

1 21 NCAC 46 .2201 is adopted **with changes** as published in 38:15 NCR 971-972:

2  
3 **21 NCAC 46 .2201 HOURS: RECORDS: PROVIDERS: CORRESPONDENCE: RECIPROCITY**

4 (a) As a condition of license renewal, a pharmacist shall accumulate 15 hours of continuing education annually.

5 (b) Five of these continuing education hours shall be obtained through contact programs. Contact programs are  
6 those in which there is an opportunity for live two-way communication between the presenter and attendee. An  
7 online continuing education course may satisfy this contact-hour requirement provided that the continuing education  
8 course includes live two-way communication between the presenter and attendee.

9 (c) A pharmacist who accumulates more than the required 15 hours of continuing education in a single year may  
10 carry forward up to five surplus hours to be applied to the following year's continuing education requirements.

11 (d) A pharmacist shall preserve all continuing education records for three years. If a continuing education provider  
12 approved in Paragraph (f) ~~(e)~~ of this Rule maintains an electronic database of all pharmacists granted continuing  
13 education credits accredited by the provider, then the storage of that information in the provider's database shall be  
14 deemed to satisfy the pharmacist's recordkeeping requirement.

15 ~~(d)~~(e) Upon license renewal, the pharmacist shall report continuing education hours through the Board's online  
16 license renewal portal. The Board **may shall** require a pharmacist to submit records, reports of accredited hours and  
17 certificates of credit **on a random basis pursuant to a as part of any** continuing education audit.

18 ~~(e)~~(f) All continuing education shall be obtained through continuing education courses accredited by the  
19 Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education or the North Carolina Association of Pharmacists. Pharmacists may  
20 also acquire five hours continuing education credit for precepting, for at least 160 hours, a student enrolled in the  
21 University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy, the Campbell University College of Pharmacy and  
22 Health Sciences, the Wingate University School of Pharmacy, or the High Point University Fred Wilson School of  
23 Pharmacy as part of these schools' academic program.

24 ~~(f)~~(g) A pharmacist shall be exempt from the requirements of this Rule if:

25 (1) The pharmacist is eligible for a waiver of continuing education requirements under 21 NCAC 46  
26 .1613; or

27 (2) For the entire year preceding license renewal, the pharmacist resided in another state, did not  
28 practice pharmacy in North Carolina, and satisfied the state of residence's continuing education  
29 requirements for pharmacist licensure. **For the purposes of this Rule, a pharmacist's residence is**  
30 **determined by where the individual is a resident for state income tax purposes under G.S. 105-**  
31 **153.3(15).**

32 ~~(g)~~(h) Continuing education shall not serve as a barrier to reciprocity; however, all licensees by reciprocity **shall**  
33 **must** observe the continuing education standards specified in Paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), ~~(e)~~, ~~(f)~~, ~~(e)~~ and ~~(g)~~-~~(f)~~ of  
34 this Rule within the first renewal period after licensure in this state.

35  
36 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-85.6; 90-85.17; 90-85.18;*

37 *Eff. January 1, 1985;*

1                    *Amended Eff. January 1, 2008; April 1, 2005; August 1, 2004; August 1, 1998; September 1,*  
2                    *1993; May 1, 1989;*  
3                    *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. October 3,*  
4                    *2017;*  
5                    *Amended Eff. January 1, 2018; June 1, 2024. ~~2018.~~*

21 NCAC 46 .2516 is adopted with changes as published in 38:15 NCR 972-973:

**21 NCAC 46 .2516 EMERGENCY CLOSURE**

(a) The pharmacist-manager of a pharmacy has the responsibility and authority to cease some or all of the pharmacy operations when doing so is necessary to fill the pharmacist-manager’s responsibility (a) for the safe, lawful and secure receipt of prescription orders and delivery of prescription drugs under Rule .1804(a) of this Chapter, or (b) to ensure that adequate qualified personnel are in place to properly render pharmaceutical service in compliance with state and federal law under Rule .1601(a)(1) of this Chapter.

(b) In the event that a pharmacist-manager [reasonably] anticipates that a permit is will be closed for more than two hours, either to receive prescription orders or to dispense prescription drugs, [drugs] during the regular hours that it has posted that it is open under Rule .1601(a)(2) of this Chapter, the pharmacist-manager shall take the following actions before closing:

(1) Post a notice in a location conspicuous to the public of (a) which services the pharmacy has ceased providing, and (b) the date and time that the pharmacist-manager anticipates that the pharmacy will resume providing those services. The pharmacist-manager shall change the posted notice in the event that the pharmacist-manager determines that it is no longer accurate.

(2) Send an e-mail to [emergencyclosure@ncbop.org](mailto:emergencyclosure@ncbop.org) with the information provided in Paragraph (b)(1) of this Rule, including any changes to the required notice.

(3) Arrange for the Offer to transfer of any prescriptions at the patient’s request during any time when the pharmacy is not dispensing prescription drugs, and post a notice in a location conspicuous to the public of ~~the pharmacy to which prescriptions will be transferred and~~ the process for having those prescriptions transferred. This includes prescriptions that have been filled but not delivered before the pharmacy is closed. However, the pharmacy is not required to transfer prescriptions at any time at which there is no pharmacist or certified technician who is able to transfer prescriptions. [prescriptions, i.e., who] For the purposes of this rule, a pharmacist or certified technician is able to transfer prescriptions if that person either:

(A) is present at the pharmacy, or

(B) has remote access to the pharmacy’s systems, either because that person is employed by the pharmacy, or employed by a pharmacy with a remote medication order processing services arrangement with the closed pharmacy under Rule .1816 of this Section.

(c) In the event that the pharmacist-manager is unable to exercise the authority in this Rule, [unavailable,] a pharmacist who is on duty at the pharmacy has the responsibility and authority set out in Paragraph (a) of this Rule if the pharmacist follows the procedures set out in Paragraph (b) of this Rule.

(d) This Rule does not apply in the following circumstances:

(1) to permanent Permanent closures or to temporary closures lasting more than 14 consecutive days, which are instead governed by the provisions of Rule .2502(h) and (i) of this Section; Section.

1 ~~(2) This Rule further does not apply to pharmacies~~ Pharmacies located outside the State of North Carolina,  
2 which should follow any closure rules of their home ~~states; or states.~~

3 (3) During the duration of time when the Governor ~~[of the State of North Carolina]~~ or any county or  
4 municipality has declared a state of emergency in the pharmacy's location pursuant to Chapter 166A of the North  
5 Carolina General Statutes. ~~[any geographic area in the State of North Carolina.]~~

6 (e) In the event that the either (a) the pharmacist-manager suffers an emergency that renders the pharmacist-manager  
7 unable to exercise the responsibilities in Paragraph (b) of this Rule, or (b) the pharmacist-manager is unavailable and  
8 the only pharmacist(s) on duty suffers an emergency that renders the pharmacist unable to exercise the responsibilities  
9 in Paragraph (b) of this Rule, the exercise of the responsibilities in Paragraph (b) of this Rule shall be excused until  
10 such time as an employee authorized by the pharmacist-manager or permit holder can exercise those responsibilities.

11  
12 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-85.6, 90-85.15A, 90-85.21, 90-85.25, 90-85.32.*

13 *Eff. August 1, 2024.*

14