



# Pharmacy Technician Applied Technology Diploma Program Information Packet



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## Pharmacy Technician Program Mission Statement

Pensacola State College Pharmacy Technician program is committed to providing quality, affordable, and accessible education opportunities to pharmacy technician students in the Gulf Coast region.

## Pharmacy Technician Program Goals and Student Learning Outcomes

- Program Goal #1:** **The student will be clinically competent.**  
Student Learning Outcome: 1. Practice infection control and security procedures, thereby protecting self, patients, and other personnel.  
2. Prepare and deliver medications by using proper measurement and calculating techniques as it relates to community practice
- Program Goal #2:** **The student will demonstrate communication skills.**  
Student Learning Outcome: 3. Use appropriate medical terminology and complete information in written and oral communication relative to patients, pharmacists, and other medical staff.  
4. Discuss procedures, instructions, and care strategies in a manner appropriate to the patient.
- Program Goal #3:** **The student will develop critical thinking skills.**  
Student Learning Outcome: 5. Demonstrate correct conversions within and between measurement systems to calculate dosages and volumes specified by prescription or medication order.  
6. Identify the classification, use, and side effects of prescription medications, OTC products, and alternative therapies commonly used to treat dysfunction of selected body systems.
- Program Goal #4:** **The student will model professionalism.**  
Student Learning Outcome: 7. Demonstrate professional behavior in accordance with the law and ethics of the pharmacy practice setting.  
8. Participate in continuous learning for ongoing development of knowledge and skills in the profession.

## General Information

The Pharmacy Technician program is designed to provide students with the theoretical, practical, and clinical skills needed in the operation of a pharmacy. The Pharmacy Technician program is a four (4) semester program and accepts a new cohort in the spring semester. The program is limited access, meaning the student must meet admission criteria and then is ranked by date of meeting admission criteria to determine acceptance into the program. Graduates of this program will work under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist to perform tasks such as reading, filling, and issuing prescriptions; maintaining inventory; using computer systems to enter and update patient profile information; and performing clerical duties necessary to the systematic operation of the pharmacy.

The program consists of online, classroom, and simulated laboratory experiences. During the final term, the student will complete a clinical rotation in both community and hospital settings. Program policy requires that all general education and technical courses required for the degree be completed with a grade of "C" or better. Upon completion of this 40-credit hour program, the successful graduate will be awarded the Advanced Technical Diploma in Pharmacy Technician and will be eligible to apply for state registration with the State Boards of Pharmacy. The graduate will also be eligible to sit for the Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam (PTCE) and/or the Exam for the Certification of Pharmacy Technicians (ExCPT) which are nationally accredited certification examinations. Candidates who successfully challenge the certification exam will earn the CPhT designation and Certified Pharmacy Technician credentials. All certified Pharmacy Technicians are required to complete continuing education and recertify every two years.

### Occupational Outlook

Pharmacy Technicians can work in a variety of settings and command a varying salary based upon the employment setting. For the latest information regarding these statistics visit the Bureau of Labor and Statistics website for Pharmacy Technicians. <https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes292052.htm>

The outlook for Pharmacy Technicians in Florida can also be found on the Pensacola State College website located: <http://www.pensacolastate.edu/academic-programs/phrm-atd/>

#### ADMISSION CRITERIA

- Pensacola State College (PSC) Application
- High school graduate or GED
- Must be at least 17 years of age.

When the student has met the program admission requirements, the student's application is evaluated by the Office of Admissions and ranked according to the date on which the student completed the final requirement. Students are selected in that rank order.

#### PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

- "C" or higher in courses in the curriculum
- Satisfactory completion of clinical requirements which include the following:
- Level II FDLE background screen;
- Urine drug screen;
- Current American Heart Association Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers Certification or American Red Cross Basic Life Support/CPR for Healthcare Providers Certification; and Immunizations/vaccines:
  - TDaP (Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis) booster within 10 years OR TD booster within 2 years
  - MMR -Measles (Rubeola), Mumps, Rubella
  - Varicella (chicken pox)
  - Hepatitis B
  - Tuberculosis – required annually
  - Influenza - required annually (October – April).

#### COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

- Earn a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better in all courses applicable to the program of study.
- Meet the academic residence requirement of completing at least 25% of the program with classes at Pensacola State College.

### Drug Screen Policy

Students who test positive on the required drug screen and cannot provide appropriate documentation to the Medical Review Officer explaining the positive result will not be able to attend clinic.

## Performance Standards

The Pharmacy Technician program applicant should possess the following capabilities:

1. Be of sound mind and body to perform the professional duties of a nursing student without becoming injurious to self or others.
2. Sufficient physical, motor, sensory, intellectual, emotional, and social/ communication skills to provide safe patient care utilizing a variety of equipment in different health care environments.

Examples of performance standards are outlined below.

| Technical Standards/ Physical Abilities & Skills | Standard  | Examples  |
|--|---|---|
| Mobility   | Physical abilities sufficient to move independently from room to room, walk in hallways, maneuver in small places such as patient rooms, medication rooms or behind a counter.                                    | Walking independently with patients from department to department, around the patient room, down the corridor, from one patient room to another to take care of all patients on a team and to assist customers in a retail environment standing for periods of time. Walking, standing, stooping, lifting, squatting, reaching, twisting, bending, pushing, pulling, dragging, or climbing for periods of time. |
| Motor Skills                                     | Gross and fine motor skills to deliver safe and efficient patient care. Sufficient manual dexterity to manipulate equipment in the patient care setting.  | Prepare, store, distribute medications. Demonstrate manual dexterity by manipulating small items, maneuvering equipment, and operating used. Demonstrate accuracy when initiating the billing process and collecting payment. Control and maintain inventory of medications, equipment, and devices according to an established plan.   |
| Hearing  | Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess machinery bells or sounds.  | Recognize audible sounds from varying distances with varying audible sounds. Ability to hear customers or patients when speaking in a low tone.   |
| Visual   | Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary to provide safe patient care.  | Receive and screen prescription orders for completeness and authenticity. Ability to read materials used in pharmacy such as policies and procedures, patient medical information, doctor's orders, and prescriptions. Ability to discriminate increments on syringes or scales   |
| Tactile  | Tactile ability sufficient for medication preparation to deliver a safe product for patient care.   | Prepares, administer and document activities related to medications in accordance with state and federal regulations or lawful institutional policy.  |
| Communication                                    | Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in coherent and concise oral and written form.   | Follow spontaneous verbal and/or written instructions. Able to effectively communicate in English. Ability to communicate the patient's response to therapy to other members of the health care team, Asses nonverbal language, Ability to consult with health care team members/workers in a professional manner.  |
| Interpersonal                                    | Interpersonal skills sufficient for interaction with patients, families and groups from diverse backgrounds (cultural, emotional, intellectual) in a variety of settings such as health care and retail settings. | Converse effectively with patients, families, and groups and in stressful patient care situations such as emergencies. Remain sensitive to the needs of the patient through good communication and patient assessment.  |
| Critical Thinking                                | Critical thinking sufficient for clinical decision-making   | Ability to prioritize and delegate. Verify measurements, preparations, and or packaging of medication produced. Ability to reason, analyze and synthesize. Ability to retain information.   |

**Pharmacy Technician Program Technical Degree Requirements**

## Semester 1 (12 cc) – Spring

|         |                                    |      |
|---------|------------------------------------|------|
| PTN1001 | Intro to Pharmacy                  | 3 cc |
| BSC1080 | Essentials of Anatomy & Physiology | 3 cc |
| ENC1101 | English Composition I              | 3 cc |
| PTN1017 | Pharmacy Technician Calculations   | 3 cc |

## Semester 2 (10 cc) – Summer

|          |   |      |
|----------|---|------|
| CGS1570  | Computer Concepts and Applications                | 3 cc |
| PTN1121  | Therapeutic Agents I                              | 3 cc |
| PTN1132L | Basic Business Skills for the Pharmacy Technician | 1 cc |
| HSC1531  | Medical Terminology                               | 3 cc |

## Semester 3 (12 cc) – Fall

|          |                               |      |
|----------|-------------------------------|------|
| PTN1122C | Therapeutic Agents II         | 3 cc |
| PTN1131  | Applied Pharmacy Practice     | 3 cc |
| PTN1131L | Applied Pharmacy Practice Lab | 3 cc |
| PTN1930  | Pharmacy Seminar              | 1 cc |
| PTN1940L | Pharmacy Practicum I          | 3 cc |

## Semester 4 (6 cc) – Spring

|          |                       |      |
|----------|-----------------------|------|
| PTN1941L | Pharmacy Practicum II | 5 cc |
|----------|-----------------------|------|

### Who Can I Call If I Have Questions About the Program or The Application Process?

| Department   | Telephone #  |
|--|--|
| Allied Health Department Head<br>Dr. Mitzie Sowell .....             | 484-2301<br><a href="mailto:msowell@pensacolastate.edu">msowell@pensacolastate.edu</a>         |
| Academic Administrative Assistant<br>Jeanine Dickinson .....         | 484-2308<br><a href="mailto:jadickinson@pensacolastate.edu">jadickinson@pensacolastate.edu</a> |
| Program Director<br>Ms. Julie Burger .....                           | 484-2346<br><a href="mailto:jburger@pensacolastate.edu">jburger@pensacolastate.edu</a>         |
| Academic Advising Offices<br>Warrington Campus .....                 | 484-2270   |
| Pensacola Campus .....   | 484-1630   |
| Milton Campus .....  | 484-4410   |
| South Santa Rosa Center .....  | 471-4630   |
| Century Center .....   | 471-4622   |
| Admissions<br>Warrington Campus .....                                | 484-2270   |
| Pensacola Campus .....   | 484-2544   |
| Milton Campus .....  | 484-4410   |
| South Santa Rosa Center .....  | 471-4630   |
| Century Center .....   | 471-4622   |
|  | <a href="mailto:healthprograms@pensacolastate.edu">healthprograms@pensacolastate.edu</a>       |
| Financial Aid/Veteran Affairs/Scholarships<br>Pensacola Campus ..... | 484-1680   |
| Warrington Campus .....  | 484-2349   |
| Milton Campus.....   | 484-4410   |

### Estimated Cost of Program

| Expenses   | In-State   | Alabama Residents | Out of State |
|--|------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Pensacola State College Matriculation Fee (first time students)                | \$30.00    | \$30.00           | \$30.00      |
| Tuition – 40 credits (\$104.58/cc FL) (\$114.58/cc/AL) (\$419.76/cc out state) | \$4,183.20 | \$4,623.20        | \$16,790.40  |
| Lab Fees   | \$527.00   | \$527.00          | \$527.00     |
| Books, Modules, Forms Packets, and Assessment Tests                            | \$1,284.00 | \$1,284.00        | \$1,284.00   |
| Preclinical Physical Examination, Immunizations, Vaccines, BLS                 | Varies     | Varies            | Varies       |
| Uniform  | Varies     | Varies            | Varies       |
| Program Total  | \$6,024.20 | \$6,464.20        | \$18,631.40  |