

Information on the theory examination for pharmacists with foreign qualifications

Registering for the theory examination

- Examination dates are offered at least twice a year. Information on the exact dates can be found on the Baden-Württemberg State Chamber of Pharmacists (Landesapothekerkammer Baden-Württemberg – LAK BW)
- To register for the exam, please contact:
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E-Mail: denise.kohler@lak-bw.de
Landesapothekerkammer Baden-Württemberg
Villastrasse 1
70193 Stuttgart
- Please present the following documents on your examination date:
 - Admission to the exam by the Stuttgart Regional Council (Regierungspräsidium Stuttgart)
 - Valid original photo ID, e.g., identity card, passport, etc.
- **Retaking the exam:** The theory exam can be repeated twice. The repeat exam covers all three exam subjects.
- **Exam fee:** € 500.00
- **Withdrawal after registration for the exam:** You will be charged a processing fee of 100 € if you withdraw from the exam before the exam date and the reason for the withdrawal is considered as valid. The exam fee of 500 € will be due in full if you fail to attend the exam without informing us beforehand or if you do not have a valid and important reason for withdrawing from the exam. In case of illness, you have to provide a medical certificate to prove that you were unable to sit for the exam.

The theory exam covers the subjects Pharmaceutical Practice and Special Legal Fields for Pharmacists as well as on one of the subjects with substantial differences to the conditions set out in § 4 (2) of the Federal Pharmacists' Regulations (Bundes-Apothekerordnung). The theory exam does not correspond to the third part of the pharmaceutical exam ("3rd State Exam"). Pursuant to § 22d of the German Licensing Regulations for Pharmacists (Approbationsordnung), the theory exam always covers three exam subjects. For detailed information on your exam subjects and the contents of the exam, please refer to the letter the Stuttgart Regional Council sent you in regards to your theory exam. In the exam the applicant demonstrates that he or she has the knowledge and skills required to work as a pharmacist.

The theory exam is an oral exam in German. The duration of the exam is 30 to 60 minutes.

How to prepare for your exam

Please bear in mind that everybody has their own way of learning and that these recommendations cannot guarantee a preparation that is tailored to your needs. The individual measures recommended below often only cover parts of the exam and in some cases do not cover all three subjects of the theory exam.

Permit to practice the pharmacist profession (Berufserlaubnis)

If you have completed your training in a third country (not EU, EEA country or Switzerland), we urgently recommend that you take the opportunity to apply for a permit to practice the pharmacist profession (Berufserlaubnis) before applying for a licence (Approbation). The permit to practice the pharmacist profession (Berufserlaubnis) allows you to start working as a pharmacist under supervision and in this way to prepare for the exam. If you would like to proceed in this way, please contact the Stuttgart Regional Council (https://rp.badenwuerttemberg.de/Themen/Gesundheit/Seiten/Apotheker_Ausland.aspx)

The LAK job market might be helpful for finding a job:
www.lakbw.de/service/apotheke/stellenmarkt.html

Shadow-working in a pharmacy / assistance with commercial activities in the pharmaceutical field

If you have studied pharmaceuticals abroad and have not yet obtained a permit to practice the pharmacist profession (Berufserlaubnis) or licence (Approbation), you cannot practice pharmaceutical work pursuant to § 1a(3) Pharmacy Operations Ordinance (Apothekenbetriebsordnung). You can in this case therefore not complete a "pharmacy internship". You can, however, apply for a shadow working in a pharmacy in order to familiarize yourself with the activities of the pharmaceutical staff (without carrying out yourself). Alternatively, you can help out in the pharmaceutical-commercial area.

Accompanying courses

The Baden-Württemberg State Chamber of Pharmacists offers you the opportunity to attend the exam preparation courses "Special Areas of Law for Pharmacists" and "Pharmaceutical Practice", which are accompanying courses for pharmacists in practical training. These courses focus on pharmaceutical practice and special areas of law. Online registration is required. Participation is only possible if you have passed the C1 occupational language examination. Dates and information on registration can be found on our website: www.lak-bw.de/ausfort-weiterbildung/ausbildung/begleitende-unterrichtsveranstaltungen/anmeldung
Please note that there are two modules with different topics. We recommend that you to attend both modules.

AOPRAX

The AOPRAX courses are another free offer of the Baden-Württemberg Chamber. They take place in Freiburg, Heidelberg, Karlsruhe and Reutlingen every six weeks. Information on the AOPRAX courses is available on our website: www.lakbw.de/aus-fort-weiterbildung/ausbildung/apotheker/pharmazeutische-arbeitszirkel
Dates can be requested directly from the contact persons of the respective unit.

eLearning, media library and further education of the Baden-Württemberg State Chamber of Pharmacists

The Baden-Württemberg State Chamber of Pharmacists offers pharmaceutical training courses and conferences. Dates and topics can be found in the course schedule: www.lak-bw.de/ausfortweiterbildung/fortbildung/seminarplan

In addition, members have access to free online courses, i.e. advanced training courses which you can attend live on your computer/smartphone. Dates and topics can also be found in the course schedule. Registration is required. Other possibilities to advance your training online are the eLearning platform of the LAK BW (www.lak-bw.de/ausfortweiterbildung/fortbildung/fortbildung-im-netz/onlinefortbildung/elearning-arzneimittelbezogeneprobleme.html) and the LAK media-library (<https://www.lak-bw.de/ausfortweiterbildung/fortbildung/lak-mediathek.html>).

Attending lectures at universities

In order to prepare specifically for the subjects Pharmaceutical/Medical Chemistry, Pharmaceutical Biology, Pharmaceutical Technology, Pharmacology or Clinical Pharmaceutics, you can attend the corresponding courses at the pharmaceutical institutes in Baden-Württemberg. To attend lectures, you need to apply for admission as an auditing student. If you wish to attend seminars, you also need to make the arrangement the respective contact persons at the pharmaceutical institutes.

Pharmaceutics is taught at the universities of Freiburg, Heidelberg and Tübingen.

Freiburg

Institute of Pharmaceutics: <http://portal.uni-freiburg.de/pharmazie>

Public course catalogue:

<https://campus.unifreiburg.de/qisserver/pages/cs/sys/portal/subMenu.faces?navigationPosition=studiesOffered>

Information for auditing students: www.wb.uni-freiburg.de/gast/gasthoerende

Heidelberg

Institute of Pharmaceutics: www.ipmb.uni-heidelberg.de

Public course catalogue:

<https://lsf.uniheidelberg.de/qisserver/rds?state=wtree&search=1&trex=total&root120201=1178431115062|114364|114307&P.vx=mittel>

Tübingen

Institute of Pharmaceutics: www.uni-tuebingen.de/fakultaeten/mathematischnaturwissenschaftliche-fakultaet/fachbereiche/pharmazie-und-biochemie/pharmazie

Public course catalogues:

https://alma.unituebingen.de/alma/pages/cm/exa/coursecatalog/showCourseCatalog.xhtml?_flowId=showCourseCatalog-flow&_flowExecutionKey=e3s1

Information for auditing students: www.uni-tuebingen.de/studium/bewerbung-und-zulassung/spezielle-bewerbungen/gasthoerer

Intensive courses

The intensive courses offered by the various providers usually comprise daily tuition for a period of four to seven months. Some of the courses can be subsidized through education vouchers issued by the employment and job centres. For more information, please contact the providers.

- mibeg-Institut Medizin: Intensive Pharmacy Seminar
 - www.mibeg.de/medizin/intensivseminar-pharmazie/
 - Seminar takes place in Cologne

- Sprachlabor Hannover: Preparation for the theory exam for foreign pharmacists
 - <https://www.sprachlabor-hannover.de/produkt/vorbereitung-auf-die-kenntnispruefung-fuer-apothekerinnen-aus-dem-ausland/>
 - Online-course with combined with in-person sessions in Hanover

- Interkulturelles Centrum Freiburg
 - <https://www.icf-centrum.de/angebot/qualifizierungsprogramme/kurse-fuer-apothekerinnen/basislehrgang-vorbereitung-auf-die-kenntnispruefung-pharmazie/>
 - Course takes place in Freiburg

- FIA: Preparation for the theory exam in pharmaceuticals
 - <https://www.fia-academy.de/de/qualifizierungen/kompaktkurs-vorbereitung-auf-die-kenntnispruefung-pharmazie>
 - Course takes place in Frankfurt

- DAA Stuttgart: ApoVK
 - <https://daa-stuttgart.de/>
 - Contact: Katrin Neuber, Tel.: 0711-12030977
 - Course takes place in Stuttgart

- Berliner Gesellschaft für Integration mbH: Course for pharmacists
 - www.bgi-berlin.de
 - Course takes place in Berlin

- „APO-Online Professional“– Preparation course for the theory exam for immigrated pharmacists
 - www.iq-thueringen.de/alle-projekte/apo-online
 - Online course with in-person session in Weimar

Ravati Seminars

Ravati Seminare GmbH offers crash courses in various subjects. An overview of courses and dates can be found under: www.ravati.de

Online studies / online tutoring

There are various learning platforms that cover the content of pharmaceutical studies in a compact and partly interactive way. The learning platforms are subject to a fee.

Avoxa Student Club / Online Platform Pharma4u

Members of the student club have access to the online platform Pharma4u, as well as to the Univox-LernApp, they receive a free textbook and they are granted discounts for the Ravati courses.

The Pharma4u online platform offers a forum where you can ask questions, exam training for all examination subjects in the form of virtual flashcards, reference books and web seminars (live and recorded) on topics from pharmacology and pharmaceutical practice:

www.studenten-club.me

PharmaNavi

Learning platform aimed primarily at pharmaceuticals students, but also including exam training for the subjects Pharmaceutical Practice and Special Legal Areas for Pharmacists: www.pharmanavi.de

Pharmazing

Pharmazing offers individual online tutoring. Subject dates and time can be selected according to your requirements www.pharmazing.de

Book recommendations (always in the most recent edition)

Pharmaceutical Practice:

- Allgemeinpharmazie (Schäfer)
- Prüfungstrainer (Piening)
- Pharmazie für die Praxis (Gebler/Kindl)
- Professional publications (z.B. Pharmazeutische Zeitung, Deutsche Apotheker Zeitung)

Special legal areas for pharmacists:

- Prüfungstrainer (Piening)
- Gesetzkunde für Apotheker (Kurz)
- Pharmazeutische Gesetzkunde (Hügel/Mecking/Kohm)

Clinical pharmaceuticals:

- Lehrbuch der Klinischen Pharmazie (Jaehde et al.)
- Angewandte Pharmakotherapie (Rose/Friedland)
- Mutschler Arzneimittelwirkungen (Mutschler/Geisslinger/Kroemer/Menzel/Ruth)

Pharmacology:

- Mutschler Arzneimittelwirkungen (Mutschler/Geisslinger/Kroemer/Menzel/Ruth)

Medical/pharmaceutical chemistry:

- Medizinische Chemie (Steinhilber, Dieter / Schubert-Zsilavec, Manfred / Roth, Hermann J)
- Jander/Blasius, Anorganische Chemie I und II (Schweda, Eberhard)
- Arzneistoffanalyse (Eger/Troschütz/Roth)
- Beyer/Walter, Organische Chemie (Schirmeister/Schmuck/Wich)

Pharmaceutical biology:

- Pharmazeutische Biologie 2 (Wagner/Vollmar/Bechthold)
- Biogene Arzneimittel (Teuscher/Melzig/Lindequist)

Pharmaceutical technology/bio pharmacology Biopharmazie:

- Bauer/Frömming/Führer: Pharmazeutische Technologie
- Voigt: Pharmazeutische Technologie

These recommendations are suggestions only and by no means exhaustive.