



## PHARMACY TECHNICIAN *Industry Facts*

*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, Career Step Graduate

### **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:

- 52% work in pharmacies and drug stores
- 16% work in hospitals
- 17% work in general merchandise stores
- 8% work in food and beverage stores

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 \$25,900 and \$38,540 a year.

### **Is the pharmacy technician field growing?**

The pharmacy technician field is a rapidly expanding part of the growing healthcare industry. 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 12%, or over 47,000 new jobs, before 2026.
- 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.

# PHARMACY TECHNICIAN (ASHP/ACPE)

## Program Details

### Program Overview and Approximate Completion Hours

MODULE	Hours
Program Orientation	1
Working at a Pharmacy	3
Preparing for the Workforce	5
Computer Fundamentals	7
Keyboard Kinetics	10
Medical Word Building	15
Basic Anatomy	20
Mastering Medical Language	23
Pharmacology	55
Pharmacy Law, Regulations, and standards	15
Business of Pharmacy	17
Simulation Preparation	1
Pharmacy Calculations	60
Prescriptions	25
Nonsterile Compounding	30
Community Pharmacy Practice	35
Institutional Pharmacy Practice	45
Externship Preparation	7
Virtual Inventory Management for Technicians	10
Virtual Medication Safety for Technicians	10
Virtual Pharmacy Externship for Technicians	5
Externship	200
Final Exam Preparation	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>600</b>

### Improve your life.

In less than a year, you can be prepared for a successful new career as a pharmacy technician! Built on over 25 years of experience training high-quality healthcare professionals, our Pharmacy Technician (ASHP/ACPE) training 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:

- Prepare for the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) Exam
- Train for careers in both retail and institutional healthcare settings
- Enroll in one of the only online pharmacy technician programs that is accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)/ Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE).

### 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:

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

### Achieve success with live student and graduate support.

Our training is designed to help you accomplish your goal of getting a job. In addition to employer-trusted curriculum and online flexibility, you'll also have one-on-one access to three 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 support teams are committed to helping you:

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

*Walgreens*

♥ **CVS pharmacy**<sup>®</sup>

Pharmacy Technician students can also take advantage of externship partnerships with **Walgreens** and **CVS Pharmacy**.