



**Examination Specifications
Oncology Pharmacy
Board of Pharmacy Specialties**

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| Name of Credential | BPS Board-Certified Oncology Pharmacist |
| Certification-Issuing Body | Board of Pharmacy Specialties |
| Designation Awarded | BCOP |
| Level of Proficiency | Specialty Certification |
| Target Population | Pharmacists who design, implement, monitor, and modify pharmacotherapeutic treatments; manage adverse events or clinical situations associated with cancer, cancer therapies, and non-malignant hematology; and facilitate and/or evaluate clinical trials, research, and investigational drugs |
| Program Purpose | To validate that the pharmacist has the advanced knowledge and experience to provide treatment and education that optimizes safety and outcomes for individuals receiving treatment for cancer or non-malignant hematologic conditions, palliative and supportive care, and/or survivorship care; as well as support for cancer detection, screening, and risk-reduction |
| Eligibility Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation from a pharmacy program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) or a program outside the United States that qualifies the individual to practice in the jurisdiction • Current, active license or registration to practice pharmacy in the United States or another jurisdiction • One of the following, within the past 7 years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At least 4 years of specialty area practice with at least 50% of time spent in the scope defined by the exam content outline ○ Completion of PGY1 pharmacy residency and at least 2 years of specialty area practice experience with at least 50% of time spent in the scope defined by the exam content outline ○ Completion of PGY1 pharmacy residency and PGY2 pharmacy residency in Oncology Pharmacy <p><i>Residency programs must be accredited by or deemed candidate status by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) for PGY1, PGY2, and International Pharmacy Practice Residency Programs, or accredited by the Canadian Pharmacy Residency Board (CPRB) for year-1 programs.</i></p> |
| ECO Creation Date | February 2022 |

This document serves as examination specifications and certification scheme according to the respective requirements of the NCCA 2021 and ISO-IEC 17024:2012 standards.

For more information about the BCOP examination program, please refer to the BPS website and candidate’s guide: www.bpsweb.org/specialty-exams/candidates-guide/.

Examination Content Outline

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| 1 | Oncology Diagnosis and Testing |
| 1A | Oncology Diagnosis |
| 1A1 | Cancer Etiology and Pathophysiology |
| 1A2 | Types of Cancer |
| 1A3 | Cancer-Related Molecular Biology |
| 1A4 | Mechanisms of Tumor Resistance |
| 1B | Oncology Testing |
| 1B1 | Genomics (e.g., genomic alterations, gene amplification, types of mutations) |
| 1B2 | Prognostic and Predictive Testing (e.g., IPI, FLIPI, Oncotype DX) |
| 1B3 | Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) |
| 1B4 | Biomarker Testing (e.g., PDL1, TMB, TPS, CPS) |
| 1C | Cancer Detection and Prevention |
| 1C1 | Cancer Detection (e.g., screening frequency, early detection) |
| 1C2 | Cancer Prevention and Risk-Reduction |
| 1C3 | Cancer-Support and Cancer-Education Resources |
| 2 | Therapeutics and Patient Management |
| 2A | Treatment Planning |
| 2A1 | Treatment of Cancer |
| 2A2 | Treatment of Non-Malignant Hematologic Disorders (e.g., aplastic anemia, ITP, sickle cell) |
| 2A3 | Palliative and Supportive Care |
| 2A4 | End-of-Life Care |
| 2A5 | Survivorship Care |
| 2A6 | Social Determinants of Health (e.g., health literacy, socioeconomic status, cultural practices and preferences, access to care, caregiver support) |
| 2A7 | Clinical Standards and Guidelines (e.g., NCCN, ASCO) |
| 2B | Therapeutic Implementation |
| 2B1 | Pharmacotherapy |
| 2B2 | Non-Pharmacologic Treatment Modalities (e.g., surgery, radiation therapy) |
| 2B3 | Pharmacogenomics |
| 2B4 | Patient and Caregiver Education |
| 2B5 | Interdisciplinary Care Coordination (e.g., transitions of care, specialty pharmacy services, patient assistance programs) |
| 2B6 | Drug Administration (e.g., dosage forms, routes of delivery) |
| 2B7 | Complementary and Alternative Therapies |
| 2C | Cancer Outcomes and Treatment Monitoring |
| 2C1 | Drug Interactions (with foods, supplements, laboratory tests, and other drugs) |
| 2C2 | Mechanisms of Drug Resistance |
| 2C3 | Toxicity Prevention, Monitoring, and Management |
| 2C4 | Oncologic Emergencies |
| 2C5 | Complications of Cancer Therapy |
| 2C6 | Complications of Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapy |
| 2C7 | Long-Term Complications of Cancer Therapy |
| 3 | Professional Practice |
| 3A | Clinical Trials and Research |
| 3A1 | Research Methods (e.g., study design, validity) |
| 3A2 | Statistics (e.g., statistical power, number needed to treat, results interpretation) |

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| 3A3 | Research Outcomes (e.g., clinical benefit, patient reported outcomes) |
| 3A4 | Laws and Ethics associated with Research and Clinical Trials |
| 3A5 | Clinical Trial Design in Oncology (e.g., phases, objectives, endpoints) |
| 3A6 | Institutional Review Boards (IRB) and Independent Ethics Committees (IECs) |
| 3A7 | Drug Approval Process |
| 3A8 | Investigational Drug Management |
| 3B | Practice Management |
| 3B1 | Quality Management (e.g., medication use evaluation, root cause analysis, patient safety) |
| 3B2 | Medication Inventory Management (e.g., pharmacoeconomics, procurement, allocation, tracking) |
| 3B3 | Drug Handling and Disposal (e.g., USP<800>, radiopharmaceuticals) |
| 3B4 | Risk Evaluation Mitigation Strategy (REMS) Programs |
| 3B5 | Compassionate Use Processes (e.g., IND process, right-to-try) |
| 3B6 | Biosimilar Medications |
| 3B7 | Professional Practice Standards, Guidelines, and Regulations (e.g., NIOSH, ASCO-ONS) |

The examination content outline is a product of a job analysis (aka role delineation study) that includes facilitation of discussions with a representative panel of 15-20 subject matter experts who identify competencies required for safe and effective pharmacy practice in this specialty area as well as a validation survey soliciting endorsement of the identified competencies from certified pharmacists in this specialty area. The job analysis process is conducted every 5 years to help ensure that the competencies in the examination content outline reflect current pharmacy practice in the specialty area.

Examination Administration and Scoring

| <u>Number of Examination Items</u> | | Certification Exam | Recertification Exam |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Oncology Diagnosis and Testing | | |
| 1A | Oncology Diagnosis | 16 | 9 |
| 1B | Oncology Testing | 16 | 9 |
| 1C | Cancer Detection and Prevention | 9 | 5 |
| 2 | Therapeutics and Patient Management | | |
| 2A | Treatment Planning | 28 | 16 |
| 2B | Therapeutic Implementation | 28 | 16 |
| 2C | Cancer Outcomes and Treatment Monitoring | 30 | 17 |
| 3 | Professional Practice | | |
| 3A | Clinical Trials and Research | 24 | 14 |
| 3C | Practice Management | 24 | 14 |
| TOTAL | | 175 | 100 |

| | Certification Exam | Recertification Exam |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Exam Administration Time | 4 hours 23 minutes | 2 hours 30 minutes |
| Minimum Score | 200 | 200 |
| Minimum Passing Score | 500 | 500 |
| Maximum Score | 800 | 800 |

The certification examination is split into two parts with an optional break (up to 30 minutes) in between. Part 1 consists of 100 items (2 hours 30 minutes) and Part 2 consists of 75 items (1 hour 53 minutes).

Maintenance of Certification

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| Recertification Requirements | <p>Pharmacists who earn the BCOP designation will be required to maintain their certification over a 7-year period by completing one of the following recertification pathways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieving a passing score on the BCOP recertification examination in their seventh year following initial certification • Earning 100 hours of BPS-approved continuing pharmacy education (CPE) credit provided by the joint professional development programs offered by the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) and the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) and the program offered by the Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association (HOPA). <p><i>Board Certified Oncology Pharmacists must complete the Oncology Pharmacy Preparatory Review Course for Recertification offered by ACCP/ASHP and/or the BCOP Preparatory and Recertification Course offered by HOPA at least once, but no more than three times, in nonconsecutive years, during the 7-year recertification cycle.</i></p> |
| Ethics and Professionalism | <p>The Board of Pharmacy Specialties ascribes to the belief that certification carries an obligation for ethical behavior and professionalism necessary in all conduct. Candidates or certificants who are found to have exhibited unethical behavior or lack of professionalism may be prevented from pursuing certification or may be subject to suspension or withdrawal of certification, at the discretion of the Board of Pharmacy Specialties.</p> <p>Please refer to the BPS Ethics and Professionalism Policy: https://www.bpsweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/ethics.pdf</p> |