

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

Technical Diploma
31-536-1

Pharmacy Technicians assist registered pharmacists in dispensing medications and other health care products to patients. They work in institutional and community pharmacies. Job duties include working with third party and doctor's offices in resolving adjudication of patients' insurance or state funding programs. Pharmacy Technicians use mathematical skills including proportions and basic algebra to complete tasks associated with preparing prescribed medication and providing drugs to patients. They also compound medications, process verbal prescriptions, respond to doctor calls, coordinate expense and medication orders, handle returns and expired credits, and oversee non-licensed pharmacy management. A thorough knowledge of weights and measures and proficiency in area of fractions, ratios, proportions, decimals, and metric system conversions is strongly recommended for successful completion of this program.

To enroll in the Pharmacy Technician program, students must be attending high school, possess a high school equivalency certificate, or be a high school graduate.

Prior to enrolling in the Pharmacy Technician program (536) courses with the exception of Intro to Pharmacy Practice (536-302), students must complete an online criminal background check. There is an additional fee associated with the background check process.

Program Outcomes

- Demonstrate personal/interpersonal knowledge and skills in the practice of pharmacy
- Demonstrate foundational professional knowledge and skills for the practice of pharmacy
- Prepare prescriptions/medication orders and pharmaceutical products for dispensing, distribution, and disposal
- Compound sterile and nonsterile medications
- Follow established policies and procedures for procurement, billing, reimbursement and inventory management
- Utilize pharmacy technology and informatics
- Adhere to state and federal regulations governing the practice of pharmacy
- Apply the principles of quality assurance to the practice of pharmacy

Graduates May Find Employment As

- Pharmacy Technician - Hospitals
- Pharmacy Technician - Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities
- Pharmacy Technician - Community
- Pharmacy Technician - Retail
- Pharmacy Aide
- Home IV Specialist
- Pharmacy Assistant

View the entire course listing (<http://catalog.blackhawk.edu/courses>).

Courses taken before semester 1		Credits
536-302	Introduction to Pharmacy Practice	1
Credits		1
Semester 1		
501-101	Medical Terminology	3
501-107	Digital Literacy for Healthcare	2
536-312	Therapeutic Agents	4
536-322	Pharmacy Calculations	2
536-332	Pharmacy Practice	2
801-311	Communication	2
Credits		15
Semester 2		
536-342	Prescription Processing	3
536-352	Pharmacy Customer Service	2
536-362	Pharmaceutical Preparations	4
536-372	Payment Processing	2
536-382	Pharmacy Clinical Practice	2
Credits		13
Total Credits		29

General Education Courses Within Program

Code	Title	Credits
801-311	Communication	2

Associate Degrees and Technical Diplomas are part of a larger model of BTC's Career Pathways which link related academic programs in sequence. Each program within a career pathway offers direct job preparation and a path to the next level of academic programming. To view the connected program model, visit the Pharmacy Technician Career Path (<http://catalog.blackhawk.edu/academics/technical-diplomas/pharmacy-technician/PharmacyTechCareerPath.pdf>) (PDF).