

Pharmacy Technician

Career Profile

Roles & Responsibilities

Pharmacy Technicians work under the supervision of a Pharmacist and assist with the processing and dispensing of medications. Pharmacy Techs perform a variety of tasks including taking customer health information, compounding medications, and preparing prescription labels. Pharmacy Techs routinely interact with patients, pharmacists, and insurance representatives. Employment for this career is expected to grow much faster than average through 2020.

Similar Job Titles

- Pharmacy Assistant
- Pharmacy Clerk
- Pharmacy Aide
- Pharmaceutical Care Associate

Work Environment

The Pharmacy Technician career is administrative and scientific in nature, centered around lab and computer technology. Most Pharmacy Techs work full time with varying shifts depending on hours of operation. Pharmacy Technicians work in a variety of settings including hospital and retail pharmacies.

Training Requirements

Most states regulate pharmacy technicians and require special licensure for employment. Common requirements include formal training, background investigation, and satisfactory completion of a licensing exam. Formal training usually includes prescription processing, pharmacy management, and computer applications.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition, Pharmacy Technicians, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/pharmacy-technicians.htm> (visited June 12, 2012).



Program at a Glance

SJVC's Pharmacy Technology program gives you training in the follow areas:

- Prescription processing
- Common drug names and forms
- Uses & effects of prescriptions
- Compounding creams & medications
- Inventory control
- Patient record keeping
- Pharmacy ethics & law
- Pharmacy math & computations
- Pharmacy Software Applications