

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## PHARMACIST'S ASSISTANT PROGRAMME

### What are the entrance requirements for this programme?

To be eligible for this training programme, all potential candidates are required to have passed Grade 12 with maths and life science.

### Are there any age restrictions for the pharmacist's assistant training programme?

The programme targets recently qualified Grade 12 persons that are unemployed.

### Can a foreign national apply for the pharmacist's assistant training programme?

Preference will be given to South African citizens aligned to the requirements of the Skills Development Act No. 97 of 1998.

### Will the pharmacist's assistant qualification enable me to get into a Pharmacy Bachelor Degree programme in University?

The pharmacist's assistant programme has two levels: the basic and post basic levels. The NQF qualification levels are as follows:

Course	NQF	Equivalence
Basic Pharmacist's Assistant Qualification	3	Intermediate Certificate (Grade 10)
Post Basic Pharmacist's Assistant Qualification	4	National Certificate (Grade 12)
Pharmacy Technician	6	Diploma
Bachelor of Pharmacy Degree	8	4 Year Degree (Degree with Honours)

The pharmacist's assistant qualification will not give you automatic entry into a Bachelor of Pharmacy Degree programme as all institutions have entrance requirements and entrance assessments. The details of the entrance requirements may be viewed on the respective universities website.



### **Is Life Healthcare accredited to train pharmacist's assistants?**

Life Healthcare collaborates with a training provider. The training provider is accredited to provide the pharmacist's assistant course. The training provider facilitates the training, assignments and assessments. Life Healthcare provides the work experience under the supervision of a registered tutor.

### **Can I apply for the Life Healthcare training programme if I work at another non-Life Healthcare pharmacy?**

The training is only available to persons who work for Life Healthcare either as permanent staff or unemployed youth who have been identified to participate in the programme funded by the Health and Welfare SETA (HWSETA). There is a legislative requirement that stipulates that a student in training must be under the direct supervision of a registered tutor (pharmacist), and therefore the student must be working in a Life Healthcare facility which is accredited as a training facility for the duration of the programme so that direct supervision by a tutor may be facilitated.

The training of pharmacist's assistants may only be facilitated in a premises that has been accredited by the South African Pharmacy Council, as per legislative requirement; therefore, Life Healthcare only facilitates the programme in hospitals which are accredited for training.

### **Can I pay my own fees for the pharmacist's assistant training programme?**

Life Healthcare does not facilitate training for self-funded learners who are not permanently employed at a Life healthcare facility or HWSETA funded students that are contracted to a Life Healthcare facility.

### **When can I apply for the pharmacist's assistant training programme?**

The intake for the pharmacist's assistant training programme takes place from September to November annually. The hospitals will advertise the available positions on the website during the intake period. Applications must be sent directly to the relevant person in the pharmacy of the participating hospital.