

# PHARMACY TECHNICIAN INDUSTRY FACTS



## WHAT DO PHARMACY TECHNICIANS DO?

Pharmacy technicians play a crucial role in keeping a pharmacy running smoothly. They help pharmacists by carrying out duties such as:

- Accurately and efficiently preparing prescription orders
- Verifying prescription information and dosage
- Entering patient and order information into the pharmacy system
- Processing and submitting insurance claims
- Providing quality customer service to patients and other healthcare providers

## WHERE DO PHARMACY TECHNICIANS WORK?

Pharmacy technicians work in a variety of settings. The U.S. Department of Labor reports:

- 73% work in retail pharmacies, such as drug stores or grocery stores
- 18% work in hospitals
- 9% work in other facilities, such as outpatient clinics or mail order pharmacies



These different work settings provide a variety of job opportunities and work schedules as many institutional facilities and a few retail pharmacies remain open 24 hours a day, offering the opportunity to select a schedule and position that fits your lifestyle.

## HOW MUCH DO PHARMACY TECHNICIANS EARN?

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, pharmacy technicians with formal training or national certification are in particularly high demand and often earn more than those without these qualifications. Specific pay rates vary by region, employer, and work setting; however, the U.S. Department of Labor reports that the middle 50% of professionals in the field earn between \$24,320 and \$35,810 a year.

## IS THE PHARMACY TECHNICIAN FIELD GROWING?

The pharmacy technician field is a rapidly expanding part of the growing healthcare industry. The 2012-2013 edition of the *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, published by the U.S. Department of Labor, estimates:

- A rapidly expanding job market as the field is predicted to grow by 32%, or over 100,000 new jobs, before 2020.
- High demand and good job prospects for pharmacy technicians with formal training or certification.
- A growing number of professionals needed in the field to meet the high demand for prescriptions fueled by an aging population and continued scientific advances.

I passed the Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam (PTCE) in November and started a new job at a locally owned pharmacy the first week of January! With my husband in the Army, I'm so grateful to have a 'mobile career' that is so rewarding and that I really enjoy.

- Nicole, Class of 2012

# PHARMACY TECHNICIAN PROGRAM DETAILS

## TRAINING DESIGNED TO IMPROVE YOUR LIFE

In less than 6 months, you can be prepared for a successful new career as a pharmacy technician! Built on over 20 years of experience training high-quality healthcare professionals, the Pharmacy Technician program helps you quickly gain the knowledge and skills you need to get a good job to better support your family and improve your financial stability.

## PREPARE FOR A BETTER JOB

Our comprehensive curriculum was developed in collaboration with practicing pharmacists and certified pharmacy technicians to make sure you gain the knowledge and skills you need to succeed. The curriculum is specially designed to:

- Prepare you for the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) Exam
- Train you for careers in both retail and institutional healthcare settings
- Help you gain the necessary knowledge and skills to begin working immediately upon graduation

## LEARN AT HOME

With online training, you can minimize the challenges of taking time out to return to school. The online training format offers distinct advantages, including the opportunity to:

- Study on a schedule that fits your life
- Progress at the pace that matches your learning style
- Enjoy the flexibility to adjust the time and effort you devote to your coursework each day

## ACCOMPLISH YOUR GOALS WITH USEFUL EDUCATION

Our training is designed to help you accomplish your goal of getting a job. In addition to expert-designed curriculum and online flexibility, you'll also have one-on-one access to 3 instructor support teams—student support, technical support, and graduate support—to ensure you can complete your education and prepare for a better future! All of these teams are committed to helping you:

- Graduate quickly
- Prepare for the PTCB exam
- Successfully move into the workforce

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND APPROXIMATE COMPLETION HOURS

Module	Hours
Program Orientation	1
Working at a Pharmacy	5
Computer Fundamentals	5
Keyboard Kinetics	10
Pharmacology	48
Pharmacy Law, Regulations, and Standards	15
Business of Pharmacy	15
Prescriptions	25
Pharmaceutical Calculations	60
Nonsterile Compounding	20
Retail Pharmacy Practice	35
Institutional Pharmacy Practice	40
Preparing for the Workforce	5
Final Exam Preparation	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>285</b>

*Walgreens*

**CVS/pharmacy**

Pharmacy Technician students can also take advantage of externship partnerships with **Walgreens** and **CVS Pharmacy**. After completing the Pharmaceutical Calculations module, students will work with their instructor to discover available externships at local Walgreens and CVS stores.