



ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR PHARMACY EDUCATION

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Dear Pharmacy Dean:

The Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (“ACPE”) will be changing the terminology that will be used within the ACPE International Services Program. As of January 1, 2023, the ACPE International Services Program will offer “International-Accreditation,” “International-Pre-Accreditation,” and “Provisional International-Accreditation” to qualifying pharmacy degree programs outside the United States of America and its Territories. These will replace ACPE’s current “Certification,” “Precertification” and “Provisional Certification” statuses. Please note that all programs have been notified that the new designation does not imply or confer eligibility to graduates of a program with such status to apply directly to sit for the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) for licensure in the United States. ACPE International-Accreditation, International-Preaccreditation and Provisional International-Accreditation do not change or modify the requirement for pharmacists educated outside of the United States to achieve the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy’s (NABP) Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee (FPGEC) Certification before applying for a pharmacy licensure exam or state board of pharmacy license in the United States. ACPE International-Accreditation Status does not assure that the professional degree program graduates are directly eligible for pharmacist licensure in any of the states or territories of the United States. In order to assure that there is no confusion over this, ACPE is providing clear disclaimers on its website and in all its materials, including its Policies and Procedures, and is requiring the following:

- Required disclaimer on the foreign school’s website and other applicable media, publications, etc.
- All enrolled students must sign an acknowledgement that graduation from the program with International-Accreditation Status does not confer eligibility to graduates to apply directly to sit for the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) for licensure in the US
- An agreement that schools with programs with [current] Certification Status will need to sign stating they will comply with the new Policies and Procedures before the status of the program is changed from “Certified” to “Internationally-Accredited” (or other status, as applicable); i.e., “grandfathering.”

ACPE’s Policies and Procedures now include sanctions for schools that provide false or misleading information about the benefits of International-Accreditation Status for graduates of a program with International-Accreditation Status, up to and including withdrawal of International-Accreditation Status for failure to comply in a timely manner with ACPE requests to remove or correct any false or misleading information.

This new designation does not affect ACPE-accredited pharmacy programs, or your fees paid to ACPE, but we wanted you to be aware of these changes. We have also communicated this information to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP). If you have any questions regarding this new designation, please feel free to reach out to ACPE staff.

Sincerely yours,

Janet P. Engle, Pharm.D., Ph.D. (Hon), FAPhA, FCCP, FNAP
Executive Director, Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)

ACPE is the national agency for the accreditation of professional degree programs in pharmacy and providers of continuing pharmacy education. ACPE also offers evaluation and certification of professional degree programs internationally and with ASHP accredits pharmacy technician education and training programs.