

Pharmacy Technician State Requirements

STATE	REQUIREMENTS TO WORK AS A PHARMACY TECHNICIAN	HOW CAREER STEP PHARMACY TECHNICIAN TRAINING APPLIES	WEBSITE FOR LICENSURE
Alabama	<p>Hold a job in a pharmacy and register with the State Board.</p> <p>Hiring PTCB certified technicians allows for a higher pharmacy technician to registered pharmacist ratio in the workplace.</p>	<p>The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.</p>	<p>http://www.albop.com/</p>
Alaska	<p>Hold a job in a pharmacy as a pharmacy technician-in-training, receive training from the pharmacist-in-charge, and register with the State Board.</p>	<p>The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.</p>	<p>http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ/ppha5.htm</p>
Arizona	<p>Earn PTCB certification.</p>	<p>The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.</p>	<p>http://www.azpharmacy.gov/</p>
Arkansas	<p>1. Hold a job in a pharmacy and pass the state test proctored by employer. OR 2. Earn PTCB certification. This is preferred because it allows for a higher pharmacy technician to registered pharmacist ratio in the workplace. PTCB certified technicians may also have to take the state test.</p>	<p>The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.</p>	<p>http://www.arkansas.gov/asbp/</p>
California	<p>1. Hold an associate degree in pharmacy technology. OR 2. Complete a training course accredited by ASHP. OR 3. Complete other course that provides a minimum of 240 hours of training. OR 4. Graduate from a school of pharmacy accredited by ACPE. OR 5. Have received training by the federal armed services. OR 6. Earn PTCB certification.</p>	<p>The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam. Career Step is also applying for program approval from the California Board of Pharmacy.</p>	<p>http://www.pharmacy.ca.gov/applicants/apply_for_a_license.shtml</p>

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Colorado	<p>No licensure regulations.</p> <p>Hiring PTCB certified technicians allows for a higher pharmacy technician to registered pharmacist ratio in the workplace.</p>	<p>The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.</p>	
Conneticut	<p>1. Receive documented training from a pharmacy manager and apply for certification with the State Board. OR 2. Earn PTCB certification or hold certification from any other program approved by the state's Department of Certification of Pharmacy.</p>	<p>The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.</p>	<p>http://www.ct.gov/dcp/cwp/view.asp?a=1622&q=446726</p>
Delaware	<p>No licensure regulations.</p>	<p>The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.</p>	
Florida	<p>Complete a board-approved pharmacy technician-training program.</p>	<p>The Career Step training program is not approved by the Florida Board of Pharmacy at this time. However, the program is designed to prepare graduates to pass the PTCB exam, which would greatly increase the graduate's marketability. The graduate would then have an important edge in finding employment as a pharmacy technician-in-training with an employer that offers a board-approved training program. After completing the employer's training program, the graduate could apply for a state license. Completing employer-offered training only is often inadequate training for PTCB certification.</p>	<p>http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/pharmacy/ph_applicantinformation.html</p>
Georgia	<p>Register with the State Board. If pharmacy technicians earn PTCB certification or complete a board-approved training program, it allows for a higher pharmacy technician to registered pharmacist ratio in the workplace.</p>	<p>The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.</p>	<p>http://www.sos.georgia.gov/plb/pharmacy/</p>

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Hawaii	No licensure regulations.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.	
Idaho	Earn either PTCB or ICPT certification.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://bop.accessidaho.org/bop/forms/index.html
Illinois	1. Complete a pharmacy technician training program. OR 2. Complete an on-the-job training program. AND 3. Earn PTCB certification.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy, where they can receive the necessary on-the-job training. Completing the Career Step training program will lessen the on-the-job training required and will also prepare the graduate to pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.idfpr.com/dpr/WHO/phar.asp
Indiana	1. Complete a board-approved training program. OR 2. Earn PTCB certification.	The Career Step training program is approved by the Indiana Board of Pharmacy and is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.in.gov/pla/2974.htm
Iowa	Register with the State Board to become a pharmacy technician-in-training and earn either PTCB or ICPT certification within a year of registration.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.state.ia.us/ibpe/pharmacy_technician/index.html
Kansas	Hold a job in a pharmacy and pass a state test proctored by employer. Employer can train you for the test or you can complete training on your own and then take the exam once you are employed. Earning PTCB or ICPT certification is not required but allows for a higher pharmacy technician to registered pharmacist ratio in the workplace. Nationally certified technicians are also required to take the state test.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.kansas.gov/pharmacy/Applications.htm
Kentucky	Hold a job in a pharmacy and register with the State Board. PTCB certified pharmacy technicians have increased job opportunities.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://pharmacy.ky.gov/tech.htm

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Louisiana	1. Hold a job in a pharmacy and apply to the State Board for a Pharmacy Technician Candidate certificate. AND 2. Complete a State Board approved training program within 18 months of receiving Candidate certificate. AND 3. Complete 600 hours of practical experience (200 of these hours must be completed within the training program. Hours expire one year after Candidate certificate and must be verified by pharmacist preceptor.) AND 4. Pass a board-approved pharmacy technician certification exam. (The PTCB exam is board approved.)	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy, allowing them to gain the practical experience and training required by the state. The Career Step program is also designed to prepare graduates to pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.labp.com/
Maine	Complete on-the-job training and register with the State Board. In order to be an “advanced” technician, with the ability to perform more tasks than a regular technician, you must earn either PTCB or NPT certification. This is preferred because it allows for a higher pharmacy technician to registered pharmacist ratio in the workplace.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/pharmacy/tech.htm
Maryland	1. Earn a board-approved national certification. (The PTCB exam is board approved.) OR 2. Complete a board-approved training program that is no longer than 6 months and includes 160 hours of work experience.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam. Career Step is also applying for program approval from the Maryland Board of Pharmacy.	http://dhmh.maryland.gov/pharmacy/SitePages/Technicians.aspx
Massachusetts	1. (a) Complete an ASHP accredited program, (b) a program provided by federal branch of armed services, (c) a board-approved program with 240 hours of theoretical and practical instruction (120 hours must be theoretical), or (d) any other program approved by State Board. OR 2. Complete a minimum of 500 hours of employment as a pharmacy technician trainee, documented by employer. AND 3. Pass either a State Board approved exam administered by employer or a national certification exam. (The PTCB exam is board approved.)	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy, where they can receive the necessary on-the-job training, and subsequently pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/provider/licensing/occupational/pharmacy/licensing/pharmacy-techs/

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Michigan	No licensure regulations.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.	
Minnesota	Hold a job in a pharmacy and register with the State Board. Hiring PTCB certified technicians allows for a higher pharmacy technician to registered pharmacist ratio in the workplace.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.phcybrd.state.mn.us/
Mississippi	Apply to the State Board for registration and earn either PTCB or ICPT certification.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.	http://www.mbp.state.ms.us/mbop/Pharmacy.nsf/webpages/apLN_apPage?
Missouri	Hold a job in a pharmacy and register with the State Board.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://pr.mo.gov/boards/pharmacy/375-0408.pdf
Montana	Register with the State Board. Pharmacy technician trainees have 18 months from the date of registration to earn either PTCB or ICPT certification.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://bsd.dli.mt.gov/license/bsd_boards/pha_board/board_page.asp
Nebraska	Register with the State Board.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.	http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/crl_medical_pharm_pharmtech_pharmtech.aspx

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Nevada	1. Complete a training program accredited by ASHP. OR 2. Transfer registration from another state. OR 3. Complete 1,500 hours of training and experience as a pharmacy technician-in-training. These hours must be completed within one year (you may apply for an extension if necessary), and training must be documented by the pharmacy manager. OR 4. Complete a training program conducted by the federal armed services. OR 5. Hold PTCB certification if you received training in another state.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy, where they can receive the necessary on-the-job training, and subsequently pass the PTCB exam.	http://bop.nv.gov/Licensees_Applicants.htm
New Hampshire	Hold a job in a pharmacy, receive on-the-job training, and apply to the State Board within 30 days of employment.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.	http://www.nh.gov/pharmacy/licensing/index.htm
New Jersey	Register with the State Board.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.	http://www.state.nj.us/lps/ca/pharm/phar_applications.htm
New Mexico	1. Register with the State Board as a non-certified technician and receive on-the-job training provided and documented by the pharmacist-in-charge. AND 2. Apply for certified technician status with the board after initial on-the-job training. AND 3. Obtain board-approved certification (PTCB or ICPT) within one year of registering as a certified technician.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy, where they can receive the necessary on-the-job training, and subsequently pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.rld.state.nm.us/boards/Pharmacy_Forms_and_Applications.aspx
New York	No licensure regulations.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.	

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North Carolina	1. Hold a job in a pharmacy, complete on-the-job training (which must be completed within 180 days), and register with the State Board. OR 2. Complete a community college pharmacy technician training program. OR 3. Earn PTCB certification and register with State Board. This is preferred because it allows for a higher pharmacy technician to registered pharmacist ratio in the workplace.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.ncbop.org/technicians_registrationreqs.htm
North Dakota	1. Complete an ASHP accredited program. OR 2. Complete an on-the-job training program directed by the pharmacist-in-charge. National certification is not currently required but will be in the next few years.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy, where they can receive the necessary on-the-job training, and subsequently pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.nodakpharmacy.com/apps-forms.asp
Ohio	1. Register with the State Board. AND 2. Earn PTCB or ICPT certification within 210 days of being employed at a pharmacy. OR 3. Complete on-the-job training and exam provided by employer.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/phlic.htm
Oklahoma	Hold a job in a pharmacy and complete on-the-job training, which is provided and verified by the pharmacy manager or a staff pharmacist.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.	http://www.ok.gov/OSBP/Download_Forms/Technicians/index.html
Oregon	1. Hold a job in a pharmacy, register with the State Board, and pass a national certification exam within a year of registration. OR 2. Earn PTCB or ICPT certification. AND 3. Complete on-the-job training, documented by the pharmacist-in-charge.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.pharmacy.state.or.us/Pharmacy/Licensing.shtml#CERTIFIED_PHARMACY_TECHNICIANS

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Pennsylvania	No licensure regulations.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.	
Rhode Island	1. Complete a training program approved by the ASHP. OR 2. Complete a training program conducted by a branch of the federal armed services. OR 3. Complete a training program at a regionally accredited college or secondary educational program. OR 4. Earn PTCB or ICPT certification.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.health.ri.gov/licenses/healthcare/
South Carolina	Register with the State Board.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.	http://www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/pharmacy/index.asp?file=pub.htm
South Dakota	1. Hold a job in a pharmacy and register with the State Board. OR 2. Be enrolled in a training program and register with the State Board prior to completing the training program's on-site practical experience portion.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://doh.sd.gov/Boards/pharmacy/PharmacyTechnicians.aspx
Tennessee	Hold a job in a pharmacy and register with the State Board. Hiring PTCB certified technicians allows for a higher pharmacy technician to registered pharmacist ratio in the workplace.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://health.state.tn.us/boards/Pharmacy/applications.shtml
Texas	1. Register with the State Board as a pharmacy technician-in-training. AND 2. Earn PTCB certification. AND 3. Complete on-the-job training.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy, where they can receive the necessary on-the-job training, and subsequently pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.tsbp.state.tx.us/techinfo.htm

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Utah	1. Earn PTCB or ICPT certification. AND 2. Complete a board-approved training program that includes 180 hours of practical training.	The Career Step training program is approved by the Virginia Board of Pharmacy and is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.dopl.utah.gov/licensing/pharmacy.html
Vermont	Register with the State Board.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.	http://vtprofessionals.org/opr1/pharmacists/
Virginia	1. Complete a board-approved training program. OR 2. Earn PTCB certification. AND 3. Register with the State Board.	The Career Step training program is approved by the Virginia Board of Pharmacy and is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/Pharmacy/pharmacy_forms.htm#Technician
Washington	1. Pass a national certification exam. AND 2. Complete a board-approved training program.	The Career Step training program is not approved by the Washington Board of Pharmacy at this time. However, the program is designed to prepare graduates to pass the PTCB exam, which would greatly increase the graduate's marketability. The graduate would then have an important edge in finding employment as a pharmacy technician-in-training with an employer that offers a board-approved training program. After completing the employer's training program, the graduate could apply for a state license. Completing employer-offered training only is often inadequate training for PTCB certification.	http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/Professions/Pharmacy/forms.htm
West Virginia	1. Hold a job in a pharmacy, participate in an on-the-job training program, and take state test. OR 2. Earn PTCB certification and complete 20 hours of on-the-job pharmacy training.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://www.wvbop.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=55&Itemid=85

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Wisconsin	No licensure regulations.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.	http://www.pswi.org/technician/
Wyoming	Earn PTCB certification.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam.	http://pharmacyboard.state.wy.us/applications.aspx
Washington, D.C.	No licensure regulations. Registration may be required within the next few years.	The Career Step training program is designed to prepare graduates to work in a pharmacy and pass the PTCB exam, which will improve job opportunities and prepare graduates for any future legislation changes.	

Current as of April 2012.

Acronyms

ACPE: Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education
 ASHP: American Society of Health-System Pharmacists
 ICPT: Institute for the Certification of Pharmacy Technicians
 NPT: National Pharmacy Technician
 PTCB: Pharmacy Technician Certification Board