

What is the Clinical Skills CompetitionSM (CSC)?

The CSC provides student pharmacists the opportunity to apply their didactic education and clinical knowledge in an interactive, team-based analysis of clinical scenarios, including but not limited to a particular practice setting, disease state or type of drug therapy.

CSC Objectives:

The objectives of the CSC include but are not limited to the following:

- Provide a written assessment, formatted as the Pharmacists' Care Plan, within two-hour time limit
 - Include list of health care problems, problem prioritization as well as therapeutic goals, recommendations for therapy, monitoring parameters and therapeutic endpoints for each problem
- Provide an oral presentation within two-minute time limit
 - Include names, school of pharmacy, brief summary of the patient's condition, listing all health care problems that require immediate attention and a complete treatment plan for the most urgent problem, including therapeutic goals, recommendations for therapy, monitoring parameters and therapeutic endpoints
- Provide answers to questions posed by the panel of judges within eight-minute time limit

CSC Student Eligibility:

- *For the Local CSC:* Any student, who has not practiced as a licensed pharmacist, and who attends a full-time ACPE-accredited (including "candidate" status) Doctor of Pharmacy program.
- *For the National CSC:* Any ASHP student member, who has not practiced as a licensed pharmacist, and who attends a full-time ACPE-accredited (including "candidate" status) Doctor of Pharmacy program. Only one team of two students may compete at the national competition per ACPE-accreditation.

Local CSC Rules:

The rules of the Local CSC include but are not limited to the following:

- Students compete in teams of two persons
- Permissible resources include but are not limited to the following:
 - Electronic database references, such as AccessPharmacy, UpToDate[®] Lexidrug[™], etc.
 - Internet access
- Provisions of the Local Clinical Skills Competition may include but are not limited to the following:
 - Additional reference texts

National CSC Rules:

The rules of the National Clinical Skills Competition include but is not limited to the following:

- Students compete in teams of two persons; only one team per ACPE-accreditation may compete at the national competition
- The semi-final round (written care plans) takes place at the Midyear Clinical Meeting on the Saturday before the meeting officially begins and is only open to the winning teams of the Local Clinical Skills Competition who are current ASHP members
- Permissible resources for the semi-final round include but are not limited to the following:
 - Electronic database references (AccessPharmacy and UpToDate[®] Lexidrug[™] are provided at the national competition)
 - Internet access

****Note: Students are encouraged to bring a personal laptop and/or tablet (max. 2 per team) to the national competition for the purposes of conducting research. The use of AI, personal/classroom notes, or collaborative documents are prohibited.***
- The final round (oral presentations) takes place at the Midyear Clinical Meeting on the Sunday before the meeting officially begins and is only open to the top ten teams from the semi-final round

Frequently Asked Questions:

- **What is the winner of the Local Clinical Skills Competition rewarded?**
The winning team of the Local Clinical Skills Competition receives free registration to the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting (per the eligibility requirements noted above).
- **What is the winner of the National Clinical Skills Competition rewarded?**
Members of the top ten finalist teams receive a 3-year subscription to UpToDate[®] Lexidrug[™], a \$100 Amazon gift card, and a choice of an ASHP Self-Assessment Resource. Members of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place teams receive cash awards (\$500, \$250, and \$100 per member respectively). The 1st place team also receives individual trophies and one large trophy for their school or college of pharmacy.
- **When and where is the National Clinical Skills Competition held?**
The 2025 National Clinical Skills Competition will be held during the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting & Exhibition in Orlando, Florida from Dec. 5-6, 2026.
- **How do I get started?**
Contact your local CSC Coordinator(s) at your school/college of pharmacy to register!

For Questions and More Information:

Please refer to the [ASHP Clinical Skills Competition Student Handbook](#) or [Answers to Common CSC Questions](#) on the ASHP website (www.ashp.org/clinicalskills) for more information. Please contact students@ashp.org with any questions.