Pharmacy Technician (PhT) Program

Class size averages 12 students. The small class size means that your instructor has more time to provide individualized instruction and help. As a result, students in the Pharmacy Technician Program successfully complete the course at a much higher rate than the national average for community colleges.

National Community College Completion Rate: 29%
Pharmacy Technician Program Completion Rate: 84%

National Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) Exam
The Pharmacy Technician Program is guided by an Advisory Board comprised of representatives from two hospital pharmacies and eleven regional pharmacies. These local employers prefer the national PTCB certification. The PhT Program at Mineral Area College prepares students for the exam. As a result, our students’ PTCB pass rate exceeds the national average pass rate by 22%.

National PTCB Pass Rate: 57%
Mineral Area College Student PTCB Pass Rate: 79%

“I know no other program that exists in our area to equip these pharmacy technicians than the tech training program at Mineral Area College, and I appreciate what it has done for me and my employees who graduated from it.”
– Jeremy Leach, RPh, Owner, Parkland Health Mart

17-week Certificate Program
Apply by June 17: Class begins August 22

You may qualify for financial assistance!
For more information, contact Stacey Wideman at 573-518-2145 or Tina Miller at 573-518-3840 at Mineral Area College.
Employment and Salary Information

The PhT Program prepares students for employment in a variety of pharmacy environments. You can find our clinical students and program graduates at a number of locations like Pharmax, Schnucks, Parkland Hospital, Perry County Memorial Hospital, Ozark Long-Term Care RX, plus a number of other locations throughout the service area.

The employment outlook is bright for Pharmacy Technicians in Missouri, with an expected job growth rate of 14% - one of the fastest growth rates for any occupation in Missouri. The median wage for Pharmacy Technicians in southeast Missouri is $29,192. Locally, PTCB certified technicians can expect to start their careers at an average of $13 per hour.

It is not unusual for 40% or more of the class to become employed in the field before they complete the program. Yet, employers value the program so much that they work around our students’ academic schedule to ensure they are able to complete the program.

Class Schedule

The Pharmacy Technician Program holds classes on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00-8:30 pm, plus will meet three Saturdays from 9:00 am-2:00 pm. Students will also be required to participate in a one-week, 40-hour clinical rotation in December. The deadline to apply is June 17, but classes will start August 22, 2022 and will run through December 15, 2022.

Will You Join the Select Few?

Pharmacy Technicians do more than just fill prescriptions. They are the Pharmacist’s right-hand. As such, they:

- Develop and maintain good relationships with customers
- Assist and care for others
- Work with a team
- Explain the meaning of information to others
- Use computers to accomplish part of their work
- Continue to update their knowledge
- Are physically active throughout the work day
- Must pass drug screens and criminal background checks

Your Next Step

If this sounds like the career for you, our Continuing Education Office would like to help you apply to the program and answer any questions you may have. For possible financial assistance, contact Tina Miller at 573-518-3840 or your local Missouri Job Center. Because you must get registered with the State Board of Pharmacy before enrollment, you must contact us before June 17 at:

Email: ContinuingEd@MineralArea.edu
Phone: 573-518-2280

― Tonie Dion, CPhT, Graduate