

TEMPORARY FOREIGN WORKER PROGRAM

OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE FOR EXPEDITED LABOUR MARKET OPINIONS

PHARMACISTS

Section A: OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Community pharmacists and hospital pharmacists compound and dispense prescribed pharmaceuticals and provide consultative services to both clients and health care providers. Industrial pharmacists participate in the research, development, promotion and manufacture of pharmaceutical products. They are employed in community and hospital pharmacies and in pharmaceutical companies.

MAIN DUTIES:

Community pharmacists and hospital pharmacists perform some or all of the following duties:

- Check prescriptions for proper dosage.
- Compound prescribed pharmaceutical products by calculating, measuring and mixing the quantities of drugs and other ingredients required and filling appropriate containers with correct quantity.
- Dispense prescribed pharmaceuticals to customers or to other health care professionals and advise them on indications, contra-indications, adverse effects, drug interactions and dosage.
- Maintain medication profiles of customers including registry of poisons and narcotic and controlled drugs.
- Ensure proper preparation, packaging, distribution and storage of vaccines, serums, biologicals and other drugs and pharmaceuticals.
- Order and maintain stock of pharmaceutical supplies.
- Advise customers on selection and use of non-prescription medication.
- May supervise and co-ordinate the activities of other pharmacists, pharmacy assistants, pharmacy technicians and other staff.

Industrial pharmacists perform some or all of the following duties:

- Participate in basic research for the development of new drugs.
- Formulate new drug products developed by medical researchers.
- Test new drug products for stability and to determine their absorption and Elimination patterns.

- Co-ordinate clinical investigations of new drugs.
- Control the quality of drug products during production to ensure that they meet standards of potency, purity, uniformity, stability and safety.
- Develop information materials concerning the uses, properties and risks of particular drugs.
- Evaluate labelling, packaging and advertising of drug products.
- Promote pharmaceutical products to health professionals.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

- A bachelor of science degree in pharmacy is required.
- Pharmacists also require practical training under the supervision of a pharmacist.
- Licensure is required in all provinces and territories for community and hospital pharmacists.

PREVAILING WAGE RATES BY SUB-REGION:

ALBERTA

Geographic Area	Wage (per hour)
Calgary/Banff/Drumheller	\$38.53
Edmonton	\$41.36
Fort-McMurray	\$45.59
St. Paul/Lloydminster	\$45.59
Grande Prairie/Slave Lake/Jasper	\$38.53
Lethbridge/Medicine Hat/Crowsnest Pass	\$41.42
Red Deer/Camrose/Wetaskiwin/Rocky/Olds	\$38.53

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Geographic Area	Wage (per hour)
Lower Mainland Southwest	\$39.73
Northern British Columbia	\$46.95
Thompson Okanagan Kootenay	\$42.00
Vancouver Island	\$44.26

PROVINCIAL LABOUR STANDARDS:

In **Alberta** refer to: [Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry, Employment Standards Programs](#)

In **British Columbia** refer to: [Ministry of Labour and Citizen's Service, Employment Standards Branch](#)

PROVINCIAL CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

In **Alberta** refer to:

- [Alberta College of Pharmacists](#); or
- [CERTinfo, Alberta Learning and Information Service](#).

In **British Columbia** refer to:

- [College of Pharmacists of British Columbia](#); or
- [Ministry of Health, Legislation and Professional Regulation \(British Columbia\)](#).

LABOUR MARKET OPINION FACTORS:

Refer to the [Temporary Foreign Worker Program](#) website to obtain the Labour Market Opinion factors used to assess an employer's request to hire a temporary foreign worker.