

Five Frequently Asked Questions for New Texas Pharmacists

(1) Why was my license issued for only 30 days?

The Texas State Board of Pharmacy (TSBP) is following the licensing procedure outlined in board rules.

Excerpt from **RULE §283.9 Fee Requirements for Licensure by Examination, Score Transfer and Reciprocity**

(e) Once an applicant has successfully completed all requirements of licensure, the applicant will be notified of licensure as a pharmacist and of his or her pharmacist license number and the following is applicable.

(1) The notice letter shall serve as authorization for the person to practice pharmacy in Texas for a period of 30 days from the date of the notice letter.

(2) The applicant shall complete a pharmacist license application and pay one pharmacist licensee fee as specified in §295.5 of this title (relating to Pharmacist License or Renewal Fees).

(3) The provisions of §295.7 of this title (relating to Pharmacist License Renewal) apply to the timely receipt of an application and licensure fee.

(4) If application and payment of the pharmacist license fee are not received by the board within **30 days** from the date of the notice letter, the person's license to practice pharmacy shall expire. A person may not practice pharmacy with an expired license. The license may be renewed according to the following schedule.

(A) If the notice letter has been expired for **90 days or less**, the person may become licensed by making application and paying to the board one license fee and a fee that is one-half of the examination fee for the license.

(B) If the notice letter has been expired for **more than 90 days but less than one year**, the person may become licensed by making application and paying to the board all unpaid renewal fees and a fee that is equal to the examination fee for the license.

(C) If the notice letter has been **expired for one year or more**, the person shall apply for a new license.

(2) Where do I renew my license?

You can access your online account with the Texas State Board of Pharmacy (TSBP) from the blue LOGIN link on the left side of the TSBP website at www.pharmacy.texas.gov.

Your TSBP online account is the same account you used to apply for a pharmacist license. When logged into your online account, you should see your license information on the right side of the Quick Start Menu. Select the option to renew your initial license. This will direct you to the online initial renewal application. Don't see your license number information? Contact the Online Help desk to update your account information, since you may have two online accounts. If you receive an error message indicating your license is linked to another user id, you may have two online accounts, and this will require email assistance of the Online Help Desk at onlinehelp@hpc.state.tx.us.

You are required to renew your license in the first 30 days or your status will change to Delinquent and additional fees will be necessary to renew the license. After one year from the expiration date you will not be eligible to renew. Any changes to license information will be updated on the TSBP website the following business day in the pharmacist database in the Verifications section.

(3) Am I required to meet the CE requirements of Rule 295.8 to renew my license?

Based on Rule 295.8 all pharmacists licensed in Texas are exempt from the continuing education requirements of this rule during their initial license period. The initial license period is defined in Rule 295.8 as the time period between the date of issuance of a pharmacist's license and the next expiration date following the initial 30 day expiration date. Therefore, you are exempt from the CE requirements of Rule 295.8 for the first 30 days and the following renewal period (ranges from 18 to 30 months). Pharmacists are not exempt from the CE requirements for other rules.

(4) When will I receive my renewal certificate, pocket card, and large wall certificate?

A renewal certificate and pocket card will be mailed to the home address within 5 business days following the renewal of the license. The hand-inscribed wall certificate will be mailed within 12 weeks from the date of licensure. The pocket card provides proof of licensure for any places of employment, other than the primary place of employment. Maintain a current home address with the board so you will receive any documents mailed to you by TSBP.

(5) Why is the new license expiration date not in two years?

During the first 30 days of licensure, a pharmacist must renew the license to extend the expiration date to one in the future in the birth month of the pharmacist. The initial renewal fee is prorated, based on the time period until the next expiration date, which depends on the date of licensure and the birth month of the pharmacist. Below is an example of a pharmacist licensed in January 2017 with a birth month of June:

1. A pharmacist license is issued on January 12, 2017.
2. The license is issued with an expiration date of February 11, 2017 (30 days).
3. The pharmacist submits an initial renewal application online and pays a prorated fee. The pharmacist is exempt from the CE requirement for Rule 295.8 (in initial license period at time of renewal).
4. The new expiration date following the initial renewal is June 30, 2019.
5. The pharmacist must renew the license again by the end of June 2019.
6. Before June 30, 2019 the pharmacist submits a renewal application online and pays a two-year fee. The pharmacist is exempt from the CE requirement for Rule 295.8 (in initial license period at time of renewal).
7. The new expiration date following the renewal is June 30, 2021. To remain Active, the CE requirements must be completed in the license period and reported on the June 2021 renewal application.
8. All future renewals will be due every two years in June (birth month).

Other questions? Most questions can be answered with information provided on the TSBP website at pharmacy.texas.gov. Scroll over the word PHARMACISTS from the blue bar across the top of the home page for more information, including a Forms and Procedure section.