



PSAM

Launched in 2005, the Pharmacist Self-Assessment Mechanism® (PSAM®) is an evaluation tool intended to assist pharmacists in obtaining objective, nonpunitive feedback on their knowledge base.

- ✓ The PSAM is based on a blueprint, divided into five major competency areas, and is applicable to general pharmacy practitioners in most practice settings.
- ✓ The PSAM blueprint covers competencies in:
 - Pharmaceutical care
 - Preparation and dispensing of medications and devices
- ✓ The PSAM consists of 100 multiple-choice questions divided into three sections of equal length. Each question is assigned to one of the five competency areas, and the questions are evenly distributed throughout all three sections.
- ✓ Each section of the assessment can be completed in as little as one hour and a maximum of three hours per section is allowed. Once started, the PSAM must be completed within 30 days.
- ✓ At the end of each section, participants have the option of entering into a feedback loop, which will display each question, the answer selected, the correct answer, a brief rationale justifying the correct answer, and references from which additional information relating to the topic can be obtained.
- ✓ Pharmacists who complete all three sections of the PSAM will receive a Record of Completion and an unidentified Achievement Report indicating the percentage of questions answered correctly in each of the five content areas as well as the overall percentage of questions answered correctly.
- ✓ The cost of the PSAM is \$75.
- ✓ Prior to exiting the PSAM, participants are asked to respond to an Exit Evaluation.
- ✓ To take the PSAM, a computer running either Microsoft Windows or Mac OS operating system software is required.

States Offer CPE Credit for PSAM

The following six states offer continuing pharmacy education credit for completing the PSAM:

- California (6 hours)
- Minnesota (6 hours)
- Idaho (4 hours)
- Nevada (4 hours)
- Wyoming (4 hours)
- Tennessee (3 hours)