

# 2963



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LAKE ERIE COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE • SCHOOL OF PHARMACY  
Office of the Dean

September 28, 2012

Kerry E. Maloney  
Board Counsel  
State Board of Pharmacy  
P. O. Box 2649  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

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Dear Mr. Maloney,

I wanted to write in regards to *Pennsylvania Bulletin*, Reference No. 16A-5424 (pharmacy internship) and applaud the Board in their proposal to decrease the hourly requirement of independently-earned intern hours from 750 hours to 500 hours in order to license as a pharmacist in the Commonwealth.

As a three-year accelerated pathway, this will greatly enhance the ability of our students to still earn their required hours from an independent employer while focusing on their studies. We are confident that along with their experiential rotations, the 500 hr requirement will still produce the highest quality Pennsylvania pharmacist.

This change also assists LECOM/Millcreek Health System in recruiting out of state residents to our residency program. Many of these residents need to acquire non-school hours once arriving in order to achieve PA licensure. Decreasing the independent hour requirement will allow them to license as pharmacists, gain valuable staffing experience, and make full contributions to the healthcare team faster.

In closing, I would like to thank you for actively reviewing and updating regulations with ACPE's accreditation requirements in mind. It is rewarding to have such a collaborative Board to work with.

Sincerely,

Hershey S. Bell, MD, MS, FAAFP  
Professor, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean  
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