

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Quarter Credit Hours Required = 60

This program is designed to prepare interested students to support licensed pharmacists by assisting with counter dispensing operations and prescription preparation. In a retail pharmacy, technicians may stock and inventory prescriptive and over-the-counter medications, maintain written or computerized patient medication records, count or pour medications into dispensing containers, and manage the cash register.

In hospitals, pharmacy technicians may perform many of the same duties as they do in retail pharmacy, but they may have additional responsibilities including assembling a twenty-four hour supply of medication for each patient, repackaging medications, preparing commercially-unavailable medications, and delivering medications to patient rooms.

Upon successful completion of this program, students should be able to

- classify the muscular/skeletal system and its needs in relationship to prescriptive medications;
- analyze the unique organization of medical records and inventory control in retail and institutional pharmacies;
- demonstrate a mastery of medical terminology and utilizing distribution systems to achieve efficient dispersal of medications;
- identify the compounding of medications with the ability to differentiate between aseptic and non-sterile compounding;
- describe the components of a sound paradigm of factors related to pharmacy ethics and the law;
- document the ability to utilize computer operating systems to aid in medication dispersal;
- explain how increasing levels of problem solving and critical thinking on the part of the technician can assist the pharmacist in performing a wide range of practice-related duties;
- discuss the important role that experiential training plays in the development of an efficient pharmacy technician; and
- coordinate a successful job search.

	Quarter Credit Hours
AOM 1010 Keyboarding	4
BUS 1770 Customer Service	4
EDU 1010 Learning Framework	4
EDU 1020 Career Exploration/Planning	4
MED 1010 Medical Terminology	4
PHM 1000 Introduction to Pharmacy	4
PHM 1050 Pharmacological Calculations	4
PHM 1140 Pharmacy Law and Ethics	4
PHM 1250 Community Pharmacy	4
PHM 1260 Institutional Pharmacy	4
PHM 1270 Intravenous Admixture and Sterile Compounding	4
PHM 1810 Pharmacology I	4
PHM 1820 Pharmacology II	4
PHM 1950 Pharmacy Technician Certification Review	2
PHM 2600 Pharmacy Technician Externship	6
TOTAL MINIMUM QUARTER CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED	60

Note: Registration with the South Carolina Board of Pharmacy ("Board") is necessary in order to work as pharmacy technicians in South Carolina. Information regarding registration is available at www.lironline.com/pol/pharmacy. Certification with the Board is not required, but graduates may find certification to be advantageous in the employment market. Certification requires successful completion of the National Pharmacy Technician Certification Board examination, or another examination approved by the Board, and other minimum requirements as established by the Board. National certification information is available at www.nhanow.com or www.ptcb.org.