

Lecture 1  
June 14, 2018

Becoming a Pharmacy Technician

a. How to Become a Pharmacy Technician?

What tasks do Pharmacy Technicians perform? What is their Role and Responsibility? Is this the right career choice for you?

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

Quick Facts: Pharmacy Technicians	
2016 Median Pay ?	\$30,920 per year \$14.86 per hour
Typical Entry-Level Education ?	High school diploma or equivalent
Work Experience in a Related Occupation ?	None
On-the-job Training ?	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Number of Jobs, 2016 ?	402,500
Job Outlook, 2016-26 ?	12% (Faster than average)
Employment Change, 2016-26 ?	47,600

b. Title 34 -- Pharmacy Practice Act

Source: [http://www.albop.com/PDF%20Files/act205\\_08.pdf](http://www.albop.com/PDF%20Files/act205_08.pdf)

Title 34-23-130

ARTICLE 6.

PHARMACY TECHNICIANS

§34-23-130. Definitions.

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

- (1) **PHARMACY FUNCTIONS.** Those functions performed in a pharmacy department which do not require the professional judgment of a licensed pharmacist.
- (2) **PHARMACY TECHNICIAN.** An individual, other than an intern, extern, or an assistant pharmacist, who performs pharmacy functions under the direct supervision of a licensed pharmacist.
- (3) **SUPERVISION.** The direct on-site overseeing of the performance of assigned or delegated duties or functions. (Acts 1996, No. 96-496, p. 625, §1.)

### c. Requirements to be a Registered Pharmacy Technician in the State of Alabama

Source:

<http://www.albop.com/PDF%20Files/Alabama%20Pharmacy%20Technicians%20Rules.pdf>

### d. How to Become a Certified Pharmacy Technician?

Source: <https://www.ptcb.org/docs/default-source/get-certified/Guidebook.pdf?sfvrsn=69>

## CPHT Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for PTCB CPHT Certification, an applicant must satisfy the following requirements:

- Possess a high school diploma or equivalent educational diploma (e.g., GED or foreign diploma)\*
- Full disclosure of all criminal and State Board of Pharmacy registration or licensure actions
- Compliance with all applicable PTCB Certification Policies
- Passing score on the Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam (PTCE)

---

## Pharmacy Law

### a. Federal Law vs. State Law

Federal Regulation of Pharmacy Practice guided by rules implemented by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Drug Enforcement Agency

For purposes of examination remember Food Drug and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) in 1938 establishes the safety, efficacy, and quality of drugs and medical devices; food, cosmetics, and dietary supplements; and products that give off radiation

Drug Enforcement Agency established in 1973 as part of Controlled Substance Act of 1970.

—

State Law of Pharmacy Practice regulated by State Board of Pharmacy

—

*Question: Which law do you follow?*

The stricter of the two sets of laws (Federal Law vs. State Law)

### b. Professional Standards of Pharmacy Practice

**American Society of Health System Pharmacists (ASHP)** – Pharmacists practicing in Institutional settings (hospitals, long term care facilities)

**United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP)** – Sets standards for the manufacturing and distribution of drugs in United States.

The Joint Commission – Accredits institutional settings (hospitals, nursing homes, etc.)

**c. Pharmaceutical Compounding Standards**

Standards are set by the following Regulations

USP 795 – Non sterile compounding

USP 797 – Sterile compounding

USP 800 – Standards for handling hazardous drugs

The importance of proper sterile compounding - <https://youtu.be/PdAXB2Z76E4>

New England Compounding Center – 48 deaths due to contaminated products with fungal meningitis

**d. Review Drug Regulation Timeline**

Key Regulations that are found on examinations include:

**Food and Drug Act of 1906** – prohibits interstate commerce in adulterated or misbranded food, drinks and drugs

**1938 Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act** – all new drugs must be proven safe

**1951 Durham-Humphrey Amendment** – Two classes of drugs (legend drugs versus OTC)

**1962 Kefauver Harris Amendment** – all new drugs must be both safe and effective

**1970 Poison Prevention Packaging Act** – requirement of childproof packaging on controlled and most prescription drugs, non-childproof containers may be used when patient or prescriber requests one.

**1970 Controlled Substance Act** – DEA established; five classes of controlled substances established based on potential chance of patient becoming addicted to medication  
*Schedule 1* = high potential for abuse and no accepted medical use  
*Schedule 2* = high potential for abuse with physical or psychological dependence  
*Schedule 3* = potential for abuse less than schedule 1 and II  
*Schedule IV* = drugs with low potential for abuse  
*Schedule V* = drugs with low potential for abuse in relation to Schedule IV

**1996 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act** – health information needs to be maintained with responsibility. Effective security to maintain privacy of health information.

**2005 Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act** – Establishes strict controls on OTC sales of Pseudoephedrine, Ephedrine, and Phenylpropanolamine (3.6 g per day, 9 g per month, 7.5 g if mail order)

CMEA EDUCATION - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pvqv1kf5A3A>

**e. New Drug Approval**

Phase 1 – 20 -100 (small group) of healthy participants

Phase 2-100 or more participants with the Disease State or Symptoms

Phase 3- Several hundred to several thousand (large group) participants to monitor effectiveness

Phase 4 – Post Marketing Surveillance, drug on market and FDA continues to monitor if drug should stay on the market

**f. Prescription Label**

Alabama Board of Pharmacy Law: <http://www.albop.com/FAQ.aspx#Labeling>

3. What should be on the label of a prescription?

The following is required to be on the label of a prescription:

- Name and address of the dispensing pharmacy
- Serial number of the prescription
- Date of the prescription
- Name of the prescriber
- Name of the patient
- Name and strength of the drug
- Directions for use
- Appropriate cautionary statements, such as “do not take with food” or “shake well”
- The expiration or discard date.
- “Filled by” or “dispensed by” with at least the first initial and last name of the dispensing pharmacist.

**g. Drug Recalls**

Class 1 – drug will cause serious adverse effects or death

Class 2 – temporary but reversible adverse effects

Class 3- product not likely to cause adverse effects

**h. Controlled Substance**

Alabama Board of Pharmacy

[http://www.albop.com/FAQ.aspx#Prescriptions\\_ControlledSubstances](http://www.albop.com/FAQ.aspx#Prescriptions_ControlledSubstances)