

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

Is being a Pharmacy Technician for me?

The field is for you if you ...

- Can communicate well with people.
- Work well with computers and technology.
- Assume responsibilities.

What skills will I need for this field?

You will need to have ...

- Good oral communication skills.
- Computer and telephone skills.
- The ability to follow directions and complete assignments.
- Basic knowledge of medications.
- Basic inventory management and control.
- Knowledge of IV preparation and admixtures (varies by setting).

What is the work atmosphere like?

Varies by setting: Pharmacy department at drug stores, laboratory-like settings at hospitals and office settings with managed-care and administrative.

What are my degree options?

Certificate

Certificate from the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB)

Bachelor's Degree

Bachelor s degrees are available by transferring to four-year colleges and universities.

Doctoral Degree

A doctoral degree is needed to become a pharmacist.

Professional Certification

Pharmacy Technicians license from the state of Illinois. PTCB national examination (voluntary) increases credibility and adds a level of greater emphasis, responsibility, and benefits.

What are my career opportunities?

Graduation from a pharmacy technician-training program, passing PTCB, and one to five years of experience can increase the number of opportunities in the pharmacy technician field. Motivated individuals can assume administrative and managerial positions and others can assume educational positions over pharmacy technicians for pharmaceutical companies and organizations. Opportunities in drug sales representation also become available with proper experience.

What can I do with these degrees?

If you have completed ...

High School Diploma

Obtain license from the state and you can work in a drug store as a Pharmacy Technician.

Certificate

Can work in hospitals as well as drug stores (increase in salary when you work for drug stores and you have the certificate).

How can I prepare now?

Recommended courses ...

Math

Mathematics

Science

Chemistry, Biology, Anatomy and Physiology

Recommended Supporting Electives

Biomedical Terminology

What about my articulated credit?

Check with your high school coordinator to see if you are eligible for articulated credit at College of DuPage.

Bachelor's Degree

If you want to go on in Pharmacy, you will need a Bachelor of Arts in Science degree.

Doctoral Degree

Pharmacist

What should I take in my first semester at C.O.D.?

HSCI 1115: Pharmacy Technician

Whom can I talk to for more information?

Health, Social and Behavioral Sciences Division
(630) 942-2495

For more information on the Pharmacy Technician Certificate curriculum, see your program coordinator or go to www.cod.edu.