

## Pharmacy Technician Program Information

1. **The purpose of the training program:** The purpose of the WCCC pharmacy technician training program is to provide individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary to work as a pharmacy technician in a variety of healthcare settings. Pharmacy technicians are responsible for assisting pharmacists in preparing and dispensing medications, maintaining patient records, and managing inventory.

As a student, you will learn topics such as pharmaceutical calculations, medication safety, pharmacy law and regulations, pharmacology, and customer service. Our program also includes hands-on training in medication preparation and dispensing, and experience working in a pharmacy setting.

Completion of the WCCC pharmacy technician training program prepares students for certification and licensure as a pharmacy technician, as well as helps them develop the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in their careers. Additionally, many employers require or prefer candidates who have completed a formal training program as part of their hiring criteria.

Students will be prepared to sit for the PTCE (Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam), the national certification exam given by the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB). Passing this exam is required for pharmacy technicians seeking a Colorado state license to practice.

2. **Program Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of the Pharmacy Technician Program, you should be able to:
  - Interpret, fill, and distribute prescriptions for medications in the community and institutional pharmacy settings under pharmacist supervision.
  - Demonstrate proper aseptic technique in the preparation of sterile medication products.
  - Accurately perform pharmaceutical calculations applicable to job responsibilities in both community and institutional pharmacy settings.
  - Demonstrate knowledge of the use and side effects of prescription and nonprescription drugs used to treat common disease states.
  - Apply the laws governing the practice of pharmacy at the state and federal levels.
3. **Prospects for Employment:** Pharmacy technician employment prospects are generally favorable due to the increasing demand for prescription medications and the expanding role of pharmacists in patient care. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects that employment of pharmacy technicians will grow 5 percent from 2021 to 2031, which is about as fast as the average for all occupations.

Pharmacy technicians can find employment in a variety of healthcare settings, including retail pharmacies, hospitals, nursing homes, and mail-order pharmacies. They may also work in pharmaceutical research and development or in the pharmaceutical industry.

In addition, pharmacy technicians who have completed formal training programs and earned certification may have an advantage in the job market, as employers often prefer or require certification for pharmacy technician positions. Some states also require pharmacy technicians

to be licensed or registered, which may provide additional employment opportunities for individuals who meet these requirements.

Overall, the employment prospects for pharmacy technicians are promising, and individuals who have completed training programs and earned certification can expect to have a competitive edge in the job market.

4. **Salary Expectations:**

**Pharmacy Technician National** = \$36,740/ annually (Bureau of Labor Statistics: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/pharmacy-technicians.htm>)

**Pharmacy Technician Colorado**= \$40,550/annually (Bureau of Labor Statistics: [https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_co.htm](https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_co.htm))

5. **Pharmacy Technician Program Tuition & Fees:** Knowing your financial obligation and what to expect regarding the cost of the program is important! Upon acceptance into the college all students will receive information regarding cost expectations, financial aid options, and payment plan information. Immediate information can also be found on the college website on the Tuition & Fees page, where you can apply for financial aid, review the cost of attendance, and more. For a detailed breakdown of fees and programmatic costs, contact the student services department for the latest information. <https://www.coloradomesa.edu/student-accounts/expenses.html>
6. **Program Accreditation:** WCCC/CMU is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. The pharmacy technician program at WCCC is also a PTCB approved training program.
7. **Pass rate:** Since 2022 WCCC's Pharmacy Technician Program has achieved a 100% pass rate for program graduates who choose to sit for the National Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam.