

The European Directives concerning the free movement of pharmacists in the European Economic Area (EEA) allow a person to register as a pharmacist in Northern Ireland (provided that the standard requirements for registration are fulfilled) if they are:

A national of a Member State of the EEA (or, if not, are entitled to be treated as such) in good standing with their professional authority in their Member State

and EITHER

Have a qualification in pharmacy from a Member State of the EEA which is listed in the Annex to Directive 85/433/EEC (or if not listed, is regarded as comparable to the qualification listed in the Annex) and which complies with all the Minimum Training Requirements described in Directive 85/432/EEC.

OR

Have a qualification in pharmacy from a Member State of the EEA which was granted (or at least started) before the implementation date of Training Directive 85/432/EEC in that Member State and have worked in a Member State in an activity reserved to pharmacists and referred to in Article 1(2) of Directive 85/432/EEC (which is also an activity regulated by that Member State) for at least 3 consecutive years during the five years preceding the award of the certificate, This is the 'acquired rights provision of Article 6 of Directive 85/433/EEC.

For the qualification to comply with Minimum Training Requirements the course leading to the qualification must cover a period of at least 5 years in total and comprise at least 4 years at university and at least 6 months of in-service training in a pharmacy open to the public or in a hospital under the supervision of the pharmaceutical department of the hospital. Furthermore the in-service training should be full-time, should take place towards the end of the overall course and be completed before obtaining the right to practise pharmacy.

To qualify for 'acquired rights' you must have been 'effectively and lawfully engaged in one of the activities referred to in Article 1 (2) of Directive 85/432/EEC in a Member State for at least 3 consecutive years during the last 5 years preceding the award of the certificate, provided that the activity is regulated in that State



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