, Distribution, and Sales	Merchandising and Marketing
		Retail and Distribution Core Skills
		Sales Transactions
		Stock Control

Transition Arrangements

This qualification contains standards that replace or substitute earlier standards. For the purposes of this qualification, people who have gained credit for the earlier standards are exempt from the requirement to gain credit for the replacement or substitute standards – see table below.

Credit for	Exempt from
6400	26551, 26552
6401	26552
6402	26551
6418	27457
11940	27229
11970	24997

Previous versions of the qualification

Version 5 was issued following a revision and was twice to make changes relating to its expiry following the Targeted Review of Qualifications.

Changes to structure and content from version 4 to version 5 included: unit standard 27457 substituted for expiring unit standard 6418; unit standard 24997 replaced expired unit standard 11970; unit standards 26551 and 26552 replaced expiring unit standards

6400, 6401 and 6402; unit standard 27229 replaced expiring unit standard 11940; and reverse transition was introduced for version 4 of the qualification.

Version 4 was issued following review. Reverse transition was introduced for version 4 of this qualification to allow candidates wishing to complete this version to do so where they did not hold credit for expired unit standard 11970. Changes to structure and content included: overall credits were reduced from 108 to 89, addition of special notes covering entry requirements, standards 57, 419, 496, 525, 1277, 1279, 1304, 2989, 4258, 9650, 12348, 12349, and 12355 were removed, an elective section was added, standards 6418, 11940, 11970, 23656, 23673, 23674, and 23681 were added to the compulsory section, standard 14139 was moved from the compulsory section to the elective section, and the Certification section was updated to remove provision for the logos of the provider and the Pharmaceutical Society Inc to be included.

Version 3 was issued following a revision. Changes to structure and content included: certification details were updated; the credit value for standard 525 was updated from 1 to 2; the credit value for standard 14139 was updated from 6 to 8; and total credits increased from 105 to 108.

Version 2 was issued following a review of the qualification. Standards 56, 58, 62, 3501 and 5598 were removed and standard 6401 was added to the qualification.

Version 1 replaced the Pharmacy Assistant Diploma administered by the Pharmacy Guild of New Zealand. Transition arrangements for that qualification and the Pharmacy Technician Certificate administered by the Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand, which was replaced by the National Certificate in Pharmacy (Technician) (Level 5) with strands in Hospital, and Community [Ref: 0423], have expired.

Other standard setting bodies whose standards are included in the qualification

Community Support Services ITO Limited
NZ Hairdressing Industry Training Organisation Inc
NZQA
Service IQ
The Skills Organisation

Certification

The certificate will display the logos of NZQA, the Pharmacy Industry Training Organisation and the organisation that has been granted consent to assess against standards that meet the requirements of the qualification (accredited).

Classification

This qualification is classified according to the classification system listed on the Directory of Assessment Standards (DAS) and the New Zealand Standard Classification of Education (NZSCED) system as specified below.

DAS Classification		NZSCED	
Code	Description	Code	Description
373	Health > Pharmacy	060501	Health > Pharmacy > Pharmacy

Quality Management Systems

Providers and Industry Training Organisations must be granted consent to assess by a recognised Quality Assurance Body before they can register credits from assessment against standards. Organisation with consent to assess and Industry Training Organisations assessing against standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards. Consent to assess requirements and the moderation system are outlined in the associated Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) for each standard.

Reviewed