



Pharmacy Technician

Degree: Associate of Applied Science (AAS)

Certificate: Level 1 (C1)



HEALTH SCIENCES

Program Description: The Pharmacy Technician is an integral member of the health care team. Pharmacy Technicians work with pharmacists in the preparation and distribution of pharmaceutical products in a variety of health care settings, including hospital and community pharmacies. Duties of a Pharmacy Technician include data entry, counting, pouring and labeling pharmaceutical products, customer service, sterile product preparation, and inventory management.

The Pharmacy Technician program is a five-semester Associate of Applied Science degree or a two-semester Level 1 Certificate that combines classroom and laboratory instruction with clinical experiences in local pharmacies. The program accepts students fall, spring and summer semesters with various schedules. Please check the department website for additional schedule details. Upon completion of the program, students are eligible to take the national Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam. Certified Pharmacy Technicians may be eligible for advanced speciality certifications through ACC's ACPE Accredited Continuing Education Program.

In order to meet requirements of clinical agencies, health insurance, criminal background checks, and drug screenings for all Health Sciences students are now required as part of the admissions process.

Admission to the college does not guarantee admission to the Pharmacy Technician program. Applicants admitted to the program are required to have a physical examination, documentation of immunizations, and verification of tuberculosis status. Once accepted into the program, students will register with the Texas State Board of Pharmacy as a Technician Trainee. This process will require an additional criminal background check and a fingerprinting. The fingerprinting process requires the student to provide a valid Social Security Number. Applicants must provide necessary information regarding any drug, alcohol, or conviction history for determination of trainee and licensure eligibility. Students will also be required to complete a drug test prior to taking PHRA 2266.

This Pharmacy Technician program is accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) and the Accreditation Council on Pharmacy Education (ACPE). For information about accredited pharmacy technician programs, contact ASHP, c/o Accreditation Services, 7272 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814; phone (301) 657-3000.

Students may take up to two courses prior to acceptance into the Pharmacy Technician program. Those courses are: HPRS 1106 Essentials of Medical Terminology and HPRS 1171 Student Success for Health Professionals.

Students working toward admission into a Health Science Program are required to declare the General Studies in Pre-Health Sciences degree as their major until they are officially accepted into a program.

Program changes may not be reflected in the current ACC Catalog publication. Please access the most up to date information on the program web page through a link at www.austincc.edu/health/ or by contacting the Health Sciences Admissions Offices at Eastview Campus, Room 8356 or Round Rock Campus, Room 3105.

*Use this **Program Map** to choose courses with your college advisor and track your progress towards milestones and completion of program.*

Contact:

Health Sciences
www.austincc.edu/health

Eastview Campus

Phone: 512-223-5700

Toll-free: 888-626-1697

Round Rock Campus:

Phone: 512-223-0220

Email: healthsciences@austincc.edu

Department Website:

sites.austincc.edu/health/phra/

Pre-Degree Requirements	
Program Specific	Mathematics Placement <i>Placements based on TSI</i>
<p>Certificate students automatically complete the first two semesters (except ENGL 1301) of the AAS degree plan and are encouraged to consider continuing their education by obtaining the Associate degree in Pharmacy Technician.</p> <p>Co-requisite Courses: The courses listed below are the foundational courses of both the Pharmacy Technician Level I Certificate and AAS Degree Program. As such, these courses should be the first courses taken by all PHRA students. The courses listed below may be taken prior to acceptance into the program, or as co-requisites to other first semester courses. Applicants with the most co-requisite courses completed in the degree plan will be given priority admission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Success for Health Professionals (HPRS 1171) may be taken prior to acceptance in the program. • Medical Terms (HPRS 1106; Note: HPRS 1206 is also acceptable) may be taken prior to acceptance in the program. • Intro to Pharmacy (PHRA 1201) • Pharmaceutical Mathematics (PHRA 1309) <p>Technical Standards: Health Sciences programs establish technical standards and essential functions to insure that students have the abilities required to participate and potentially be successful in all aspects of the respective programs. Students are required to meet published technical standards and essential functions for the program. See specific program website for details.</p> <p>Additional Requirements: Each program has specific admission requirements. See Pharmacy Technician Program website for detailed information. Pharmacy Technician certificate and AAS degree program applicants, as well as those considering application to the pharmacy technician program, should set up an advising appointment with the program department chair by calling 512-223-5941.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ NCBM and MATD courses paired with MATH courses □ NCBM and MATD courses
	Reading and Writing Placement <i>Placements based on TSI</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Basic Developmental Courses □ ESOL Courses □ INRW Courses

<i>D: Degree</i>	SEMESTER-BY-SEMESTER PROGRAM PLAN FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS
<i>C1: Level 1 Certificate</i>	<i>Plans can be modified to fit the needs of part-time students by adding more semesters</i>

C1	D	Semester 1	CR	Advising Notes
●	●	HPRS 1171 - Student Success for Health Professionals	1	This course is required regardless of previous coursework. EDUC 1100 can be substituted. DO THIS – Submit immunizations, information session forms, and completed program application per PHRA website.
●	●	HPRS 1106 - Essentials of Medical Terminology	1	HPRS 1206 can be substituted.
●	●	PHRA 1205 - Drug Classification	2	Corequisites: Previous or concurrent enrollment in the following courses: HPRS 1106 or HPRS 1206; HPRS 1171.
●	●	PHRA 1309 - Pharmaceutical Mathematics I	3	Prerequisites: Admission to Pharmacy Tech program. Corequisite: Previous or concurrent enrollment in HPRS 1171.
●	●	PHRA 1313 - Community Pharmacy Practice	3	Corequisites: Previous or concurrent enrollment in the following courses: HPRS 1106 or HPRS 1206; HPRS 1171.
●	●	PHRA 1201 - Introduction to Pharmacy	2	Prerequisite: Previous or concurrent enrollment in HPRS 1171 is required regardless of previous coursework.
●	●	PHRA 1349 - Institutional Pharmacy Practice	3	Prerequisites: Previous or concurrent enrollment in the following courses: HPRS 1106 or HPRS 1206; HPRS 1171.
			15	Program Semester Hours / Meet with your program advisor
		Semester 2		
●	●	PHRA 1441 - Pharmacy Drug Therapy and Treatment	4	Prerequisites: HPRS 1106 or HPRS 1206; PHRA 1201 or PHRA 1301; PHRA 1205; and HPRS 1171.
●	●	PHRA 1345 - Compounding Sterile Preparations and Aseptic Technique	3	Prerequisites: PHRA 1309; HPRS 1106 or HPRS 1206; HPRS 1171; PHRA 1201 or PHRA 1301.
●	●	PHRA 2266 - Practicum – Pharmacy Technician/Assistant	2	Prerequisites: HPRS 1106 or HPRS 1206; HPRS 1171; PHRA 1201 or PHRA 1301; PHRA 1205; PHRA 1309; PHRA 1313; and PHRA 1349. Corequisites: Previous or concurrent enrollment in the following courses: PHRA 1345 and PHRA 1441. Capstone for Level 1 Certificate. ACHIEVEMENT: Level 1 Certificate in Pharmacy Technician
	●	ENGL 1301 - English Composition	3	Prerequisite: TSI complete in reading and writing or exempt.
			12	Program Semester Hours / Meet with program advisor

Semester 3			
	●	MATH 1314 - College Algebra	3 Prerequisites: MATD 0390, MATD 0414, or NCBM 0214; with a grade of C or higher. Or a satisfactory score on the ACC Mathematics Assessment Test or completion of TSI requirements in Mathematics. Students who are TSI Complete in Math based on completion of MATD 0385 or MATD 0485 are NOT eligible for College Algebra.
	●	SPCH 1311 - Communication for Health Professionals	3 Speech 1311 with the topic Communication for Healthcare Professionals is recommended.
	●	PHRA 2372 - Chemotherapy Compounding	3 Prerequisites: HPRS 1106 or HPRS 1206; HPRS 1171; PHRA 1201 or PHRA 1301; PHRA 1205; PHRA 1309; PHRA 1313; PHRA 1345; and PHRA 1349. Capstone course. These courses may be taken in any order but all must be completed in order to graduate with AAS.
			9 Program Semester Hours / Meet with your program advisor
Semester 4			
	●	BIOL 2404 - Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology	4
	●	PSYC 2301 - Introduction to Psychology	3
	●	COSC 1301 - Introduction to Computing	3 Or select any 3 credit hour course from rubrics COSC, POFT or POFM.
	●	PHRA 2271 - Basic Extemporaneous Compounding (Non-Sterile)	2 Prerequisites: HPRS 1106 or HPRS 1206; HPRS 1171; PHRA 1201 or PHRA 1301; PHRA 1205; PHRA 1309; PHRA 1313; PHRA 1345; and PHRA 1349.
			12 Program Semester Hours / Meet with your program advisor
Semester 5			
	●	PHIL 2306 - Ethics	3 DO THIS – If you haven't already completed the PTCE, apply to take the national Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam.
	●	HPRS 2301 - Pathophysiology	3 Prerequisites: Completion of 4 credit hours of BIOL 2304 and BIOL 2101 OR BIOL 2404 OR BIOL 2401; AND HPRS 1106 or HPRS 1206 or HITT 1305.
	●	PHRA 2373 - Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN) Compounding	3 Prerequisites: HPRS 1106 or HPRS 1206; HPRS 1171; PHRA 1201 or PHRA 1301; PHRA 1205; PHRA 1309; PHRA 1313; PHRA 1345; and PHRA 1349. Capstone course. These courses may be taken in any order but all must be completed in order to graduate with AAS.
	●	PHRA 2374 - Pediatric Preparations	3 Prerequisites: HPRS 1106 or HPRS 1206; HPRS 1171; PHRA 1201 or PHRA 1301; PHRA 1205; PHRA 1309; PHRA 1313; PHRA 1345; and PHRA 1349. Capstone course. These courses may be taken in any order but all must be completed in order to graduate with AAS. ACHIEVEMENT: Associate of Applied Science in Pharmacy Technician
			12
Total Program Hours: 60			

Please always check online at catalog.austincc.edu or meet with your academic or program advisor to ensure that you are viewing the latest and most accurate information.

Career & Transfer Resources

ACC's Career and Transfer websites provide detailed, guided information on career exploration and transfer.

www.austincc.edu/career

www.austincc.edu/transfer

For further information regarding this specific program, please see the Career & Transfer Resources supplement provided in the next section of this Program Map.

Program Map

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Career & Transfer Resources Updated 8/18/17

Career Information

Pharmacy technicians help licensed pharmacists provide medication and other healthcare products to patients. Technicians usually perform tasks such as processing prescriptions and medication orders, which includes: counting tablets, labeling bottles, preparing solutions, creams, and ointments, inventory management, and customer service. Technicians may also work with pharmacy robotics, automation, or informatics, as well as perform sterile and non-sterile compounding. Pharmacy Technicians may be employed in retail pharmacies, hospitals, nursing homes, long-term care facilities, chemotherapy centers, and specialty compounding facilities, as well as in pharmacy manufacturing or sales. Technicians work under the direct supervision of a pharmacist. Technicians are registered by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy.

****NOTE:** Certified pharmacy technicians and those who have completed an ASHP/ACPE accredited pharmacy technician program frequently attain starting pay that is approximately \$1.50 per hour higher than the mean wages listed above.

Note: Graduates of the ACC Pharmacy Technician Certificate Program earn one advanced pharmacy specialty certification. Students graduating from the Pharmacy Technician AAS degree program earn five advanced pharmacy specialty certifications. Graduates from accredited pharmacy technician programs who possess advanced pharmacy specialty certifications generally start at a significantly higher rate of pay than those who do not have the same qualifications.

Regional Labor Market Information

Pharmacy Technician: New workers generally start around \$22,442. Normal pay for Pharmacy Technicians is \$31,326 per year, while highly experienced workers can earn as much as \$39,751 in this region. Over the last year, 101 companies have posted 1,819 jobs for Pharmacy Technicians.

Source: <https://austincc.emsicc.com/careers/pharmacy-technician/wages>

Career and labor market research tools (see Quick Reference Guide at <http://www.austincc.edu/career>):

EMSI: <https://austincc.emsicc.com/>, Bureau of Labor Statistics: <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>, O*NET: <https://www.onetonline.org/>

Career Resources: ACC's career services website provides information on career exploration and employment at <http://www.austincc.edu/career>. Students are encouraged to consult with their [area of study advisor](#) for additional career assistance. The above information is provided as a guide and reference tool for occupations related to this program. This is not a guarantee of job placement in any of these occupations after successful completion of an ACC program. The common job titles listed are representative titles and are provided for career research. These are not the only occupations possible in this area of study.

Transfer Information

The Associate of Applied Science in Pharmacy Technician prepares students to directly enter the workforce as a pharmacy tech. A Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) is an option for students who have earned an AAS degree who want to complete a 4-year degree. These degrees apply non-transferable courses and work experience towards the degree. You still must meet general education requirements and take upper level courses.

Transfer Guides: *The universities listed here do not constitute an ACC endorsement. Transfer course evaluations and determination of which courses will count toward a bachelor's degree are made by the receiving transfer institution.*

Texas State University: <http://www.owls.txstate.edu/undergraduate-degrees/applied-arts-sciences.html>

Concordia University Texas: <http://www.concordia.edu/academics/college-of-business-and-communication/baas-in-business.html>

Tarleton State University: <http://www.tarleton.edu/degrees/bachelors/baas-business/>

Texas A&M University - Central Texas: <https://www.tamuct.edu/degrees/undergraduate/business-management.html>

Texas Tech University: https://www.depts.ttu.edu/universitystudies/prospective_students/baas.php

Additional Transfer Resources: ACC's transfer website provides information on additional colleges & universities: <http://www.austincc.edu/transferguides>. Students are encouraged to consult with a faculty advisor, [area of study advisor](#), and/or their chosen transfer institution to ensure courses taken at ACC will apply toward their bachelor's degree program.