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 - ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting - December 3-7, 2022, Anaheim, California



PTAC Biannual Meeting October 25-26, 2022 Bethesda, MD

Program Accreditation/Reaccreditation

The ASHP and ACPE Boards of Directors approved the following survey site visit reports reviewed by the commission for accreditation: 12 new programs and 19 previously accredited programs seeking reaccreditation. Midterm reports (8) and special case reports (9) were also reviewed along with 18 applications for new program directors. As of the date of the meeting, 254 programs are in the accreditation process which includes accredited programs and programs in candidate status.

Congratulations to the following programs that were granted initial accreditation or reaccreditation!



Initial Accreditation

- El Monte Rosemead Adult School, El Monte, California
- City College of San Francisco, San Francisco, California
- Albertsons Companies – Albertsons Companies Pharmacy Technician University, Boise, Idaho
- College of Lake County, Vernon Hills, Illinois
- Southwestern Illinois College, Belleville, Illinois
- Lewis and Clark Community College, Godfrey, Illinois
- Louisiana Delta Community College, West Monroe, Louisiana
- Johns Hopkins Health System Pharmacy Technician Training Program, Baltimore, Maryland
- Retail Business Services, LLC, Salisbury, North Carolina
- Overlook Medical Center, Summit, New Jersey
- Mountain Empire Community College, Big Stone Gap, Virginia
- Carilion Clinic, Roanoke, Virginia

Reaccreditation

- Walmart Stores, Inc., Bentonville, Arkansas
- North-West College - West Covina, West Covina, California
- North-West College - Van Nuys, Van Nuys, California
- North-West College - Pomona, Pomona, California
- North-West College - Glendale, Glendale, California
- San Bernardino Valley College, San Bernardino, California
- Orange County Public Schools, Orlando, Florida
- Wiregrass Georgia Technical College, Valdosta, Georgia
- Infinity College, Lafayette, Louisiana
- Wayne County Community College, Detroit, Michigan
- Central New Mexico Community College, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Tulsa Tech, Tulsa, Oklahoma
- CVS Health, Woonsocket, Rhode Island
- Tri-County Technical College, Pendleton, South Carolina
- South Texas College, McAllen, Texas
- Austin Community College, Austin, Texas
- Salt Lake City Community College, West Jordan, Utah
- Davis Technical College, Kaysville, Utah
- Renton Technical College, Renton, Washington

Promotion of the Pharmacy Technician Profession to High School Students

During recent accreditation survey visits, survey teams have engaged in discussions about how best to promote the profession of pharmacy technicians to high schools students and adult learners who may not be familiar or understand the profession as a career path. A subcommittee was formed (Matthew Kelm, Matthew Rewald, Nichole

Foster, Janet Kozakiewicz, Amisha Arya, and Lisa Lifshin) to investigate how best to work with our marketing office to develop tools to publicize the role of the pharmacy technician; research methods for getting information about the profession to high school guidance counselors and human resources professionals; to find ways to work with testing agencies to ensure the pharmacy technician profession is listed as an option on student skills assessments; and, to work with the ASHP Technician Forum to understand any initiatives for publicizing the role of the pharmacy technician.

Legislative Updates

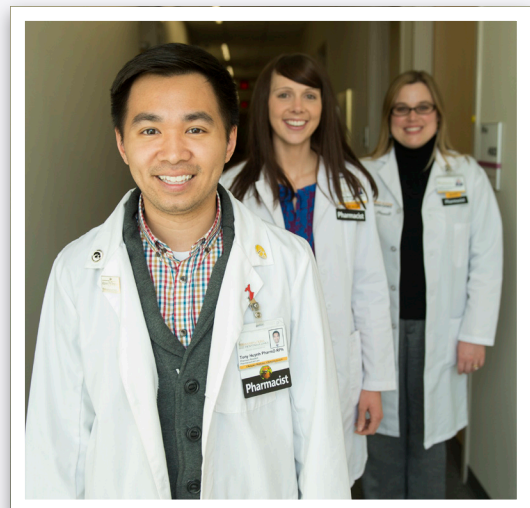
Lisa Lifshin provided an update on her work with the Commonwealth of Virginia and the development of a career path for high school students to become pharmacy technicians through coursework at the high school level. To date, there are twenty-seven ASHP/ACPE technician education and training program candidate and accredited status programs in Virginia, fourteen of which are high school-based programs.

New Virginia Board of Pharmacy regulations took effect in July 1, 2022 outlining the requirements to be eligible for registration as a pharmacy technician. Since that time, applications for accreditation have been received from Kroger, Harris Teeter, and Costco, as well as several health systems in Virginia, and other schools with education delivery models (i.e., community pharmacy, proprietary schools).

The Illinois regulations requiring completion of an ASHP/ACPE accredited pharmacy technician education and training program will come into effect on January 1, 2024. Applications from one health system and two colleges have been received since the last PTAC meeting.

Review of Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) and Non-traditional Learning

The subcommittee formed to address this issue has been working to develop an initial pilot study with a focus on health-system pharmacy education and training programs. The Duke University Health System Pharmacy Technology and Yale New Haven Programs have agreed to participate. A variety of parameters will be utilized to assess students for CPL. Students will provide a portfolio of evidence of their prior experience that may include attestations from employers; program directors; externship preceptors; preceptor approvals and sign-offs on skills; and, previous didactic coursework. Evidence by employment at the site that they are taking the courses may also be included. Anticipated start of the pilot is early 2023 with preliminary data to be presented at the May 2023 PTAC meeting.



PTCB Update

Ryan Burke, Director of Professional Affairs at PTCB, provided the data highlights from the 2022 PTCB Workforce Survey. The online survey was conducted in May 2022 and was fielded to 366,850 technicians. Twenty thousand certified and non-certified technicians from the fifty states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, and Guam responded to the survey. The respondents worked in a variety of pharmacy settings.



The importance of promoting the value of completing an accredited ASHP/ACPE technician education and training program with regards to job compensation and other forms recognition was also discussed.

Annual Survey Update

At the time of the conduct of the survey, there were 245 ASHP/ACPE accredited and candidate programs. Only four programs did not respond to the survey. Forty states have at least one ASHP/ACPE accredited or candidate status education and training program. Two hundred and fifteen programs had a graduating class in 2021 for a total of 21,360 graduates (an increase of 9,583 from 2020 graduates), the others did not have a graduating class in 2021. The total reported training capacity for 2021 was 108,976 which was an increase of 46,352 from last year's data. For those that tracked job placement, the highest percentage of graduates were employed in the community/retail sector. With regards to COVID-19, the percentage of programs affected decreased from ninety percent to sixty-two percent. Opportunities for program enhancements learned through the COVID-19 experience and advanced technology for the future include: more hybrid learning, more distance education, utilization of distance learning for laboratory demonstration, utilization of technology for student skills demonstration.

New Resources - Technician Education and Training Webinars

There are new video resources available for program directors located on [ASHP's website](#). From Application to Site Survey: Beginning the Accreditation Process for Technician Programs joins two previously developed webinars (Advisory Committees for Technician Programs and Developing a Strategic Plan for Your Pharmacy Technician Program) as ASHP continues to build its library of resources. Future planned webinars include a focus on Responding to a Survey Report.

Reminder: ASHP/ACPE Online Directory Revisions

Please remember to update your online directory!

It's essential to review your online directory page each time you receive the Tech Tablet! This is the way that we maintain our database. The directory provides a valuable recruitment tool for those looking for those programs that are ASHP/ACPE accredited or in the accreditation process.

Note: All programs currently have the ability to update their own program information in the directory with the exception of the program director and organization names. These items must be reported to asd@ashp.org as soon as possible and office staff will update the information listed as exceptions.

Compliance with the ASHP/ACPE Regulations on Accreditation of Pharmacy Technician Education and Training Programs

It is always important to periodically review the ASHP website to see new documents to assist you in enhancing your programs. One of the documents that should be reviewed that is not new is the [ASHP/ACPE Regulations on Accreditation of Pharmacy Technician Education and Training programs](#).

Accreditation of a program may be withdrawn by the Boards for any of the reasons stated below:

1. Program no longer meets the requirements of the accreditation standard(s).
2. Program has not had any students enrolled for a period of 3 consecutive years.
3. Program makes false or misleading statements about the status, condition, or category of its accreditation.
4. Program fails to submit periodic written status reports as requested.
5. Program fails to submit appropriate annual accreditation fees as invoiced. To maintain accreditation, programs must comply with all requests from ASHP/ACPE for reports (e.g., statistical information about program graduates).

It's essential for program directors to submit reports and accreditation fees to maintain accreditation. Recently, the Accreditation Services Office and our Finance Office has had to contact program directors on numerous occasions to obtain these important items. As indicated above, accreditation will be withdrawn if reports and accreditation fees are not received.

Resources

Resources for Program Development

[Accreditation Standards, Regulations, and Other Tools](#)

[Guidance Document](#)

[Model Curriculum](#)

[Curriculum Crosswalk Example](#)

[Applying for Accreditation – Guidelines and Application Form](#)

Informational Videos

[10 Key Steps to ASHP / ACPE Pharmacy Technician Education and Training Program Accreditation \(December 2018\)](#)

[2019 ASHP/ACPE Pharmacy Technician Education and Training Accreditation Standards \(video 1 of 2 – December 2018\)](#)

[2019 ASHP/ACPE Pharmacy Technician Education and Training Accreditation Standards \(video 2 of 2 – December 2018\)](#)

Governance

[Pharmacy Technician Accreditation Commission \(PTAC\)](#)

[Pharmacy Technician Certification Board \(PTCB\)](#)

[Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education \(ACPE\) Pharmacy Technician Education Accreditation Collaboration](#)

[American Society of Health-system Pharmacists \(ASHP\)](#)

[Pharmacy Technician Forum](#)

Other Resources

Pharmacy Technician Development: [ASHP Store](#) (search for Pharmacy Technicians under the Topics section)

[PTCB's Practice Tools](#)

Education and Workforce Development

[Pharmacy Technician Educators Council \(PTEC\)](#)

[Pharmacy Workforce Center \(PWC\)](#)

Products and Services



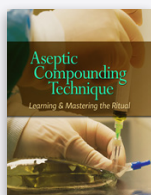
Earn an ASHP Professional Certificate in Sterile Product Preparation Training

This Professional Certificate program develops the knowledge and skills necessary to prepare sterile products safely and effectively. Participants will learn the history and evolution of aseptic processing as it relates to today's practice standards and will be taught the behaviors and skills required of all personnel engaged in compounding sterile products. The program reflects all pending changes associated with USP Chapter <797> and USP Chapter <800> has eight modules, provides 17.25 CE hours for pharmacists and technicians.



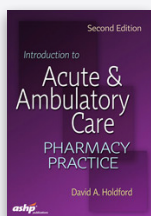
Learning and Mastering Pharmaceutical Calculations by Nicholas Ferencz

A valuable supplement to any pharmacy math course or textbook for students, technicians, or practitioners who look to sharpen their critical calculation skills.



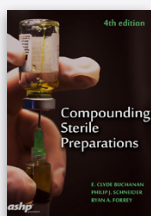
Aseptic Compounding Technique: Learning and Mastering the Ritual by Zachary Thomas Jordan

An in-depth guide to all aspects of aseptic compounding work, including proper hand techniques and maintenance of sterile supplies and equipment.



Introduction to Acute and Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Practice, Second Edition (used to be called Introduction to Hospital and Health-System Pharmacy Practice) by David Holdford

This book was originally intended for schools of pharmacy but drew lots of interest from the technician programs. The second edition was updated to incorporate more information specific to technicians.



Compounding Sterile Preparations, Fourth Edition by E. Clyde Buchanan, Philip Schneider, and Ryan Forrey

New updated edition includes information on Chapter 800 and regulations related to the Drug Quality and Security Act. Seven new chapters and extensive online references.

Comments and suggestions for upcoming Technician TABLET newsletter articles may be sent to asd@ashp.org