



Pharmacy Technician License

What do Pharmacy Technicians do?

- Under the supervision of a Pharmacist, Pharmacy technicians will:
 - Dispense prescription medications
 - Compound prescription medication
 - Communicate with physicians and nurses
 - Assist patients
- Pharmacy technicians assist with the technical aspect of the pharmacy so that pharmacists can focus on patient care.





How to get Pharm Tech License



- The first step is to getting a Pharm Tech License is to obtain a Pharmacy Technician Certification
- There are two pathways to gaining your pharmacy technician certification
 - Take a course that is recognized and approved by the [PTCB](#) (link [here](#))
 - Minimum of 500 hours experience working as a pharmacy technician
- Upon completion of either pathway, you will need to register for the PTCB certification exam.

How to Use the Program Directory

Search for your program by typing in the search box.*

Looking for a program?

1. Click the type of program you're looking for (CPhT, CSPT, ABC Recognized) to show those options first.
2. Choose the location: Multiple States/National, Online/Distance Learning, or choose a specific state.**
3. To learn more about the program, you may click the name of an individual program to view their website URL.

**If you have trouble viewing the directory on a mobile device, please try using a computer.*

***Programs available in your specific state may be categorized under Multiple States/National or Online/Distance Learning.*



PharmacyTechScholar.com

[VIEW THE LIST OF PTCB-RECOGNIZED EDUCATION/TRAINING PROGRAMS](#)



Certification Exam



- Cost of \$129 - covers exam fee and CPhT Certification application fee
- Can be taken online (proctored) or in person
- 90 MC exam - only 80 questions will be graded
- 2 hour time frame
 - 5 minutes for introduction
 - 1 hour and 50 minutes for exam
 - 5 minutes for survey at the end

40% of exam

Medications

Since dispensing medications is the most vital part of the job, this section takes up the biggest percentage. Expect questions concerning names and classifications, therapeutic equivalents, drug interactions and side effects, drug stability, proper storage, strength and dosages, proper handling, and similar topics.

12.5% of exam

Federal Requirements

This covers federal regulations for pharmacies, including handling and disposal, how to handle controlled substances, restricted drug programs, recall requirements, and rules for prescriptions.

26.25% of exam

Patient Safety and Quality Assurance

These questions focus on high-risk medications, event reporting procedures, how to prevent errors, pharmacist intervention for certain events, types of prescription errors, and cleaning and hygiene standards.

21.25% of exam

Order Entry and Processing

This section tests knowledge on formulas, calculations, ratios, conversions, and other important points of procedure, as well as the equipment and supplies required for administering drugs, identifying and returning expired or otherwise unusable medications, expiration dates, lot numbers, and more.

Certification Exam

- Unofficial score will be given at the end of the survey, official scores will be posted to PTCB Account within 2-3 weeks
- Need a score of at least 1400 out of 1600 points to pass
- If you pass - you will be able to download your PTCB certification from your account
- If you fail - you can retake the exam 60 days after your first attempt
 - Will need to pay the \$129 fee again





Applying for the Pharm Tech License



- In order to apply to the state of California for a pharmacy technician's license, you will need the following items:
 - Completed Pharmacy Technician License Application
 - SSN or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)
 - Passport style photo taken within 60 days of filing application
 - High School or High School Equivalency transcripts
 - PTCB Certification
 - Self-Query Report - dated within 60 days of filing application
 - Live Scan Fingerprint
- Allow for approximately 45 days for your application to be processed
- The application fee is \$195 - nonrefundable.



Estimated Cost



Item	Cost
Pharm Tech Course	\$250 - \$3,000 (depends on program)
Certification Exam	\$129
State Application fee	\$195
Self Query Report	\$3
Live Scan Fingerprints	~\$30
High School Transcripts	~\$10



Personal Tips



- Program I chose was Pharmacy Tech Scholar.
 - Pros: Remote with pre-recorded lectures, weekly office hours with professor, very affordable
 - Cons: 6 month timeline to complete
- Things to consider when choosing a program
 - Time commitment
 - In person or remote
 - Cost
 - Does it require an externship?
- Please do thorough research when looking for a program, pick a program that fits what you want to get out of it.
- There is a lot of information in these courses, take that into consideration when planning to enroll in a program while also taking a full load of classes.