

COMPOUNDED STERILE PREPARATIONS PHARMACY FACT SHEET

Compounded Sterile Preparations Pharmacy ensures that sterile preparations meet the clinical needs of patients, satisfying quality, safety, and environmental control requirements in all phases of preparation, storage, transportation, and administration in compliance with established standards, regulations, and professional best practices. Currently there are more than 950 BPS Board Certified Sterile Compounding Pharmacists.

The BPS Board Certified Sterile Compounding Pharmacist® (BCSCP) has the advanced knowledge and experience to:

- Ensure quality patient care;
- Improve therapeutic outcomes;
- Assure safety; and
- Supervise, train, and ensure competency of all personnel involved in sterile compounding.

To become a BPS Board Certified Sterile Compounding Pharmacist®, a pharmacist must:

- Graduate from a pharmacy program accredited by the [Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education \(ACPE\)](#) or program outside the U.S. that qualifies the individual to practice in the jurisdiction
- Maintain a current, active license to practice pharmacy in the U.S. or another jurisdiction
- Complete 4,000 hours of post-licensure experience in compounded sterile preparations pharmacy practice*
- Achieve a passing score on the Compounded Sterile Preparations Specialty Certification Examination

** The 4,000 hours of experience required may be earned in a variety of settings. ASHP-accredited residencies that include practice hours in the activities listed in the [Compounded Sterile Preparations Content Outline](#) will be accepted as practice experience on an hour-for-hour basis. All applicants will be required to provide an attestation for practice experience from their employer, and the required practice hours must be obtained during the seven years prior to the application date.*

Recertification is required every seven (7) years and can be accomplished by completing one of the following professional development activities:

- Achieve a passing score on the BPS Compounded Sterile Preparations Pharmacy Recertification Examination; **or**
- Earn 100 hours of continuing education credit during the seven-year BPS certification cycle, provided by a professional development program offered by the [American Pharmacists Association \(APhA\)](#) and/or the [American Society of Health-System Pharmacists \(ASHP\)](#).

Compounded Sterile Preparations Pharmacy Preparatory Review and Recertification Courses offered by any of the approved providers may only be completed for recertification credit up to two times, in nonconsecutive years, during the seven-year recertification cycle.

Becoming BPS board certified enables pharmacists to:

- Provide more comprehensive and complex patient care;
- Step into pharmacy's evolving position on the multidisciplinary treatment team;
- Experience increased recognition by other healthcare professionals, employers, patients and insurers; and
- Improve their standing in a competitive employment market.

Board certification through the [Board of Pharmacy Specialties](#)[®] is the gold standard for determining which pharmacists are qualified to contribute at advanced practice levels. Through the rigorous examination standards mandated by the [Board of Pharmacy Specialties](#)[®], the BPS board certified pharmacist is uniquely trained and educated to meet the continually expanding expectations of other healthcare team members and the specialized needs of the patients they serve.