



Examination Specifications Geriatric Pharmacy Board of Pharmacy Specialties

Name of Credential	BPS Board-Certified Geriatric Pharmacist
Certification-Issuing Body	Board of Pharmacy Specialties
Designation Awarded	BCGP
Level of Proficiency	Specialty Certification
Target Population	Pharmacists who have met the eligibility criteria and who assess, design, implement, monitor, modify, and advise on pharmacotherapeutic treatments and protocols for older adults
Program Purpose	To validate that the pharmacist has the advanced knowledge, skills, and experience necessary to optimize safety and outcomes for older adults
Eligibility Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation from a pharmacy program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) or a program outside the United States that qualifies the individual to practice in the jurisdiction • Current, active license or registration to practice pharmacy in the United States or another jurisdiction • One of the following, within the past 7 years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At least 4 years of specialty area practice with at least 50% of time spent in the scope defined by the exam content outline ○ Completion of PGY1 pharmacy residency and at least 2 years of specialty area practice experience with at least 50% of time spent in the scope defined by the exam content outline ○ Completion of PGY2 residency in Geriatric Pharmacy <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 10px;"><i>Residency programs must be accredited by or deemed candidate status by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) for PGY1, PGY2, and International Pharmacy Practice Residency Programs, or accredited by the Canadian Pharmacy Residency Board (CPRB) for year-1 programs.</i></p>
Examination Length	150 items, which includes 125 scored items and 25 unscored items
Administration Time	3 Hours and 45 Minutes
ECO Creation Date	June 2022

This document serves as examination specifications and certification scheme according to the respective requirements of the NCCA 2021 and ISO-IEC 17024:2012 standards. For more information about the BCGP examination program, please refer to the candidates guide on the BPS website: www.bpsweb.org.

Examination Content Outline

1	Geriatric Patient Population	29%
1A	Physiological Factors of Aging	17%
1A1	Age-Related Physiological Changes	
1A2	Pathophysiology in the Older Adult	
1A3	Geriatric Syndromes	
1A4	Multimorbidity in the Older Adult	
1A5	Mental Health and Changes in Cognitive Function	
1A6	Activities of Daily Living (ADL/IADL)	
1B	Non-Physiological Factors of Aging	12%
1B1	Elder Abuse, Neglect, and Isolation	
1B2	Ageism and Therapeutic Nihilism	
1B3	Self-Determination and End-of-life Decisions (e.g., advance care planning, legal documents, capacity, conservatorship)	
1B4	Caregiver Support (e.g., respite care, caregiver services, caregiver burnout)	
1B5	Long-Term Care (e.g., home health, residential care)	
1B6	Patient-Support Resources and Programs (e.g., medical transportation, patient assistance programs, food/nutrition assistance)	
2	Therapeutics and Patient Management	50%
2A	Treatment Planning	14%
2A1	Clinical Assessment (e.g., functional, cognitive, physical)	
2A2	Diagnosis and Diagnostic Testing	
2A3	Pharmacodynamics, Pharmacokinetics, and Pharmacogenomics	
2A4	Shared Decision-Making and Goals of Care	
2A5	Goals of Treatment (e.g., risk vs. benefit, time to benefit)	
2A6	Social Determinants of Health	
2B	Therapeutic Implementation	19%
2B1	Pharmacotherapy (e.g., medications, supplements, herbals)	
2B2	Non-Pharmacologic Treatments and Lifestyle Modification	
2B3	Interprofessional Care Coordination	
2B4	Medication Reconciliation and Optimization	
2B5	Medication Delivery (e.g., routes of administration, delivery devices, anatomic alterations)	
2B6	Patient and Caregiver Education and Counseling	
2B7	Potentially Inappropriate Medication Use (e.g., polypharmacy, prescribing cascade, deprescribing, pill burden)	
2C	Treatment Outcomes and Monitoring	17%
2C1	Therapeutic Targets and Endpoints	
2C2	Therapeutic and Physiological Monitoring	
2C3	Adverse Drug Events	
2C4	Drug Interactions	
2C5	Medication Adherence	
2C6	Palliative and Hospice Care	

3	Professional Practice	21%
3A	Quality of Care	13%
3A1	Population Health	
3A2	Preventative Care	
3A3	Continuity of Care	
3A4	Clinical Practice Guidelines	
3A5	Medication Appropriateness Assessment (e.g., STOPP/START, Beers criteria, FORTA, MAI)	
3B	Practice Management	8%
3B1	Research Methods and Statistics	
3B2	Professional Practice Standards, Guidelines, and Regulations (e.g., Medicare, HEDIS)	
3B3	Ethics and Patient Advocacy	
3B4	Pharmacoeconomics	
3B5	Clinical Informatics (e.g., clinical decision support, MUEs, CPOE)	

The examination content outline is a product of a job analysis (aka role delineation study) that includes facilitation of discussions with a representative panel of 15-20 subject matter experts who identify competencies required for safe and effective pharmacy practice in this specialty area as well as a validation survey soliciting endorsement of the identified competencies from certified pharmacists in this specialty area. The job analysis process is conducted every 5 years to help ensure that the competencies in the examination content outline reflect current pharmacy practice in the specialty area.

Maintenance of Certification

Recertification Requirements	<p>Credential-holders will be required to maintain their certification over a 7-year period by completing one of the following recertification pathways:</p> <p><u>Option One: Recertification Examination</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>BCGP with certification beginning January 1, 2023 or earlier:</u> Achieve a passing score on the examination • <u>BCGP with certification beginning January 1, 2024 or later:</u> Achieve a passing score on the examination and complete 20 units of self-reported continuing professional development (CPD) <p><u>Option Two: Professional Development Program</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>BCGP with certification beginning January 1, 2023 or earlier:</u> Complete 100 units of BPS-approved, assessed continuing education (CE) provided by the professional development programs offered by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) in collaboration with The American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) ○ The Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP) • <u>BCGP with certification beginning January 1, 2024 or later:</u> Complete 20 units of self-reported continuing professional development (CPD) and 80 units of BPS-approved, assessed CE provided by the program offered by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP) in collaboration with the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) ○ The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) in collaboration with the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) ○ Tabula Rasa HealthCare University <p><i>To maintain an active certification in good standing, a minimum of two units of BPS-approved, assessed CPE or self-reported CPD must be reported each year. Credential-holders may participate in recertification from any BPS-approved programs identified for the credential. Preparatory Review and Recertification Courses offered by any approved provider may only be completed for recertification credit up to two times, in nonconsecutive years, during the seven-year certification cycle.</i></p>
Ethics and Professionalism	<p>The Board of Pharmacy Specialties ascribes to the belief that certification carries an obligation for ethical behavior and professionalism necessary in all conduct. Candidates or certificants who are found to have exhibited unethical behavior or lack of professionalism may be prevented from pursuing certification or may be subject to suspension or withdrawal of certification, at the discretion of the Board of Pharmacy Specialties.</p> <p>Please refer to the BPS Ethics and Professionalism Policy: https://www.bpsweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/ethics.pdf</p>