

# PHARMACY TECHNICIAN CALIFORNIA



## What does a Pharmacy Technician do?

Pharmacy Technician job responsibilities vary depending on the type of employment secured. Pharmacy Technicians fill prescribed medications for patients, provide customer service and operate a cash register. In most pharmacies, the Technician is the direct customer service link to the public. Pharmacy Technicians establish and maintain patient record files, submit insurance claim forms, and manage prescription and over-the-counter medication inventories.

## How will Asher College prepare me for this career?

The PT program provides students with the career knowledge to:

- Adhere to HIPAA, Federal and State regulations concerning confidentiality in the medical field
- Fill prescriptions under the direct supervision of a pharmacist
- Utilize software applications relevant to the pharmacy
- Understand brand and generic medications, as well as Over the Counter
- Understand classifications of drugs and scheduled drugs
- Develop and practice pharmacy technician skills with hands-on opportunities in a simulated pharmacy environment

## What characteristics are important in this field?\*

- **Customer-service skills:** Pharmacy technicians spend much of their time interacting with customers, so being helpful and polite is required of pharmacy technicians in a retail setting.
- **Detail-Oriented:** Serious health problems can result from mistakes in filling prescriptions. Although the pharmacist is responsible for ensuring the safety of all medications dispensed, pharmacy technicians should pay attention to detail so that complications are avoided.
- **Listening skills:** Pharmacy technicians must communicate clearly with pharmacists and doctors when taking prescription orders. When speaking with customers, technicians must listen carefully to understand customers' needs and determine if they need to speak with a pharmacist.
- **Math skills:** Pharmacy technicians need to have an understanding of the math concepts used in pharmacies when counting pills and compounding medications.
- **Organizational skills:** Working as a pharmacy technician involves balancing a variety of responsibilities. Pharmacy technicians need good organizational skills to complete the work delegated by pharmacists while at the same time providing service to customers or patients.

## What are the job opportunities in this Career?

The PT degree program is appropriate for job roles including:

- Pharmacy Technician
- Pharmacy Clerk
- Pharmacy Assistant
- Medication Technician
- Insurance Representative

## What is the Salary Potential and the job outlook in this field?

Asher College provides career-training programs for entry and mid-level positions. Salaries vary depending on geographical location, economic conditions, and willingness to relocate. Salaries by occupation and specific location can be found at [www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org). National figures for labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy are available at [www.bls.gov/ooh/](http://www.bls.gov/ooh/) or you can visit the campus career services department to learn where Asher graduates work and the beginning salaries in their respective careers.

## What is the job outlook for the next 10 years?\*

Employment of pharmacy technicians is projected to grow 4 percent from 2019 to 2029, about as fast as the average for all occupations.

## What are the typical working hours for this career?\*

Most pharmacy technicians work full time. Pharmacies may be open at all hours. Therefore, pharmacy technicians may have to work nights or weekends.

\*Reference: <https://www.bls.gov/>



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ASHER ID	COURSE NAME
MOE100	MS Essentials
TF100	Typing Fundamentals
HS202	Human Anatomy and Physiology
PHT100	Introduction to Pharmacy
PHT111	Pharmacy Practice
PHT202	Pharmacology
PHT212	Pharmacy Calculations
PHT310	Pharmacy Laboratory Skills
PHT311	Pharmacy Externship
CD101	Career Success
CD201	Advanced Career Development

## Program Accreditations & Approvals



## Externship

Our Pharmacy Technician program requires that students participate in an offsite 130-hour externship. Asher College partners with local independent and large retail pharmacies. This partnership gives students the chance to use the knowledge and skills they have learned in the program to get some hands-on, real-world experience under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist.



## National Exam and State Licensing

Asher College's Pharmacy Technician program prepares our students for a national exam and a state license. The national Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam (PTCE) is proctored through the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) and is required for applicants to apply for their license through the state. Drug screen and Background checks are required for externship and/or licensing. For more details speak to a campus representative.



## How long will it take to complete my education?

**Full time** = 12 months (24 hours per week)

**¾ time** = 15 months (18 hours per week)

**Half Time** = 21 months (12 hours per week)

**\*Program includes: books, tuition, PTCB certification exam, state licensing, background check, tutoring, career service assistance, and Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) fees from the California Bureau for Private and Postsecondary Education (BPPE).**

For more information on our programs, our catalogs can be viewed at <https://asher.edu/disclosures/>

**www.Asher.edu**

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