



The Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada

Le Bureau des examinateurs en pharmacie du Canada

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September 2023 OSPE Modified Examination Conditions due to COVID-19 (Update #2)

This communication is about the next Pharmacy Technician Qualifying Examination – Part II (OSPE) scheduled for September 17, 2023. The purpose of this communication is to provide candidates with resources needed to take the upcoming OSPE and is in follow-up to the Email Update #1, sent on July 26, 2023. The health and safety of our candidates and exam personnel, while maintaining the security, standardization and validity of the exam, are our top priorities.

A) Candidate Orientation

- As previously communicated, there will be no Candidate Orientation session on exam day. Instead, Candidates are required to watch the *Candidate Orientation* video before exam day. Candidates who have attempted the OSPE before are required to watch the video again, as some procedures may have changed since your previous attempt.
- **The orientation video is now available for viewing. To watch the video, click [here](#).**

B) Additional reminders - Please refer to Email Update #1 for more details

- **All candidates and exam personnel (including Standardized Participants with whom you will be interacting) are required to wear a PEBC-provided face mask at all times while in the secure examination area (except during a snack break).** PEBC will provide one standard disposable medical 3-ply (Level 2) face mask (with ear loops) per candidate. One replacement mask will be provided if your first mask becomes damaged, wet or soiled. It is your responsibility to ensure you are comfortable wearing a mask like the one provided by PEBC for an extended period of time and that you can communicate effectively, ensuring you are understood.
- On exam day, you are required to independently self-assess your own health and wellness, as you would before joining any other social or professional gathering or event. **Do not attend the examination if you are unwell or if you pose a health risk to others.**
- Before arriving at the exam centre, read the *Candidate's Agreement, including the COVID-19 Acknowledgement, Waiver, and Release*. You will be signing this agreement as part of the registration process on exam day. You do not need to bring a printed copy with you.
- Remember to bring your government-issued photo ID, *PEBC Admission Card* and water. If you wish to bring snacks, bring them in one re-sealable plastic *Ziploc*. Exam centres will not supply water or snacks.
- Bring your lab coat/scrubs with large pockets. Candidates who do not wear a lab coat/scrubs may be denied entry into the examination.
- Please be patient as exam personnel work to ensure the safety of all exam participants and the security of the examination. Therefore, some processes may be slower than usual, such as registration and security checks. Additionally, unanticipated issues may cause delays. Your cooperation is appreciated. Be prepared to spend time outside the building and dress appropriately for local weather conditions.

- Candidates must follow the vaccination policy of their assigned exam centre, if applicable. Exam centres, and not PEBC, determine their own vaccination policy, including the requirements for showing *Proof of Vaccination* in advance of or on exam day, COVID-19 testing and/or requesting exemptions from vaccination. At the date of this letter, all candidates who are assigned to a centre with additional COVID-related protocols have been advised. Nevertheless, requirements and policies could change at any time, and candidates should be ready with proof of vaccination if it becomes necessary for entry. PEBC will share any new information about vaccination policies with affected candidates if and as required.

Sept 6, 2023