

New Graduate WPQC FAQs

What is WPQC?

The Wisconsin Pharmacy Quality Collaborative (WPQC) is a group consisting of both pharmacists and health plan/purchaser representatives dedicated to creating a pharmacy quality project that aligns incentives for both pharmacists and payers. The goals of WPQC include improving medication use by patients, improved patient safety via decreased number of medication errors and adverse drug events, reduced health care costs for payers, and professional recognition and compensation for pharmacy practice services that improve the use and safety of medications.

If you are planning to work or complete a residency in community pharmacy, there is a good possibility that your pharmacy will be WPQC-accredited and want you to become a WPQC-certified pharmacist. For more information about WPQC, please see the Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin (PSW) website at www.pswi.org.

How do I become WPQC-certified?

If you did not become certified as a student, you can register to become WPQC-certified through the PSW website. There is a homestudy course that must be completed prior to certification as a WPQC pharmacist. Also, you must have an NPI number and be associated with a WPQC-accredited pharmacy in order to bill for services. If you are unsure if your practice site is WPQC-accredited, talk to the pharmacy manager at that site. Regardless of your PSW member status, you must pay a \$50 fee to become WPQC-certified. You will receive the WPQC Clinical Pocketbook Toolkits with your registration (a \$220 value).

I became WPQC-certified during my fourth year of pharmacy school; what do I have to do after graduation?

If you completed the WPQC homestudy and certification process during your fourth year of pharmacy school, you do not need to retake the WPQC homestudy course. However, please update your PSW account information to include your NPI number and the WPQC-accredited pharmacy that you are associated with. Regardless of your PSW member status, you must pay a reduced \$50 fee to become WPQC-certified. You will receive the WPQC Clinical Pocketbook Toolkits with your registration (a \$220 value).

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What happens after the first year?

There is an annual fee to remain WPQC-certified. The annual certification fee for non-PSW members is \$150 and for PSW members is \$50. Currently, there is no additional professional development required. If there are any significant changes or updates to the WPQC process, WPQC will notify all WPQC-certified pharmacists of changes or additional training that may be needed.

How do I become a PSW member?

As a recent graduate, PSW offers you a complimentary PSW membership for your first year of practice. You will receive an e-mail in the spring extending the invitation to join or renew your PSW membership at no cost to you. You are highly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. PSW also offers discounted rates for your second and third year as a new practitioner to encourage you to stay involved with PSW.

Contact Information:

For any questions related to the WPQC program or registration, please contact the PSW main office at 608-827-9200.

