#### THE PHARMACY TECHNICIAN EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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PTAC Biannual Meeting May 14-16, 2025

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Upcoming Meetings:

- PTEC 2025 Conference: July 10-12, 2025, Columbus, Ohio
- ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting: December 7-11, 2025, Las Vegas, Nevada





### **PTAC Biannual Meeting** May 14-16, 2025, Bethesda, Maryland

#### **Program Accreditation/Reaccreditation**

The ASHP and ACPE Boards of Directors approved the following survey site visit reports reviewed by the commission for accreditation: 10 new programs and 10 previously accredited programs seeking reaccreditation. Midterm reports (7) and special case reports (13) were also reviewed. As of the date of the meeting, 240 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

<ul> <li>Mount Sinai Health System</li> </ul>	New York, New York
• NY Presbyterian Queens	Flushing, New York
University Health Pharmacy Technician	San Antonio, Texas
Training Program	
• Davis Catalyst Center	Anaheim, California
Norfolk Technical Center	Norfolk, Virginia
<ul> <li>AlliedRx Institute of Healthcare</li> </ul>	Henrico, Virginia
Virginia Commonwealth University School of	Richmond, Virginia
Pharmacy, Pharmacy Technician Training Program	
Blue Ridge Community College	Weyers Cave, Virginia
Chesapeake Regional Healthcare Technician	Chesapeake, Virginia
<ul> <li>Clark College Pharmacy Technician</li> </ul>	Vancouver, Washington
Training Program	

#### Reaccreditation

<ul> <li>North Orange Continuing Education, North Orange County Community, College District</li> </ul>	Anaheim, California
• Lee Health	Fort Meyers, Florida
<ul> <li>Idaho State University-College of Technology</li> </ul>	Pocatello, Idaho
Central Community College	Grand Island, Nebraska
<ul> <li>The College at Brockport</li> </ul>	Rochester, New York
<ul> <li>Cleveland Job Corps Center</li> </ul>	Cleveland, Ohio
Ogden-Weber Technical College	Ogden, Utah
<ul> <li>Bridgerland Technical College</li> </ul>	Logan, Utah
<ul> <li>Utah State University Blanding</li> </ul>	Blanding, Utah
Uintah Basin Technical College	Roosevelt, Utah

#### PTCB Update

Ryan Burke, Senior Director of Professional Affairs at PTCB, provided an overview of the two pathways to obtain a Certified Pharmacy Technician Educator Credential. Pathway 1 requires active PTCB CPhT Certification with at least three years' experience in educating, instructing or training in pharmacy. Pathway 2 requires an active NHA CPhT Certification or pharmacy degree with at least three years' experience in educating, instructing or training in pharmacy. The Credential includes two components—a multiple-choice exam and a knowledge application section in which candidates are asked to respond to various scenarios.

Also discussed were the revisions to the PTCE related to nonsterile compounding, narrow therapeutic window medications, and Drug Supply Chain Security Act. Content distribution among the four domains has changed, reducing the total percentage dedicated to Medications and Patient Safety and Quality domains while increasing the percentage focused on Federal Requirements and Order Entry and Processing domains.

The next PTEC Conference will be held in Columbus, Ohio July 10-12, 2025.

#### Legislative Updates

Kyle Robb, Director of State Policy & Advocacy at ASHP, provided an overview of pharmacy technician "hot topics" which included scopes of practice; oversight and supervision; training, education and credentialing; and, dedicated pharmacy technician seats on Boards of Pharmacy. Currently, 22 states plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico now have dedicated seats for pharmacy technicians with legislation pending in two others.

As for recognition by Boards of Pharmacy, 49 states plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico require pharmacy technicians to be licensed or registered with the state Board of Pharmacy; 16 states plus Puerto Rico issue technician licenses; and 34 states plus the District of Columbia register pharmacy technicians. Additionally, Connecticut and New Hampshire have separate license categories for Advance Practice Pharmacy Technicians.

Delaware is the only remaining state that has no requirements for pharmacy technicians to be licensed or registered with the Board of Pharmacy. Annual fees range from \$10 (Kansas) to \$100 (Louisiana).

Requirements for formal pharmacy technician training and education through an accredited program vary among states with North Dakota requiring completion of a nationally accredited program; Colorado, Rhode Island and Texas requiring completion of accredited training for certain roles; and, accredited training generally required in Connecticut, District of Columbia, Louisiana, Minnesota, Ohio, and Utah.

A resource center has been developed and can be found at the following link: https:// www.ashp.org/advocacy-and-issues/key-issues/pharmacy-technicians/pharmacytechnician-product-verification

#### The Pharmacy Technician Society® (TPTS)

Autumn Pinard, Director of Member Relations for TPTS, provided the PTAC with an update on recent activities and developments within TPTS. Virtual networking sessions for members have seen strong participation, covering a range of topics such as *Retention Resilience, Leadership* 



Opportunities for Pharmacy Technicians, Growing Professionally as a Pharmacy Technician, Advancing Careers in Community and Compounding, and Controlled Substance Compliance.

To support and guide initiatives, TPTS has established four committees, each led by dedicated volunteer members:

- Career and Leadership Committee
- Educational Steering Committee
- Membership and Engagement Committee
- Practice Advancement and Advocacy Committee

For more information about TPTS's committees and how to get involved, please visit https://www.pharmtechsociety.org/about-us/committees.

Autumn also shared an overview of TPTS's recently published strategic plan, which is organized around three pillars:

- **Our Members** Promoting the value of membership, fostering an environment for pharmacy technicians to engage and grow as leaders, and expanding access to professional development opportunities.
- **Our Profession** Elevating professional standards, supporting the evolution of technician roles, and prioritizing well-being and resilience.
- **Our Voice** Strengthening advocacy efforts and raising public awareness of the pharmacy technician profession.

For more information about TPTS's strategic plan, please visit https://www.pharmtechsociety.org/about-us/strategic-plan.

TPTS is holding its first-ever Board of Directors election. Pharmacy technician members of TPTS are eligible to vote from **June 12 to July 11**. For more information about the election, please visit pharmtechsociety.org/tpts-elections.

#### ASHP/ACPE Pharmacy Technician Education and Training Program Standards Revision

The PTAC continued the Standards Revision at the May PTAC meeting. An additional day was added at the end of this meeting to continue the revision of the Standards. As noted in previous minutes, Standards are revised every six years and the last revision included major changes after the Pharmacy Technician Stakeholder Consensus Conference in 2017. The PTAC leadership met several times since the October 2024 PTAC meeting to continue the revision and presented the edits to the lead surveyors at the end of April for their input and edits prior to the full PTAC review. The PTAC worked on the revision during the meeting and Eric Grace will now compile a version with the edits to be distributed to all stakeholders for comment. The final draft will be brought to the October 2025 PTAC for a vote. Once approved by PTAC, the revised Standards will be presented at the January 2026 ASHP and ACPE Boards of Directors meetings for final vote to replace the current Standard. Eric Grace, Lisa Lifshin, and members of the PTAC, and lead surveyors will work on refining the accompanying tools required for the revised standard between May 2025 and January 2026 in anticipation of a positive vote on the revised Standard.

Progress on the revision of the Standard is ongoing with anticipated completion by July 2025.



#### Annual Technician Education and Training Survey

Edward (Ed) Evangelista conducted the Annual Technician Program Survey as one of his Fellowship projects this year for the Accreditation Services Office. The survey is conducted each year to gather demographic information for all ASHP/ACPE accredited and candidate technician education and training programs. All programs must reply to the survey to maintain their accreditation, as per the Regulations for ASHP/ACPE Pharmacy Technician Education and Training. Ed, with assistance from Victoria Cancelliere, Eric Grace, and Goldie Holloman completed the task and compiled the data. As of May 2026, the Annual Survey will take the place of the need for programs awarded full cycle accreditation to complete Midterm reports.

The Annual Survey will be revised to construct questions that are more pertinent for quality assessment of program improvement, outcomes, and adherence to standards to help facilitate the gathering of metrics which will allow identification of trends and enable assessment of programs' progress (e.g., especially for those no longer required to submit a Midterm report).

# Board of Pharmacy Updates Related to Pharmacy Technician Education and Training Programs

Lisa Lifshin provided an update on the recent changes regarding Boards of Pharmacy legislation related to pharmacy technician education and training.

## **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.

### Resources

#### **Resources for Program Development**

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)

From Application to Site Survey: Beginning the Accreditation Process for Technician Programs (2022)

Accreditation Standards, Regulations, and Other Tools

#### Governance

Pharmacy Technician Accreditation Commission (PTAC) Pharmacy Technician
Certification Board (PTCB)
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)

#### **Education and Workforce Development**

The Pharmacy Technician Society<sup>®</sup> (TPTS) Pharmacy Technician Educators Council (PTEC) Pharmacy Workforce Center (PWC)

#### **Other Resources**

Pharmacy Technician Development : ASHP Store PTCB's Practice Tools

## **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, Fifth 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