

American Pharmacists Association Executive Residency Program

Learning Experience	Board of Pharmacy Specialties (BPS)
Type/length	Core – Longitudinal (12 months)
Primary Preceptor	Brian Lawson, Associate Executive Director
Secondary Preceptors	William Ellis, Executive Director
Current Resident	Aneesh Asokan Aasokan@aphanet.org

Learning Experience Description

BPS was established in 1976 as an autonomous division APhA. The mission of BPS is to improve patient care by positioning BPS Board-Certified Pharmacist Specialists as integral members of multidisciplinary healthcare teams, through recognition and promotion of specialized training, knowledge, and skills for pharmacists in the United States and internationally. Board certification is a recognized credential for determining which pharmacists are qualified to contribute at advanced practice levels given the rigorous standards mandated by BPS board certification and recertification. BPS currently recognizes more than 50,000 active pharmacist certifications in 14 specialties.

The [Board of Pharmacy Specialties](#) (BPS) learning experience provides a unique opportunity for residents to gain insight on the purpose, impact, and value of certification. During the experience, residents will be exposed to high priority issues within the professional pharmacy landscape from the perspective of a certification agency and with a focus on specialization and advanced practice both in the U.S. and internationally. While integrated as a collaborative member on the Professional Affairs, Communications and Engagement (PACE) team, residents will engage internally with the other BPS teams (e.g., operations and logistics; psychometrics, testing, and research; and quality assurance) and externally with volunteer leaders, subject matter experts and other stakeholders. Residents will enhance knowledge and skills in communications and project management by engaging in topic discussions, participating in meetings, and contributing to strategic goals and initiatives.

Residents can expect experiences, projects, and topics discussion opportunities in the following areas (including those that identify the intersections of association management principles with certification accreditation standards):

- Governance and Planning
 - Understand the purpose, structure, and certification programs of BPS as well as its relationship with APhA and other professional societies (e.g., CCP, PCC, ACPE)
 - Compare and contrast BPS certification programs with other certification programs in pharmacy and in healthcare, including the terms related to certificate program and certification
 - Participate in strategic planning and contribute to the development of new specialty areas
 - Lead/support Board Nominations and Weaver-Penna Award committee activities
 - Gain a unique understanding of how various boards interact and operate with their departments
- Professional Affairs, Communications and Engagement (PACE) team interactions
 - Contribute/support professional development program initiatives
 - Monitor for contemporary approaches and best practices in adult learning
 - Lead/support Specialty Councils nominations program activities
 - Lead and create communication, content marketing, social media campaigns
 - Respond to internal and external requests and inquiries
 - Implement a new program, model, or practice for engagement
 - Represent BPS during internal and external meetings, committees and workgroups
 - Contribute/support the BPS ambassador program
 - Monitor emerging issues in the professional certification environment
 - Track regulatory issues related to certification, credentialing and privileging
 - Monitor state board of pharmacy activities related to BPS
- Operations, Registration, Meetings and Logistics
 - Understand the registration and eligibility processes for certification and recertification
 - Contribute/support in BPS meetings and event planning
- Psychometrics, Testing, and Research
 - Understand key terms related to psychometrics and testing activities
 - Contribute/support PGY2 Seed Grant program activities
 - Participate in job analyses activities
 - Analyze old and new content outline(s)



American Pharmacists Association

- Quality Assurance and Accreditation Standards
 - Understand the key differences between NCCA and ISO 17024 accreditation standards
 - Develop/update standard operating procedures (SOP)
- Miscellaneous
 - Participate in layered precepting with students completing APPE rotations at BPS
 - Network with pharmacy leaders and subject matter experts in both APhA and BPS
 - Participate in interdepartmental rotations within APhA (e.g., Government Affairs, Pharmacy Practice, Education)