



## Examination Specifications Emergency Medicine Pharmacy Board of Pharmacy Specialties

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| <b>Name of Credential</b>         | BPS Board-Certified Emergency Medicine Pharmacist                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Certification-Issuing Body</b> | Board of Pharmacy Specialties                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Designation Awarded</b>        | BCEMP                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Level of Proficiency</b>       | Specialty Certification                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Target Population</b>          | Pharmacists who specialize in the care for patients at the bedside in emergency medicine settings                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Program Purpose</b>            | To validate that the pharmacist has the advanced knowledge and experience to provide quality patient care and improve therapeutic outcomes for patients in emergency medicine settings                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Eligibility Requirements</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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</li><li>• Current, active license or registration to practice pharmacy in the United States or another jurisdiction</li><li>• One of the following, within the past 7 years:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ At least 4 years of specialty area practice with at least 50% of time spent in the scope defined by the exam content outline</li><li>○ 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</li><li>○ Completion of PGY1 pharmacy residency and PGY2 pharmacy residency in Emergency Medicine Pharmacy</li></ul></li></ul> <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> |
| <b>ECO Creation Date</b>          | May 2021                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

**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 BCEMP examination program, please refer to the BPS website and candidate's guide: [www.bpsweb.org/specialty-exams/candidates-guide/](http://www.bpsweb.org/specialty-exams/candidates-guide/).**

## Examination Content Outline

| <b>1 Patient Care/Management</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.01                             | Participate in the bedside management of medical emergencies (e.g., trauma, stroke, psychiatric, toxicological) and resuscitations to optimize the medication use process.                        |
| 1.02                             | Identify and prioritize (triage) Emergency Department patients by analyzing the relevant acuity indices and opportunities for optimization of pharmacotherapy.                                    |
| 1.03                             | Collect essential patient information (including patient history, medication use) by utilizing available resources (e.g., pre-hospital providers).                                                |
| 1.04                             | Identify and evaluate medication-related problems based on clinical presentation, available history, or laboratory data.                                                                          |
| 1.05                             | Contribute to the formulation of a differential diagnosis in the setting of limited information.                                                                                                  |
| 1.06                             | Design pharmaceutical care plan utilizing available patient-specific information and best available evidence to provide patient and family-centered care.                                         |
| 1.07                             | Recommend and support implementation of the pharmaceutical care plan in the Emergency Department.                                                                                                 |
| 1.08                             | Expedite the preparation/procurement and administration of time-sensitive therapeutic regimens.                                                                                                   |
| 1.09                             | Make evidence-based recommendations for alternative routes of administration.                                                                                                                     |
| 1.10                             | Monitor and evaluate patient response to initial therapy and re-design treatment plan as necessary.                                                                                               |
| 1.11                             | Serve as the primary source of drug information for all practitioners and patients within the Emergency Department.                                                                               |
| 1.12                             | Ensure continuity of care during healthcare transition and across levels of care.                                                                                                                 |
| 1.13                             | Identify and seek appropriate outside resources available to assist in the management of the Emergency Department patient.                                                                        |
| <b>2 Practice Management</b>     |                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 2.01                             | Anticipate, monitor, detect, report, and review adverse drug events and medication errors.                                                                                                        |
| 2.02                             | Recognize trends, system failures, and gaps in the medication use process, and perform quality assurance activities (e.g., MUE) that promote safe and effective medication use.                   |
| 2.03                             | Ensure a process to maintain and optimize inventory and availability of medications essential to provide timely care in the Emergency Department.                                                 |
| 2.04                             | Ensure an appropriate process exists for medication order review in the Emergency Department.                                                                                                     |
| 2.05                             | Assist the organization in achieving compliance with accreditation, legal, regulatory, and safety requirements related to the medication use process.                                             |
| 2.06                             | Contribute to contingency planning that addresses limited availability of critical drugs that affect patients in the Emergency Department (e.g., drug shortages, emergency preparedness).         |
| 2.07                             | Participate in emergency/disaster preparedness planning or response activities.                                                                                                                   |
| 2.08                             | Develop, maintain, monitor, and support evidence-based medication use guidelines and pathways to assure safe and cost-effective medication use.                                                   |
| 2.09                             | Identify and implement opportunities for practice advancement and growth within the Emergency Department (e.g., collaborative practice agreements, public health initiatives, expanded coverage). |
| 2.10                             | Advocate for and justify emergency medicine pharmacy services.                                                                                                                                    |

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| 2.11     | Serve as a liaison on committees to represent the interests of pharmacy and Emergency Department patients.                                                                                   |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Education and Research</b>                                                                                                                                                                |
| 3.01     | Provide emergency medicine-focused education, training, or mentoring for healthcare professionals and trainees.                                                                              |
| 3.02     | Educate patients and caregivers using appropriate techniques tailored to the audience, with a focus on high-risk medications or where the visit resulted from an adverse drug event.         |
| 3.03     | Participate in continuous professional development related to emergency pharmacy practice (e.g., professional organizations, continuing education, clinical pharmacy networks).              |
| 3.04     | Retrieve and critically evaluate biomedical literature and other sources regarding study design methodology, statistical analysis, and applicability of study results to emergency medicine. |
| 3.05     | Contribute to the body of knowledge in the field of emergency medicine.                                                                                                                      |

**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                                  | Patient Care/Management | 131                | 75                   |
| 2                                  | Practice Management     | 26                 | 15                   |
| 3                                  | Education and Research  | 18                 | 10                   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                       |                         | <b>175</b>         | <b>100</b>           |

|                                 | Certification Exam | Recertification Exam |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Exam Administration Time</b> | 4 hours 23 minutes | 2 hours 30 minutes   |
| <b>Minimum Score</b>            | 200                | 200                  |
| <b>Minimum Passing Score</b>    | 500                | 500                  |
| <b>Maximum Score</b>            | 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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| <b>Recertification Requirements</b> | <p>Pharmacists who earn the BCEMP 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"> <li>• Achieving a passing score on the BCEMP recertification examination in their seventh year following initial certification</li> <li>• Earning 100 hours of BPS-approved continuing pharmacy education (CPE) credit.</li> </ul> <p>New recertification requirement and providers will begin in 2024. For more details regarding recertification, refer to the <a href="#">BPS Recertification Guide</a>.</p>                                  |
| <b>Ethics and Professionalism</b>   | <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:<br/> <a href="https://www.bpsweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/ethics.pdf">https://www.bpsweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/ethics.pdf</a></p> |