

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

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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 require a pharmacist to submit records, reports of accredited hours and
17 certificates of credit on a random basis pursuant to a 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.

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

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34 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-85.6; 90-85.17; 90-85.18;*
35 *Eff. January 1, 1985;*
36 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2008; April 1, 2005; August 1, 2004; August 1, 1998; September 1,*
37 *1993; May 1, 1989;*

1 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. October 3,*
2 *2017;*
3 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2018; August 1, 2024, ~~2018~~.*

1 21 NCAC 46 .2516 is adopted with changes as published in 38:15 NCR 972-973:

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3 **21 NCAC 46 .2516 EMERGENCY CLOSURE**

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

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

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

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

19 (3) Arrange for the Offer to transfer of any prescriptions at the patient’s request during any time when
20 the pharmacy is not dispensing prescription drugs, and post a notice in a location conspicuous to the
21 public of ~~the pharmacy to which prescriptions will be transferred and~~ the process for having those
22 prescriptions transferred. This includes prescriptions that have been filled but not delivered before
23 the pharmacy is closed. However, the pharmacy is not required to transfer prescriptions at any time
24 at which there is no pharmacist or certified technician who is able to transfer prescriptions, i.e., who
25 is present at the pharmacy or has remote access to the pharmacy’s systems, either because that
26 person is employed by the pharmacy, or employed by a pharmacy with a remote medication order
27 processing services arrangement with the closed pharmacy under Rule .1816 of this Section.

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

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

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

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

36 (3) During the duration of time when the Governor of the State of North Carolina or any county or
37 municipality has declared a state of emergency in any geographic area in the State of North Carolina.

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

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

8 Eff. August 1, 2024.

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