

R&E How to Get Your Pharm. Tech License 2/1

Start: 6:10

Rx Tech Roles and Overview

- Fill Prescriptions
 - Hands them off to pharmacist and the pharmacists verify it
 - Type out prescriptions
- Handles Insurance
 - Communicates with insurance companies
- Handles Stock
- Talk to patients

How to Get Your License

- Path 1
 - Take a course or work 500 hours as a technician
 - Take and Pass the PTCE
 - Apply for a license
 - Work and renew your license every 2 years
- Path 2
 - Work 240 hours at a pharmacy (not licensed)
 - Get certified in the state of CA
 - Renew the license every 2 years

PTCE

- 90 multiple choice
 - 10 are unscored
- 2 hours to complete the exam
 - 5 minute tutorial to pick the answer
 - 5 minutes for a post survey
- Can take online and have it proctored or take it in person at a specific location chosen by the PTCB
- Passing Score = 1400
 - Scores usually between 1000-1600
 - New! (Since last year 2020) - you need to complete a PTCB approved course OR have 500 hours completed as a pharmacy technician
- Exam Topic Breakdown
 - Medication - 40%
 - Federal Requirements - 12.5%

- Control schedules, DEA, etc.
 - Order + Entry Processing - 21.25%
 - Compounding procedures, math, lot numbers, NDC
 - Drug and patient information
 - Patient Safety + Quality and Insurance - 26.25%
 - All of these are usually covered in the pharm tech course as well as pharm tech books
- How to apply for the exam
 - Make an account at <http://www.ptcb.org>
 - Order the exam (costs \$129)
 - Once approved an email confirmation will be sent with the exam date and location
- On exam day
 - Arrive and check in 30 minutes early
 - Bring an approved form of ID
 - Preliminary results show right after the exam
 - Official results show up 2-3 weeks afterwards
- Recommended Resources
 - RxTech Exam
 - Costs \$200-250
 - PTCB recognized
 - <https://rxtechexam.com/home/>
 - Online Practice Exams and Quizzes
 - PTCB has a practice exam but it costs money
 - But gives you a better example of what the actual exam will be like
 - Mosby's Review for Pharmacy Tech certification
 - 3rd edition works fine!
 - Other resources
 - <http://ptcbtestprep.com/ptcb-blog/>
 - <http://www.pharmacytechshq.com/resources-library/>

Certification

- State Board of Pharmacy
 - Application fee is \$195
 - Written as a check and for the California State Board of Pharmacy
 - Pharmacy Tech Application

- Download from pharmacy.ca.gov
- SSN or Taxpayer Identification Number
- A passport style photo
 - Goes on page 1 of your application
 - ****Taken within 60 days of filling the application****
- Proof of education
 - High school transcript
- PTCB Certification
 - Download from PTCB website
- Self Query Report
 - Obtained from NPDB
 - Will be mailed out to you
 - ****Make sure it stays SEALED****
 - Fee required (~\$10)
- Fingerprint Live Scan
 - ****Taken within 60 days of filling the application****
 - Price varies (\$45-90)
- Application process will take about 45 days to be processed

License Renewal

- Done every 2 years
- Renewal Application opens 60 days before expiration
- Need to complete a minimum about 20 hours of Continuing Education
 - More details can be found on the PTCB website
- Renewal fee of \$200
- Can renew through online or mail

Tips

- Set a schedule for studying to give yourself enough time
- Take advantage of online study resources
- Make sure you have all your materials for your application (photo, live fingerprint scan, transcript, etc.)
- After you pass your exam but waiting for results for your license you can start applying for jobs!

Q&A

- Certified vs. License
 - Passing the exam = certified
 - Sending in your application = licensed

- What's the difference between pharm tech in training and just regular pharm tech?
Does training mean you aren't licensed?
 - Work 500 hours can take the PTCE, clerk is working the cashier and doing front work, while working as a pharm tech you touch the medication and such
- What are the recommended hours of studying?
 - It doesn't take too long to finish the rxtech course
 - Wish studied more the top 200 drugs
 - Do whatever works for you that is more your speed of studying
 - Don't really need too much knowledge about the drug when working at an actual pharmacy

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