

Pharmacists Council (Vocational Trainees) Regulations, 2025

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IT is hereby notified that the Pharmacists Council of Zimbabwe with approval from the Minister of Health has, in terms of section 145 of the Health Professions Act [*Chapter 27:19*] made the following regulations:—

*Title*

1. These regulations may be cited as the Pharmacists Council (Vocational Trainees) Regulations, 2025.

*Interpretation*

2. In these regulations—

“approved premises”, means premises which are designated by the Council in terms of section 3(1) to be approved premises for the purposes of these regulations;

“branch”, means one of the following branches—

- (a) Public practice;
- (b) Private practice;
- (c) Regulatory practice;
- (d) Academic practice;
- (e) Manufacturing;

“member”, means a pharmacist or an optometrist registered in terms of Part V of the First Schedule to the Act;

“supervising member”, means a person approved by Council in terms of section (3)(2) as a supervisor for the purposes of these regulations;

“trainee”, means a person who—

- (a) holds a Zimbabwean degree or equivalent;
- (b) is registered on the Register of Vocational Trainees established in terms of section 87 of the Act;

“training”, means training required by Council in terms of sections 4 and 5.

“Zimbabwean degree” means the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) Optometry or Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours) or equivalent qualifications.

*Approved premises and supervising member*

3. (1) The Council may from time to time designate any premises—

- (a) in which a branch of the profession is carried on; and
- (b) at which there is a supervising member;

to be approved premises for the purpose of these regulations, and may at any time withdraw such designation if it considers that the premises or the training provided thereon are no longer suitable, or if there is no supervising member at the premises.

(2) The Council may from time to time approve any registered member who has had not less than 3 years’ experience in the practice since his registration to be a supervising member for the purposes of these regulations.

*Period of training*

4. (1) Subject to the provisions of subsection (2) and section (6)(2) a trainee shall be required to undergo and complete, to the satisfaction of the Council, training in accordance with provisions of these regulations for a continuous period of 1 year, which period may include an aggregate of not more than—

- (a) twenty-one days’ vacation leave or sick leave; and
- (b) six days’ occasional leave.

(2) The Council may approve periods of leave in excess of those specified in subsection (1) if it considers that there are special circumstances warranting such approval, in which case it shall increase the period of 1 year required by subsection (1) by the amount of leave approved in terms of this section.

*Training*

5. (1) The trainee shall commence his or her period of training within six months of the date on which he or she obtains a Zimbabwean degree:

Provided that Council may, on application in writing, permit a trainee to commence his or her training after the expiration of such a period if it considers that there are good reasons warranting the granting of such permission.

(2) All training shall be conducted at approved premises, under a supervising member who shall be responsible for supervising the training of the trainee.

(3) Subject to the provisions of section 6, a trainee shall undergo—

- (a) all training in one branch of the profession; or
- (b) half the period of his or her training in academic or regulatory practice and the other half at a private or public practice.

(4) The supervising member shall submit to the Council such reports on any trainee under his or her supervision as the Council may from time to time require.

#### *Transfer of trainees*

6. (1) The Council may at any time authorise the transfer of a trainee from one approved premises to another if it considers that there are good reasons for such transfer.

(2) Where a trainee is transferred in terms of subsection (1) from one branch to another, and the period of training in either branch amounts to less than half the period of training required by section 4, the Council may increase the period of training required by section 4 by such amount as it thinks fit, not exceeding the difference between the period of his training in the said branch and twenty-six weeks.

#### *Examination*

7. A trainee shall during the course of his or her training write such examination(s) as may be prescribed by Council in writing.

#### *Certificate of training*

8. On the completion of any period of training, the supervising member shall issue to the trainee a certificate certifying that the trainee

has completed the period of training, and shall forward a copy of such certificate to the Council.

*Repeal*

9. The Pharmaceutical Chemists (Pre-registration Training) Regulations, Rhodesia Government Notice No 1111 of 1976 are hereby repealed.