

Pharmacy Technician Certificate Program



“PEOPLE ARE INTRIGUED BY THE FIELD OF PHARMACY; IT OFFERS GOOD BENEFITS, NICE WORKING CONDITIONS AND A PROFESSIONAL WORK ENVIRONMENT.”

Joe DuPrey, pharmacy educator at Lancaster General Hospital

From allergy medications and antibiotics to pain medication and life-altering drugs, pharmaceuticals affect everyone at some point in their life.

“The pharmacy industry is growing by leaps and bounds. Right now so many people are worrying about losing their jobs; this is a field in today’s economy where there is job security,” says Rachel Hoin, a pharmacy business and inventory associate at Penn State Hershey Medical Center.

Pharmacy technicians are professionals who assist the pharmacist in a range of tasks – including accepting and screening medication orders, maintaining drug inventory quality and levels, and preparing admixtures and compounding medications. Pharmacy technicians work in a variety of settings and are a critical component of the healthcare team.

Individuals who succeed in this field are detail-oriented and patient-centric, possess excellent communication skills and have an aptitude for math and science. Does pharmacy technician seem right for you? Then look no further than your own back yard at HACC, the region’s premier leader in educational and workforce development.

COLLEGE AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

*Pharmacy Technician
Certificate Program*

START THE PROCESS

*Are you ready to experience
all that the pharmaceutical
industry has to offer? If you are
interested in this program or
have questions, contact Noncredit
Healthcare Education
at (717) 221-1352 or
email pt@hacc.edu.*



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HACC's Pharmacy Technician Certificate program, taught by experienced professionals already working in the field, can be completed within six months, taking just one evening class per week. Students can also pursue their certification exam through the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board.

**THESE DAYS GETTING YOUR
CERTIFICATION IS KEY**

Expanding medical knowledge and healthcare pathways, resume building and becoming an informed consumer are just some of the benefits of the program. However, since many pharmacies already offer on-the-job training, why should individuals invest in furthering their education?

"Getting your certification is becoming a trend. Many states have already passed legislation mandating it, and the State of Pennsylvania will soon require certification as well. Many people who are already working in the field are coming in and taking these courses so they can get their certification," Hoin says.

**STATE OF THE ART PROGRAMS
AND OPPORTUNITIES**

"We provide employability skills and quality customized training to the citizens of Central Pennsylvania in a timely and economical manner," says the dean of HACC's Workforce and Economic Development, Public Safety and Community Education division.

HACC offers affordable and easily accessible evening classes in the Pharmacy Technician program at the Harrisburg and Lancaster campuses and online via HACC's Virtual Campus.

In addition to teaching fundamentals that range from pharmacy science to pharmacy law and ethics, the program boasts an invaluable job-shadowing component. Students will observe the responsibilities and working environment alongside professionals in retail and hospital settings.

"We go through the theory of why you are doing what you are doing – such as teaching you pertinent math skills to help you with dosages. This creates a more professional individual with in-depth knowledge of the field," says Joe DuPrey, pharmacy educator at Lancaster General Hospital.

FUTURE PROSPECTS

Establishing meaningful and long-lasting professional connections in any industry is important, and it isn't uncommon for HACC students to find jobs before they finish the program. With new pharmaceuticals on the rise and drugstores popping up at every corner — pharmacy technicians find jobs easily.

"When people think pharmacy technician, they immediately think of the retail setting. We cover all realms of pharmacy not just retail," Hoin explains. Pharmacy technicians can also find rewarding careers working in hospitals, mail-order facilities, health insurance companies, nursing homes and assisted-living facilities.