



# Pharmacy Technology Programs

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## Information Packet



## **Important information about the Pharmacy Technology Program**

The Pharmacy Technology Program is designed to teach fundamental pharmacy technical skills to individuals who wish a career in the pharmacy setting. Students gain a wide variety of knowledge ranging from the art of compounding a prescription and reading prescriptions to understanding the legalities involved in the practice of pharmacy. The Cuyahoga Community College program in Pharmacy Technology has been fully accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) since 1989.

The Pharmacy Technology Program is based at the Eastern Campus and all Program (Pharmacy) courses must be completed there. Non-program course requirements (**e.g.**, Math, Biology, Medical Terminology) may be completed at any Tri-C campus and transfer credits in these areas may be accepted.

In addition to traditional classroom instruction, students participate in hands-on laboratory activities that prepare them for the on-the-job training offered at over 40 Northeast Ohio clinical sites. These include area hospitals as well as community pharmacies, home health care agencies, and extended care facilities.

Pharmacy Technology offers two program options. The Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree program requires 62 credit hours and can be completed by full-time students in two years. The Pharmacy Technician Certificate of Proficiency requires 31 required credit hours and can be completed by full-time students in one year. Both programs are available to part-time students, and both can be completed on a daytime or combination day/evening schedule. The Certificate Program is available as an evening program over TWO years. Prerequisites are the same for ALL program applicants, whether day or evening, full-time or part-time, AAS or Certificate.

### **Prerequisite Courses:**

- **ENG-1010 College Composition I (or ENG-101H Honors College Comp I)**
- **BIO-1100 Introduction to Biological Chemistry**
- **MATH-0955 Beginning Algebra I**

(or eligibility for/completion of MATH-1190 Algebraic and Quantitative Reasoning, or higher)

### **Applications to the program should be submitted when the student is currently enrolled in or has completed all the Prerequisite Courses.**

Applicants must earn a grade of C or higher in prerequisite courses and must have a minimum overall G.P.A. of 2.0. Applicants must be high school graduates (or have earned a GED certificate) and will also be required to undergo the College-required background check for Health Careers students. Submission of an application and fulfillment of all criteria do not guarantee admission into the program. Acceptance is for either Fall or Spring semester, although many students completing prerequisites during the Spring semester choose to take required non-department courses during the Summer term prior to beginning the Program courses.

All science and math courses must have been completed within the past seven (7) years at the time the application packet is submitted.

# Cuyahoga Community College Pharmacy Technology Program

## PROGRAM ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

All of the following requirements for program entrance must be completed prior to final review of the application.

- 1) Submission of completed Cuyahoga Community College Application.
- 2) Submission of completed Health Careers Application. Submission of official high school transcript or GED certificate. Request the high school or GED to forward one (1) official transcript directly to any Tri-C Enrollment Center.
- 4) Submission of official transcript(s) from all colleges/universities attended. (Request that the institution - other than Tri-C - forward one (1) directly to CCC Enrollment Center and one (1) to you so that YOU can submit it with your completed program application packet. The Enrollment Center needs 6-8 weeks to evaluate transcripts once they are received. **Your application to a Health Career Program will not be complete until transfer courses for prerequisite course equivalencies evaluation is done.**

**\*\*\*If you are a current Tri-C student (attending within the last 3 years) you DO NOT need to request transcripts from Tri-C to include in your application. If you have attended Tri-C more than 5 years ago, then you will need to request transcripts.\*\*\***

- 5) Completion of Prerequisite Courses with at least a 2.0 GPA. Prerequisite courses may be repeated once to improve a grade. Science and Math must have been completed within seven (7) years at the time the application packet is submitted. Once accepted into the program, an overall minimum 2.0 GPA must be maintained in all academic courses.

**Completion of the Prerequisite Courses DOES NOT guarantee acceptance into the program.**

Applicants to the Pharmacy Technology Program must have completed all the Prerequisite Courses or be currently enrolled in the last course needed. The last prerequisite must be completed before you enter the program or you will forfeit your spot. Applications are accepted throughout the year, but students begin the program in either Fall or Spring. Program acceptance is not complete until final clearance by the College-required background check for Health Careers students -- current information at <https://www.tri-c.edu/programs/health-careers/background-check-information-bci.html> but this step can be delayed until 8 weeks before the semester in which a student plans to do an initial experiential rotation.

All students submitting applications will be notified by the Program Director of their admission status upon review of their applications.



# Fast Facts

## Pharmacy Technology Program

For more information call (216) 987-2381.

HEALTH CAREERS AND NATURAL SCIENCE \* CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE\* EASTERN

### 1. What exactly is a Pharmacy Technician?

A pharmacy technician is responsible for assisting the pharmacist with preparation and distribution of medications in a wide variety of health care settings, including hospitals, community pharmacies, home health care facilities and nursing homes.

### 2. Must a pharmacy technician be licensed?

While Ohio does not currently have a pharmacy technician LICENSE, pharmacy technicians and technician trainees are required to register with the Ohio Board of Pharmacy. Certification by a national exam (e.g., PTCB) will be recognized and required for some technician duties. Laws in other states vary widely.

### 3. What is the typical salary for a pharmacy technician?

Hospital pharmacy technicians can earn between \$14 and 18 per hour to start. Retail pharmacy technicians may earn \$9 - \$12 per hour.

### 4. How long is the program? Can I complete the program on a part-time basis?

Pharmacy Technology offers two options:

- the one year Certificate program and
- the two year Associate Degree program.

Either program may be taken on a part-time basis, but will, of course, require longer for completion. Both programs qualify graduates for employment in a Pharmacy setting and for the Certification Examination.

### 5. I already have credits. Can I complete the program in less than the normal time needed?

Sometimes previous course work can reduce the number of credits required. Because most Pharmacy Technology courses are offered only once per year, however, the actual number of semesters may not be reduced.

### 6. Is the program offered in the evenings or weekends? Can I work while attending school?

Pharmacy Technology offers evening classes leading to a "one year" certificate earned over two years. An associate degree requires additional classes that will increase the time in school. Many students work. We encourage students to find part-time work in the field of pharmacy.

### 7. Can I transfer credits from another college or university?

Credit transfers are frequently possible, if the coursework correlates with program requirements. Few pharmacy courses can be transferred. Students are encouraged to visit the counseling office to schedule an appointment once their transcripts have been received by Tri-C and to consult the Program Director to determine eligibility for comparable credit.

### 8. Is financial aid available?

Yes, but you must inquire at the financial aid office to get details. Call (216) 987-6000 and choose Option 2.

### 9. How many applications are received each year? How many do you accept?

We receive about 30 applications per year and accept 20-24.

### 10. What is the application deadline?

Applications may be submitted when all the criteria are completed or in progress. Students begin in the fall or spring semester, and applications must be submitted AT LEAST two weeks before the term begins.

### 11. Do courses in this program transfer to a four-year college or Doctor of Pharmacy Degree?

Program graduates with an Associate of Applied Science degree in Pharmacy Technology may be eligible to apply up to 60 credit hours of their coursework to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Allied Health at certain institutions. Because they are taught on a technical level, however, Pharmacy courses in this program do NOT transfer to a college of pharmacy or apply toward the Pharm.D. degree. Students and applicants interested in becoming licensed pharmacists should discuss this with the Pharmacy Program Director before applying in order to ensure that this program is really for them.

### 12. Will I need a background check or Drug Screen?

Background checks are required for full acceptance into the Program; Drug Screens may be required just before beginning at many clinical sites

## **ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES FOR THE PHARMACY TECHNOLOGY DEGREE PROGRAM**

### **Freshman Year**

Background check/immunization tracking	\$125-\$150
Tuition (in - county)	\$114.54/credit hour
Textbooks	\$1000.00 (est)
Lab Coat	\$50.00 (est)
Institutional Fees	\$100- \$140
Safety Glasses (required for all students)	\$20.00
AAPT Dues (optional)	\$15.00
Supplies	\$300.00 (est)
Supplemental Fees	\$150
Board of Pharmacy Trainee registration	\$25
Travel to experiential site	\$75.00 (est)

### **Sophomore Year**

Tuition (in - county)	\$114.54/credit hour
Textbooks	\$1000.00 (est)
Lab Coat	\$50.00 (est)
Institutional Fees	\$100- \$140
AAPT Dues (optional)	\$15.00
Supplies	\$300.00 (est)
Supplemental Fees	\$120.00
Travel to experiential site	\$150.00 (est)
PTCB Examination (optional)	\$129.00
Graduation cap, gown and pictures	\$50.00 (est)

## **ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES FOR THE PHARMACY TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

Background check/immunization tracking	\$90 - \$121
Tuition (in - county)	\$114.54/credit hour
Textbooks	\$1000.00 (est)
Lab Coat	\$50.00 (est)
Institutional Fees	\$100- \$140
Safety Glasses (required for all students)	\$20.00
AAPT Dues (optional)	\$15.00
Supplies	\$300.00 (est)
Supplemental Fees	\$150
Travel to experiential site	\$75.00 (est)
Background check/immunization tracking	\$90 - \$121
PTCB Examination (optional)	\$129.00

# **Cuyahoga Community College Pharmacy Technology Program**

## **APPLICATION/ACCEPTANCE Procedures**

**1) All applicants to the Pharmacy Technology Program must complete the Cuyahoga Community College Application Form (unless you are currently enrolled in the college). If you have attended Tri-C previously and not been enrolled for three years or longer you must submit an Admission/Readmission application to the college.** This form is used to admit the applicant as a general student to Cuyahoga Community College. **\*\*This application must be submitted at least six to eight weeks prior to the date you submit your Health Career Program Application.\*\*** A letter of admission from the Director of Admissions and Records will be sent to the student to confirm admission to Tri-C. This application does not admit students to the Pharmacy Technology Program.

**2) All applicants to the Pharmacy Technology Program must complete the Health Careers Application. 3) All applicants must submit an official high school transcripts or GED certificate (Request the high school or GED office where you attended to forward the transcripts or GED scores to any Tri-C Enrollment Center).** If you have attended educational institutions outside the USA, you must notify the Enrollment Center. It is strongly recommended that international students make an appointment with an “International Student Advisor” to obtain information regarding College admission requirements for international students.

**Submit official\* high school transcript with date of graduation, GED transcript, other college transcript(s) and/or Joint Services Transcript (for military credit) and send it to the Registrar's office:**

**Cuyahoga Community College  
Office of the Registrar  
PO Box 5966  
Cleveland OH 44101-0966**

**\*An official transcript must be printed within the last year and sent directly from the institution in a sealed envelope marked “official.”**

- Official transcripts can be hand-delivered to any Enrollment Center office as long as the transcript is in a sealed envelope.**
- Faxed transcripts are not accepted.**
- Transcripts must be received prior to being awarded financial aid and starting classes.**

**3) Admission to the Pharmacy Technology Program is based upon completion of admission requirements and contingent upon available space in the program and experiential sites.** Applicants should submit the application packet as soon as admission requirements are completed.

**4) The Pharmacy Technology Program Director will notify selected candidates who meet all admission requirements with an electronic (email) letter of acceptance and notify them of the next mandatory orientation meeting.**

**5) Candidates must maintain a minimum of a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (based on a 4.00 scale) for the prerequisite courses (or equivalent transfer courses from another college or university).**