

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION

Visit us at www.mercycollege.edu/continuing-education/short-term-certificate-programs/pharmacy-technician/

A pharmacy technician works under the direct supervision of a pharmacist to provide health care to patients. Pharmacy Technicians must have a broad knowledge of pharmacy practice and must be skilled in the techniques required to order, stock, package, and prepare medications, but they do not need the advanced college education required of a licensed pharmacist. Pharmacy technicians may perform many of the same duties as a pharmacist; however, a pharmacist must check all of their work before medication can be dispensed to a patient.

Pharmacy Technicians work in pharmacies where their main responsibility is filling prescriptions according to doctors' orders. This generally includes retrieving drugs in the correct dosage, form and strength, measuring the appropriate amount of drug and producing a prescription label. Depending upon the practice setting, a Pharmacy Technician is also involved in the admixture of drugs for intravenous use. Other duties could include:

- ◆ checking inventories and ordering supplies
- ◆ receiving and checking in supplies
- ◆ assisting customers
- ◆ keeping pharmacy work areas clean
- ◆ complete insurance forms
- ◆ preparation of “bingo cards” for nursing home patients

AVERAGE SALARY

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the mean average wage is \$13.70 per hour or about \$29,000 per year.

COURSE DATES & COST

June 2 – July 10, 2010

Wednesdays and Saturdays, 8am – 12pm

Cost is **\$895**



This is a 48-hour non-credit program.

EMPLOYMENT

Pharmacy Technicians may work in retail pharmacies, mail order pharmacies, home infusion pharmacies, long term care facilities, hospitals, clinics, and large industrial complexes under the general supervision of a registered pharmacist. The demand for Pharmacy Technicians continues to grow with demand expected to increase substantially. This high demand is the result of the constant availability of new drugs, the national shortage of registered pharmacists, the establishment of certified pharmacy technicians and the aging population.



TO REGISTER:

To register with credit card **online**, visit www.mercycollege.edu/continuing-education. Scroll down and click on *Pharmacy Technician* then *Online Registration*. To print and **mail** a registration form, visit the website above and click on *Continuing Registration Form*. Please include a \$200 down payment. Payment in-full and a copy of your high school diploma or GED is required before the first day of class.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS & CERTIFICATION

Students should have taken math and science in high school and must have a high school diploma or GED to start the program at Mercy College. Pharmacy Technician courses will prepare students to take the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) exam. To be eligible for this national exam, candidates must have a high school diploma or GED, no felony convictions of any kind within 5 years of applying, and no drug or pharmacy related felony convictions. In order to keep your pharmacy technician certification status, you must complete 20 hours of continuing education every two years. At least one of those hours must be in pharmacy law.

COURSE CONTENT

Course content includes medical terminology specific to the pharmacy, reading and interpreting prescriptions, and defining drugs by generic and brand names. Students will learn dosage calculations, I.V. flow rates, drug compounding, dose conversions, dispensing of prescriptions, inventory control and billing and reimbursement.

QUESTIONS?

Contact **419-251-1799** or **419-251-1865** or
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