

About This Program

The Pharmacy Technology program provides both theory and practical training, which enables technicians, upon licensure, to function as a competent entry-level assistant to a licensed pharmacist. Graduates are eligible and prepared to sit for the national certification exam through either the National Healthcare Association (NHA) which administers the EXCPT exam or the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) which administers the CPhT exam.¹

Careers in Pharmacy Technology²

Pharmacy technicians receive and fill prescriptions under the supervision of licensed pharmacists. Duties related to the daily operation of the pharmacy are often part of the job, such as answering phones, creating prescription labels, maintaining patient profiles and prescription histories, completing cash register transactions, preparing insurance claim forms and inventory tasks.

Pharmacy technicians' career path can lead to employment³ in a variety of health care environments such as:

- Pharmacies and drug stores
- Hospitals
- Grocery and retail stores

Certification, Licensure and Practice Information

States vary in terms of certification, licensure and scope of practice for pharmacy technicians. Generally students must register with their state's Board to become a pharmacy technician in-training. Timeframes for completion vary by state, but all states require that pharmacy technicians attain licensure.

Knowledge and Skills

Upon completion of the Pharmacy Technology program, graduates will be able to:

- Prioritize the skills and knowledge necessary to function as a competent entry level technician to a licensed pharmacist.
- Utilize safe practice techniques in all aspects of pharmacy technology.
- Demonstrate ethical behavior consistent with state laws and regulations.

Accreditation and Disclosures

Carrington College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, 428 J Street, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95814, (415) 506-0234, an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education.

Additional information about accreditation, including the filing of complaints against member institutions, can be found at accjc.org.

For comprehensive information on Carrington College's accreditation and approvals, visit carrington.edu/accreditation. For information about student outcomes visit carrington.edu/sci. Program availability varies by location. Carrington College reserves the right to update information as it becomes available. For the most up to date information, visit carrington.edu.

Coursework

In the Pharmacy Technology program students gain basic knowledge of pharmacy calculations, drug distribution systems, chemical and physical characteristics of drugs and preparation of sterile dosage forms as well as a thorough knowledge of pharmaceutical and medical terminology, abbreviations and symbols used in prescribing, dispensing and documenting medications. Standards of ethics and law as they pertain to pharmacy practice and drug distribution methods are also included in the curriculum.

Online certificate: All courses in this program are offered in an online format, except the in-person externship that is completed at an approved healthcare setting.

Carrington College's academic catalog, available at carrington.edu/catalog, provides the most current and detailed program information, including admission and graduation requirements.



¹Carrington College prepares students to take appropriate certification and licensure exams related to their individual majors. The College does not guarantee students will successfully pass these exams or be certified or licensed as a result of completing the program. Credential preparation varies by location.

²Individuals seeking to enter this career field may be subject to screenings such as, but not limited to, criminal background checks and drug/alcohol testing prior to externship, to attain occupational licensure/certification or employment, and throughout their careers.

³Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/pharmacy-technicians.htm#tab-3>

Blended: Antelope Valley (Lancaster), Bakersfield, Fresno, Modesto, Ontario, Rancho Mirage, Temecula, Victor Valley (Hesperia), and Visalia

Program Requirements

TECHNICAL COURSES		LECTURE HOURS	LAB HOURS	EXTERN HOURS	SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
PHR15	Pharmacy Science and Applications 2	60	30	0	5
PHR20	Pharmacy Law and Ethics	45	0	0	3
PHR26	Pharmacy Records and Documentation	15	30	0	2
PHR30	Pharmacy Math and Computations	45	0	0	3
PHR100	Pharmacy Science and Applications 1	60	30	0	5
PHR120	Pharmacy Clinical Applications 1	15	30	0	2
PHR136	Pharmacy Clinical Applications 2	15	30	0	2
PHR151	Pharmaceutical Compounding	60	30	0	5
PHR312	Pharmacy Business, Simulations, and Computer Applications	45	0	0	3
PHR91	Externship	0	0	120	2
PHR92 ¹	Applied Theory: Integrated Learning and Practice	60	0	0	4
TOTAL FOR CERTIFICATE		420	180	120	36

¹Online course

Approximate time to complete certificate program: 36 weeks (not including breaks)

Blended: Albuquerque, Boise, Mesa, Phoenix, Pleasant Hill, Sacramento, San Jose, San Leandro, Spokane, Stockton, and Tucson

Program Requirements

TECHNICAL COURSES		LECTURE HOURS	LAB HOURS	EXTERN HOURS	SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
PHM111T.H ²	Nervous System, Anti-Infectives and Retail Operations Theory	54	0	0	3.5
PHM111L	Retail Operations Lab	15	45	0	2.5
PHM112T.H ²	Prescription Processing, Pharmacy Software and Pharmacy Calculations Theory	54	0	0	3.5
PHM112L	Prescription Processing and Pharmacy Calculations Lab	15	45	0	2.5
PHM113T.H ²	Pharmacy Calculations, Body Systems and Repackaging Theory	54	0	0	3.5
PHM113L	Pharmacy Calculations and Unit Dose Lab	15	45	0	2.5
PHM114T.H ²	Compounding, Pharmacy Calculations and Body Systems Theory	54	0	0	3.5
PHM114L	Compounding and Pharmacy Calculations Lab	15	45	0	2.5
PHM115T.H ²	Hospital Operations and Parenteral Dosage Calculations Theory	54	0	0	3.5
PHM115L	Hospital Operations and Parenteral Dosage Calculations Lab	15	45	0	2.5
CDV198.2 ³	Career Development Seminar	30	0	0	2
XTP200	Externship	0	0	240	4
TOTAL FOR CERTIFICATE		375	225	240	36

²Blended course

³Online general education course

Approximate time to complete certificate program: 36 weeks (not including breaks)

Online Division: Certificate conferred from the Sacramento and Spokane campus

Program Requirements

TECHNICAL COURSES		LECTURE HOURS	LAB HOURS	EXTERN HOURS	SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
PHO111T.5	Nervous System, Anti-Infectives and Retail Operations Theory	45	0	0	3
PHO111L	Retail Operations Lab	0	60	0	2
PHO112T.5	Prescription Processing, Pharmacy Software and Pharmacy Calculations Theory	45	0	0	3
PHO112L	Prescription Processing and Pharmacy Calculations Lab	0	60	0	2
PHO113T.5	Pharmacy Calculations, Body Systems and Repackaging Theory	45	0	0	3
PHO113L	Pharmacy Calculations and Unit Dose Lab	0	60	0	2
PHO114T.5	Compounding, Pharmacy Calculations and Body Systems Theory	45	0	0	3
PHO114L	Compounding and Pharmacy Calculations Lab	0	60	0	2
PHO115T.5	Hospital Operations and Parenteral Dosage Calculations Theory	45	0	0	3
PHO115L	Hospital Operations and Parenteral Dosage Calculations Lab	0	60	0	2
PHO401.5 ⁴	Externship 1	0	0	135	3
PHO501.5 ⁴	Externship 2	0	0	135	3
PHO550	Licensure Preparation	45	0	0	3
CDV198.2 ⁵	Career Development Seminar	30	0	0	2
TOTAL FOR CERTIFICATE		300	300	270	36⁶

⁴Field experience in a healthcare setting, ⁵Online general education course

⁶870 contact hours

Approximate time to complete certificate program: 36 weeks (not including breaks)