

February 13, 2012
Vol. 2 Issue 1

BPS E-News Quarterly



Note from the Executive Director

This marks the first edition of ***BPS E-News Quarterly*** for 2012.

The goal of this publication is to keep BPS stakeholder organizations up to date on the latest activities of the Board of Pharmacy Specialties. Organizations receiving this publication are free to distribute the content to their membership, key committees or constituent groups in whole or in part.

I hope you find this publication useful and thank you for your continued involvement with the Board of Pharmacy Specialties.

Best regards,

Bill

BPS Role Delineation Study (RDS) Update

Pain and Palliative Care

The role delineation survey for Pain and Palliative Care Pharmacy has been completed and the results are being reviewed by the BPS Pain and Palliative Care Pharmacy Task Force.

Pediatrics and Critical Care

The role delineation survey for Pediatric Pharmacy closed on January 26th and the Critical Care Pharmacy survey was extended to January 31st. The results will be compiled and calls scheduled with the respective taskforce from each proposed specialty by the first week of March. The BPS Board should receive the three RDS reports in early April and will review them during the BPS Board meeting in May. A decision to issue a call for petitions will be made at that meeting.

Upcoming Meetings

Look for BPS at these upcoming meetings and conferences:

American Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting - March 8-13 in New Orleans, LA

Hematology/Oncology Pharmacists Association Meeting - March 20-23 in Orlando, FL

Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group Annual Meeting and Pediatric Pharmacy Conference - April 18-22 in Houston, TX

College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists Annual Meeting-
April 29-May 2 in Tampa, FL

2012 Recertification

BPS-certified pharmacists in all specialties are required to recertify every 7 years. The fee for recertification is \$400. It is the responsibility of the BPS-certified pharmacist to submit a completed application for recertification postmarked by August 1. Candidates who are recertifying by continuing education (CE) must submit their application by August 1; however, CE hours for recertification may continue to be earned through the end of the calendar year for credit toward recertification. Please note that the expiration dates for the various CE programs will vary and it is the responsibility of the BPS-certified pharmacist to check those dates. Providers of BPS-approved CE programs report all CE hours for recertification directly to BPS. Each specialty has its own requirements for recertification and those requirements can be viewed on the BPS website at www.bpsweb.org

Candidates who choose to recertify by sitting for the recertification exam must also submit their recertification application by August 1. Candidates can complete their recertification application online by logging into their MyBPS account. Questions about accessing your MyBPS account can be answered by calling the BPS offices at 202-429-7591 or via e-mail at info@bpsweb.org.

2012 Exam

Please note these important dates for the 2012 BPS examinations:

May 1, 2012 will mark the open of the exam registration process.

July 1, 2012 - Deadline to request another exam site (city) not currently listed. Please note special fees apply to these requests and they must be approved.

August 1, 2012 - Application Deadline.

September 1, 2012 - Last day to withdraw or change test sites.

October 6, 2012 - BPS exam administration.

FAQs About the Exam Process

Below are some Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the BPS Examinations

Q. Can you direct me to information about accredited vs. non-accredited residencies and eligibility to sit for the board exams? I understand that the "rules" are changing.

A. Beginning in 2013, BPS will only accept residencies that are ASHP accredited toward fulfilling the eligibility requirements in each specialty. This does not mean that applicants must complete a residency. Under our current specialty application process, individuals can become Board eligible without a residency but that will usually require 1 to 2 years of additional practice experience in the specialty area. You can visit the BPS website at www.bpsweb.org and click on the "Specialties" tab to view the eligibility requirements for each specialty.

Q. New practice guidelines are published regularly, how do I know which version will be covered on the examination?

A. New regulations, guidelines, drugs and therapies are incorporated into the examinations. All BPS specialty examinations reflect current, best practices, approximately six months prior to test administration date.

Q. Can calculators be used during the examinations?

A. In order to provide a realistic environment for performing calculations in the solution of practice problems, hand-held, silent, non-printing, battery or solar powered calculators may be used. Hand-held calculators that contain addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and log functions are appropriate for the examination. Candidates may NOT use calculators or any other devices that have either word processing or word storage capabilities (complete A-Z keypad). All calculators will be examined by a proctor before a candidate is admitted to the examination area. Candidates are responsible for providing their own calculators.

Best Regards,

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Board of Pharmacy Specialties

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