Chapter 246-858 WAC
PHARMACISTS—INTERNERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

WAC 246-858-020 General requirements.
(1) RCW 18.64.080(3) states: "Any person enrolled as a student of pharmacy in an accredited college may file with the department an application for registration as a pharmacy intern — ." A student of pharmacy shall be defined as any person enrolled in a college or school of pharmacy accredited by the board of pharmacy or any graduate of any accredited college or school of pharmacy.

(2) As provided for in RCW 18.64.080(3) the board of pharmacy hereby establishes fifteen hundred hours for the internship requirement.

(a) For graduates prior to January 1, 1999, credit may be allowed:
(i) Up to seven hundred hours for experiential classes as part of the curriculum of an accredited college or school of pharmacy commonly referred to as externship/ clerkship;
(ii) Eight hundred hours or more for experience obtained after completing the first quarter/semester of pharmacy education.

(b) For graduates after January 1, 1999, credit may be allowed:
(i) Up to twelve hundred hours of experiential classes as part of the curriculum of an accredited college or school of pharmacy commonly referred to as externship/ clerkship;
(ii) Three hundred or more hours for experience obtained after completing the first quarter/semester of pharmacy education.

(c) The board will document hours in excess of these requirements for students qualifying for out-of-state licensure.

(3) An applicant for licensure as a pharmacist who has completed seven hundred internship hours will be permitted to take the state board examination for licensure; however, no pharmacist license will be issued to the applicant until the fifteen hundred internship hours have been completed. The hours must be completed and a pharmacist license issued within eighteen months of the date of graduation.

(4) To retain a certificate as a pharmacy intern, the intern must make continuing satisfactory progress in completing the pharmacy course.

(5) Experience must be obtained under the guidance of a preceptor who has met certification requirements prescribed in WAC 246-858-060 and has a certificate except as hereinafter provided for experience gained outside the state of Washington.

(6) Experience obtained in another state may be accepted toward the fulfillment of the fifteen hundred hour requirement provided that a letter is received from the board of pharmacy of that state in which the experience is gained and such letter indicates the experience gained would have been acceptable internship experience to the board of pharmacy in that state.

WAC 246-858-030 Registration of interns. To register as a pharmacy intern, an applicant shall file with the department an application for registration as a pharmacy intern as provided for in RCW 18.64.080. The application shall be accompanied by a fee as specified in WAC 246-907-030. Prior to engaging in the practice of pharmacy as an intern or extern, under the supervision of a preceptor, the applicant must be registered by the board as a pharmacy intern.

WAC 246-858-040 Rules for the pharmacy intern.
(1) The intern shall send notification to the board of pharmacy on or before the intern's first day of training. Such notification shall consist of the date, the name of the pharmacy, and the name of the preceptor where the intern expects to begin his/her internship. The board of pharmacy shall promptly notify the intern of the acceptability of the preceptor under whom the intern expects to gain experience. Internship credit will not be accepted until the preceptor has been certified.

(2) The pharmacy intern shall engage in the practice of pharmacy, and the selling of items restricted to sale under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist, only while the intern is under the direct and personal supervision of a certified preceptor or a licensed pharmacist designated by the preceptor to supervise that intern during the preceptor's absence from the site. Provided, that hours of experience gained while the certified preceptor is absent from the site shall not be counted toward fulfilling any internship requirement.

(12/20/95)
WAC 246-858-050 Intern training reports. (1) The intern shall file with the board on forms provided by the board an internship evaluation report at the completion of internship training experience at each site.

(2) The board of pharmacy shall provide the necessary affidavit forms to the intern for the purpose of certification of the hours of experience, which shall only include hours under the personal supervision of a preceptor. Affidavits must be certified and recorded in the office of the board of pharmacy not later than thirty days after the completion of any site internship experience. Completion of any site experience is intended to mean those situations when neither the intern nor the preceptor anticipate further intern experience at some later date at that site.

(3) The intern's report and all or part of the hours covered by the period of the report can be rejected by the board if, for the period involved, the pharmacy intern has not performed the practice of pharmacy adequately.

(4) Certification of at least seven hundred hours must be submitted to the board office thirty days prior to licensing examination.

WAC 246-858-060 Requirements for preceptor certification. (1) A pharmacist who is licensed and actively engaged in practice in a Class A pharmacy in the state of Washington, and who has met certification requirements prescribed in this section of the regulation and who has completed a board approved training program within the last five years, and who has been certified by the board of pharmacy shall be known as "pharmacist preceptor." The requirement for completion of an approved training program becomes effective June 30, 1991.

(2) The pharmacist preceptor must have completed twelve months as a licensed pharmacist engaged in the practice of pharmacy as defined in RCW 18.64.011(11).

(3) Any preceptor or preceptor applicant who has been found guilty of a drug or narcotic violation or whose pharmacist license has been revoked, suspended, or placed on probation by the state board of pharmacy shall not be eligible for certification as a preceptor, until completion of the probationary period, and a showing of good cause for certification as a pharmacist preceptor.

(4) The preceptor shall be responsible for the quality of the internship training under his/her supervision and he/she shall assure that the intern actually engages in pharmaceutical activities during that training period.

(5) The board of pharmacy shall withdraw a preceptor's certification upon proof that the preceptor failed to meet or maintain the requirements as stated in this section.

(6) In considering the approval of special internship programs pursuant to WAC 246-858-080, the board may approve alternative qualification requirements for the preceptors of such programs.

WAC 246-858-070 Rules for preceptors. (1) The pharmacist preceptor, or his or her designee in accordance with WAC 246-858-040(2), shall supervise the pharmacy intern and shall be responsible for the sale of restricted items, and the compounding and dispensing of pharmaceuticals dispensed by an intern.

(2) The pharmacist preceptor must use the board approved plan of instruction for interns.

(3) Upon completion of the intern's experience at each site, the preceptor under whom this experience was obtained shall file a report with the board. Such report shall briefly describe the type of professional experience received under the preceptor's supervision and the preceptor's evaluation of the intern's ability to practice pharmacy at that stage of internship.

(4) The board of pharmacy shall provide the necessary affidavit forms to certify hours of experience under the personal supervision of a preceptor. Affidavits must be certified and recorded in the office of the board not later than thirty days after the completion of any site intern experience; provided that any experience necessary for eligibility to take the licensing examination must be in the board office no later than thirty days prior to the examination.

(5) The pharmacist preceptor may supervise more than one intern during a given time period; however, two interns may not dispense concurrently under the direct supervision of the same preceptor.

WAC 246-858-080 Special internship approval. (1) The board will consider applications for approval of special internship programs. Such programs may be approved when the board determines that they offer a significant educational opportunity.

(2) Applications for special internship approval must be submitted at least thirty days prior to the next board meeting which will afford the board an opportunity to review the program.