



Occupational Certificate: Pharmacist's Assistant (Post-Basic)

Empowering future pharmacy professionals



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Who Should Enrol?

The course is suitable for any person, whether employed in a pharmacy or not, and interested in pursuing a career in Pharmacy. The course will provide the learner with scientific knowledge and practical skills needed to perform the support functions in pharmacy. Completion of work experience hours in all sectors of Pharmacy ensure that the learner is trained as a generalist who can practice in any category of Pharmacy once qualified.

Duration of the Course

The Occupational Certificate: Pharmacist's Assistant (Post-basic) course is designed to be completed within 12-months. However, the learner has a maximum of 24-months to complete the course as per the South African Pharmacy Council (SAPC) rules.

Please note that if the learner did not finish the course with the Academy within the contractual 12-months, the learner will have to pay for a re-admission.

Admission Requirements

- Qualified (and registered) Pharmacist's Assistant (Basic) (either via the Revised course or Occupational Certificate course)
- Competence was proven in an External Integrative Summative Assessment (EISA) (Basic) conducted by the SAPC.

Course Details

- The Occupational Certificate: Pharmacist's Assistant (Post-basic) course is a hybrid that combines online distance and in-person training.
- The Occupational Certificate: Pharmacist's Assistant (Post-basic) course is divided into three components: **Knowledge Component (KC)**, **Practical Skills Component (PC)** and **Work Experience Component (WC)**.
- The **Knowledge Component** combines pre-recorded presentations (the learner works through the course material independently) and online real-time presentations with facilitators.
- The Summative Assessments (Examinations) are done in-person at the selected Training Laboratory (Carletonville, Cape Town, Pretoria and Durban).
- The **Practical Skills Component** is presented in-person in the selected Training Laboratory.
- The **Work Experience Component** consists of work-based hours that should be completed in an A-graded pharmaceutical facility under the supervision of a tutor/preceptor.

Course Content

Key:

KC = Knowledge Component

PC = Practical Component

WC = Work-Experience
Component

SA = Summative Assessment

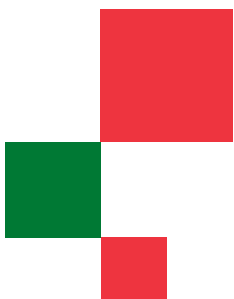
POE = Portfolio of Evidence

KM / PM / WM = Curriculum
Codes

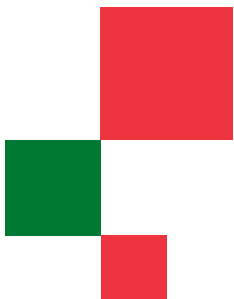
Occupational Certificate: Pharmacist's Assistant (Post-basic) Course:

STUDY UNIT		STUDY UNIT NAME	
PB01	Stock Management		
KC (KM-01)	4 credits = 40 notional learning hours	Lectures: Pre-recorded Audio-Visual Presentations for self-study Tutorials: 4 days x 1 hour tutorial per day	KC SA: 1 day: 2-hour paper
PC (PM-01)	6 credits = 60 notional learning hours	3 days of practical skills training in a training laboratory	PC SA: 1 day for 2 hours
WC (WM-01)	8 credits = 80 notional learning hours	9 days of work experience in an Institutional Pharmacy	SA of POE with Logbook and evidence
PB02	Compounding of Sterile & Non-Sterile Extemporaneous Preparations		
KC (KM-02)	4 credits = 40 notional learning hours	Lectures: Pre-recorded Audio-Visual Presentations for self-study Tutorials: 4 days x 1 hour tutorial per day	KC SA: 1 day: 2 sessions of 2-hour papers each
PC (PM-01)	6 credits = 60 notional learning hours	3 days of practical skills training in a training laboratory	PC SA: 1 day for 2 hours
WC (WM-01)	8 days of work experience in a Community Pharmacy	SA of POE with Logbook and evidence	

PB03	Non-sterile & Sterile Medicine Manufacture		
KC (KM-08)	6 credits = 60 notional learning hours	Lectures: Pre-recorded Audio-Visual Presentations for self-study Tutorials: 6 days x 1 hour tutorial per day	KC SA: 1 day: 2 sessions of 2-hour papers each
PC (PM-07)	8 credits = 80 notional learning hours	4 days of practical skills training in a training laboratory	PC SA: 1 day for 2 hours
WC (WM-04)	5 credits = 50 notional learning hours	8 days of work experience in a Manufacturing Pharmacy (simulated in atraining laboratory for learners not full- time employed in manufacturing)	SA of POE with Logbook and evidence
PB04	Administration & Housekeeping		
KC (KM-05)	3 credits = 30 notional learning hours	Lectures: Pre-recorded Audio-Visual Presentations for self-study Tutorials: 3 days x 1 hour tutorial per day	KC SA: 1 day: 1.5-hour paper
PC (PM-04)		2 days of practical skills training in a training laboratory	PC SA: 1 day for 2 hours
WC(WM-07)		4 days of work experience in a Community Pharmacy	SA of POE with Logbook and evidence
PB05	Anatomical Structures, Body Systems & Disorders, & Commonly Used Medicines		
KC (KM-15)	15 credits = 150 notional learning hours	Lectures: Pre-recorded Audio-Visual Presentations for self-study Tutorials: 315 days x 1 hour tutorial per day	KC SA: 2 days: 3-hour paper per day
PC (PM-12)		8 days of practical skills training in a training laboratory	PC SA: 2 days for 2 hours per day



PB06	Dispensing		
KC (KM-18)	12 credits = 120 notional learning hours	Lectures: Pre-recorded Audio-Visual Presentations for self-study Tutorials: 12 days x 1 hour tutorial per day	KC SA: 3 days: 2.5-hour paper per day
PC (PM-12)	14 credits = 140 notional learning hours	7 days of practical skills training in a training laboratory	PC SA: 1 day for 2 hours
WC (WM-12)	15 credits = 150 notional learning hours	19 days of work experience in either a Community or Institutional Pharmacy	SA of POE with Logbook and evidence
TOTAL (133 credits & 1330	KC: 44	PC: 52	WC: 37



In-Person Contact Time



- The applicant must travel to the selected Training Laboratory for the Summative Assessments (Examinations), Re-Assessments (if necessary), Practical Skills Training, and Manufacturing Simulation. In-person attendance at these academic events is mandatory.
- The applicant will bear the costs of travel, accommodation, and meals while attending these academic events.
- The Academic Calendar was designed to allow minimal travel to the Training Laboratory.
- The total contact in-person contact time is 44 days and is divided as follows:
 - Summative Assessments - Nine (9) Days (between 1 and 4 hours per day)
 - Practical Skills Training – Twenty-seven (27) Days (full days)
 - Practical Skills Assessment - Eight (8) Days (maximum 2 hours per day)



Work Experience Component (WC) Details

- Covers all required work-based learning across different pharmacy sectors.
- Learners must complete hours in multiple pharmacy categories.
- Host pharmacies must be **A-graded** by the SAPC but do **not** need SAPC training-facility status.
- Supervising pharmacists do not need tutor registration but must have **3+ years' experience**.
- The Academy arranges placements to ensure full sector exposure.
- Learners receive a **Portfolio of Evidence** to complete during WC.
- **Pos-basic Pharmacist's Assistant learners** complete **49 days** (8 hours/day):
 - Community (Retail) Pharmacy: **12 days**
 - Institutional (Hospital) Pharmacy: **10 days**
 - Primary Healthcare Clinic (PHC): **8 days**
 - Additional Community (Retail) or Institutional (Hospital) Pharmacy: **11 days**
 - Manufacturing Pharmacy or Simulation: **8 days**

Certification

After completing the course, the learner must complete the External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA) with the SAPC. Once competence is proven in the EISA, the SAPC will register the learner as a qualified Pharmacist's Assistant (Post-basic) and the Academy will provide the Completion Certificate.



The Occupational Certificate:
Pharmacist's Assistant (Post-basic) Fee for
2026 is R43 850

The fee includes the Academy Admin Fee
and course fee but not the
SAPC registration and the annual fee



Course Fees 2026

Occupational Certificate: Pharmacist's Assistant (Basic) fee layout and different options:

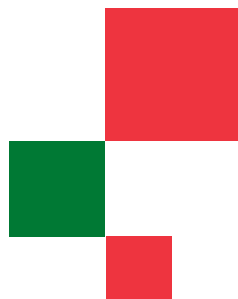
- The Academy's non-refundable Admin Fee of R500 (incl. VAT) is when applicants submit their initial documentation.
- The South African Pharmacy Council's (SAPC) 2026 registration and annual fee per learner. This amount should be paid to the Academy and NOT the SAPC. The Academy facilitates new registrations on behalf of the SAPC.

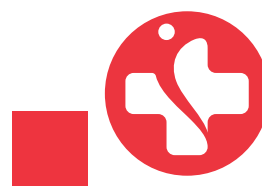
PAYMENT OPTION 1 (discount of 5%):

- Pay a deposit of R7 050 upon enrolment as per the acceptance letter.
- Pay the balance of R34 130 before the end of the enrolment month to qualify for a 5% discount on the course fees.
- Total course fee: $R41\ 680 = R500 + (R7\ 050 + R34\ 130)$
- Plus 2026 SAPC fees

PAYMENT OPTION 2:

- Pay a deposit of R7 050 upon enrolment as per the acceptance letter.
- Pay eleven (11) consecutive monthly payments of R3 200 each (commencing at the end of the start date month per the acceptance letter).
- Total plan: $R43\ 850 = R500 + R7\ 050 + (11 \times R3\ 300)$
- Plus 2026 SAPC fees





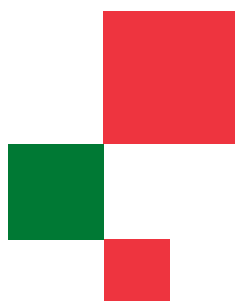
Terms and Conditions are Applicable

The course fee includes:

- Online SAPC learner registration process.
- Hard copy study guides and full access to the e-learning platform (formative assessments, electronic guides, pre-recorded content, tutorial and practical recordings, and WC explanations).
- Automated academic reminder emails.
- Compounding box (basic & post-basic) and personalised lab coat (grey: basic, white: post-basic).
- USB with all pre-recorded KC presentations.
- Real-time Zoom tutorials and Summative Assessments for all KC.
- PC training at the Training Laboratory, including formative, summative, and first reassessment.
- WC placement (community/institutional) where required, plus Manufacturing Pharmacy simulation.
- First-time assessment of the WC Portfolio.
- Study period allowance:
 - Post-basic: 12 months (extendable to 24 months at an additional fee).
- Uploading of the Statement of Results to the SAPC website for EISA application.

The course fee does not include:

- SAPC learner registration and annual fees.
- Laptop and data required for e-learning and Zoom tutorials.
- Travel, catering, and accommodation for practical training.
- Reassessment fees for KC or WC Portfolio (beyond the first included practical reassessment).
- EISA (Post-basic) examination fee.





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