

THE GENERAL PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL (REGISTRATION AND RENEWAL FEES) RULES 2023

EXPLANATORY NOTE

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This document is to be read alongside the General Pharmaceutical Council (Registration and Renewal Fees) Rules 2023 (“the Rules”). It provides an explanation of the provisions in the Rules and has been prepared to assist understanding of the purpose and the effect of the changes to fees the Rules will introduce.
- 1.2 The Rules are made by the General Pharmaceutical Council by powers under Article 36 of the Pharmacy Order 2010 as amended. Article 19 of the Pharmacy Order 2010 requires a register of pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and pharmaceutical premises to be established and maintained (“the Register”), with the following articles making further provision as to registration. Article 36 permits the General Pharmaceutical Council to make rules with respect to the charging of fees in connection with:
- 1.2.1 an application for entry into the Register;
 - 1.2.2 an application for an annotation for an entry the Register;
 - 1.2.3 a renewal of an entry in the Register;
 - 1.2.4 an application to restore an entry to the Register; and
 - 1.2.5 other fees.
- 1.3 These Rules are intended to revoke and replace The General Pharmaceutical Council (Registration and Renewal Fees) Rules 2015 (“the 2015 Rules”) previously made under Article 36 of the Pharmacy Order 2010. The 2015 Rules were amended in 2019 and 2020.
- 1.4 The purpose of replacing the 2015 Rules is to implement a 7.5% increase in fees. Given the number of changes, the fee increase is being implemented through a new set of Rules, rather than by amending the 2015 Rules.
- 1.5 The principal changes in the Rules are to the levels of the fees. Changes have also been made to the scrutiny fees previously charged in relation to applications for registration by pharmacists and pharmacy technicians from the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland. These reflect changes to the legislative framework following the UK’s exit from the European Union, and are explained in more detail below.

2 Structure of the Rules

- 2.1 The Rules are structured in four key parts:

- 2.1.1 Part 1 of the Rules contains general provisions relating to the citation, commencement, interpretation of the Rules and the revocation of The General Pharmaceutical Council (Registration and Renewal Fees) 2015 (the “2015 Rules”).
- 2.1.2 Parts 2-4 of the Rules relate to fees respectively of pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and pharmaceutical premises being entered or removed from the Register.
- 2.1.3 Part 2 of the Rules contains the rules pertaining to fees for registered pharmacists.
- 2.1.4 Part 3 of the Rules contains the rules pertaining to fees for registered pharmacy technicians.
- 2.1.5 Part 4 of the Rules contains the rules pertaining to pharmaceutical premises.
- 2.1.6 Further detail regarding the fees contained in each Part is set out in the table in Schedule 1 of this note.

3 Fee changes in the 2023 Rules

- 3.1 The Rules seek to increase the fees set out in the 2015 Rules by 7.5%. The fees charged under the Rules will be increased as listed in the table at Schedule 1.
- 3.2 The Rules do not contain the scrutiny fees which were charged under the 2015 Rules to pharmacists or pharmacy technicians with qualifications from the EEA and Switzerland who were applying for registration. This reflects the fact that the legislative framework under which these professional qualifications are recognised in the UK has changed since the UK's exit from the EU. The system for recognition of professional qualifications currently in place is an interim solution. It is anticipated that the Government will introduce a new framework for the recognition of professional qualifications from the EEA and Switzerland later this year. Once this new framework is in place, the General Pharmaceutical Council may propose amendments to the Rules in order to reintroduce scrutiny fees where appropriate.

SCHEDULE 1

TABLE OF PROPOSED FEE INCREASES

Part in Rules/ Registrant Group	Fee type	Relevant Fee Rule	Fee amount in 2015 Rules	Fee amount in 2023 Rules after 7.5% increase
	GB or overseas applicant			
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Pharmacist renewal/ First entry fee	Rule 5; Rule 9 (1)	£257	£276
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Pharmacist application & upgrade fees	Rule 4 (2); Rule 4 (4) a; Rule 11 (1)	£106	£114
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Annotation fee / restoration following VR	Rule 6 (2); Rule 11 (2)	£57	£61
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Restoration of annotation for non-compliance / non-renewal	Rule 6 (3); Rule 11 (3)	£191	£205
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Certificate of Professional Standing fee	Rule 12 (2)	£81	£87
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Replacement of a notice	Rule 12 (1)	£15	£16
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Reprocessing a rejected payment	Rule 13 (1)	£20	£22
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Processing application returned for further information	Rule 13 (2)	£48	£52
	EEA automatic recognition applicant			
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Application fee	Rule 4 (2)	£106	£114
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Entry fee	Rule 8 (1)	£257	£276
	EEA non-automatic recognition applicant			
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Application fee	Rule 4 (2)	£106	£114
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Entry fee	Rule 8 (1)	£257	£276
	Restoration			
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Restoration of entry fee	Rule 10 (1)	£106	£114
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Removal for failure to meet revalidation requirements (non-compliance)	Rule 9 (5)	£573	£616
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Removal for failure to renew	Rule 9 (3) (a); Rule 9 (4) (a)	£399	£429
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Voluntary removal, within one month of the removal date	Rule 9 (2) (a)	£399	£429
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Voluntary removal one month or more after the removal date	Rule 9 2 (b)	£144	£155
	Return to practice			
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Restoration of entry fee	Rule 10 (1)	£106	£114
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Application fee for FtP removal	Rule 4 (4) (b)	£573	£616
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Application fee for non-compliance	Rule 4 (4) (b)	£573	£616
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Application fee for non-renewal	Rule 4 (4) (c)	£399	£429

Part in Rules/ Registrant Group	Fee type	Relevant Fee Rule	Fee amount in 2015 Rules	Fee amount in 2023 Rules after 7.5% increase
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Application fee for voluntary removal	Rule 4 (4) (a)	£106	£114
	RPSGB disciplinary application			
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Entry fee	Rule 5	£250	£269
Part 2/ Pharmacist	Application fee	Rule 4 (2)	£429	£461
	GB or overseas applicant			
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Application fee	Rule 14 (2);	£106	£114
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Pharmacy technician renewal/ First entry fee	Rule 15; Rule 17 (1)	£121	£130
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Certificate of Professional Standing fee	Rule 20 (2)	£81	£87
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Replacement of a notice	Rule 20 (1)	£15	£16
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Reprocessing a rejected payment	Rule 21 (1)	£20	£22
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Processing application returned for further information	Rule 21 (2)	£48	£52
	EEA applicant			
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Application fee	Rule 15	£106	£114
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Entry fee	Rule 19 (1)	£121	£130
	Restoration			
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Entry fee	Rule 19 (1)	£106	£114
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Application fee for FtP removal	Rule 18	£301	£324
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Application fee for non-compliance	Rule 14 (b); Rule 18 (4) (b); Rule 18 (5)	£301	£324
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Application fee for non-renewal	Rule 18 2 (a) ; 18 4 (a)	£202	£217
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Application fee for voluntary removal	Rule 18 2 (b)	£12	£13
	Return to practice			
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Entry fee	Rule 14 (2)	£106	£114
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Application fee for non-compliance	Rule 18 (5) (a)	£301	£324
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Application fee for non-renewal	Rule 18 (3)	£202	£217

Part in Rules/ Registrant Group	Fee type	Relevant Fee Rule	Fee amount in 2015 Rules	Fee amount in 2023 Rules after 7.5% increase
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Application fee for voluntary removal	Rule 14 (4) (a)	£12	£13
	RPSGB disciplinary application			
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Entry fee	Rule 19 (1)	£121	£130
Part 3/ Pharmacy Technicians	Application fee	Rule 14 (3)	£294	£316
	New Application			
Part 4/ Premises	Premises registration fee	Rule 22 (1);	£590	£634
Part 4/ Premises	Premises renewal/First entry fee	Rule 24; Rule 27 (1) a)	£365	£392
Part 4/ Premises	Reprocessing a rejected payment	Rule 31 (1)	£20	£22
Part 4/ Premises	Processing application returned for further information	Rule 31 (2)	£48	£52
	Restoration			
Part 4/ Premises	Entry fee	Rule 29 (1)	£106	£114
Part 4/ Premises	Application fee for non-compliance	Rule 23(4); Rule 28 (3)	£714	£768
Part 4/ Premises	Application for non-renewal	Rule 23 (5); Rule 28 (3)	£714	£768
Part 4/ Premises	Application fee for non-payment	Rule 23 (2); Rule 28 (3)	£714	£768
Part 4/ Premises	Application fee for voluntary removal	Rule 23 (3); Rule 28 (2)	£135	£145
Part 4/ Premises	Restoration of annotation	Rule 25; Rule 30 (1)	£57	£61
	Transfer of ownership			
Part 4/ Premises	Transfer of ownership fee	Rule 31 (3)	£79	£85