

Written Examination Review Consultation Feedback

Thank you for considering the Pharmacy Council's consultation document on the proposal to discontinue the Written Examination. The full consultation document can be found [here](#).

Following an extensive review of submissions, the Pharmacy Council has decided to discontinue the Written Examination with immediate effect.

Summary

The Pharmacy Council invited submissions on the proposal to discontinue the Written Examination (WE) over a three week period. Council members would like to thank those who made a submission, of which there was a total of 175.

Submissions

82% of submissions agreed with the proposal to discontinue the WE, the remaining 18% disagreed with the proposal.

Commentary from those supporting the proposal echoed the key findings of the WE review stating that the competencies the WE covered are assessed elsewhere, that intern pharmacists should be focusing on clinical skills and practical application in the pharmacy, and that it is too costly.

Those who disagreed stated that the exam provided another measure to support intern pharmacists to prepare for their career.

Next steps

Whilst the WE review made the recommendation to discontinue the exam, it provided suggestions for the Pharmacy Council to become more active in its role as an accreditor to the three educational programmes (University of Auckland BPharm, University of Otago BPharm and the EVOLVE Intern Training Programme).

The Pharmacy Council will be exploring these suggestions to assess what would be the best next steps for the profession.

2019 Intern Cohort

The WE will be discontinued immediately, therefore the incoming intern cohorts will not have to undertake the exam. For the 2019 cohort, the route to registering in the pharmacist scope of practice will be as follows:

- successfully complete the Intern Training Programme,
- pass the Assessment Centre, and
- not be the subject of unresolved notifications to Council relating to: health, conduct or competence.

Thank you

The Pharmacy Council appreciates all those who made a submission.

Ngā mihi nui

Michael Pead
Chief Executive