



The Value of PTCB Certification

According to a recent public perception survey****, certification is valued by the public and ensures more employment opportunities:

- **94%** of the public say their trust in pharmacy technicians' work would increase with standardized training and certification.
- **85%** say it is very important for people preparing prescriptions to be certified.
- Almost all consumers, **88%**, say it is very important for people who compound or mix custom medications to be specially trained and certified.
- **74%** believe it is very important that pharmacies only hire technicians who are certified.
- **76%** would seek out a pharmacy where technicians are required to be certified.

PTCB CERTIFIED PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

CAREER GUIDE

Q) True or False? People who work in pharmacies and help prepare medications are not all pharmacists.

A) True. Certified Pharmacy Technicians (CPhTs) perform essential duties in pharmacies under the supervision of a pharmacist and are vital members of the pharmacy team.

Choose PTCB.
Choose Excellence.



ptcb.org



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What is a pharmacy technician?

A pharmacy technician is an essential member of the pharmacy team who fills important roles in pharmacies across practice settings, including community, hospital/health-system, ambulatory care, military, compounding, online, veterinary, and more. Pharmacy technicians work under the supervision of a pharmacist.

What do pharmacy technicians do?

Pharmacy technician roles and responsibilities range from entry-level to advanced, and vary, depending on practice setting. Pharmacy technicians may:

- enter prescription orders
- package and label prescriptions
- operate automated dispensing systems
- maintain inventories
- arrange for patients to speak with pharmacists
- process insurance claims
- compound sterile preparations
- reconcile medications (medication reconciliation)
- manage medication therapy (MTM)
- assist with immunizations
- check other technician's work (tech-check-tech)
- verify prescriptions

How can pharmacy technicians prepare for employment?

Becoming certified is fundamental for pharmacy technicians seeking employment. Many employers and/or State Boards of Pharmacy require certification. PTCB Certified Pharmacy Technicians (CPhTs) are qualified to support pharmacists and patient care teams across practice settings anywhere in the US.

Why is PTCB Certification important?

Community pharmacy employers often require PTCB Certification and more than 77% of health-system/hospital pharmacy technicians are certified by PTCB*. State Boards of Pharmacy typically require state licensure and/or national certification to ensure that practicing technicians meet certain qualifications. PTCB Certification is accepted in all 50 states, Guam, and Puerto Rico. To review a state's requirements, visit the state's Board of Pharmacy website or go to www.nabp.pharmacy.

What is the job outlook?

The Bureau of Labor and Statistics (BLS) projects employment of pharmacy technicians will increase by 12% between 2016 and 2026***. Demand for CPhTs is increasing as they take on a greater role in pharmacy.

Steps to Achieving PTCB Certification

1. Complete high school**
2. Apply at ptcb.org
3. Schedule your date to take the Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam (PTCE)
4. Pass the PTCE
5. Recertify every 2 years

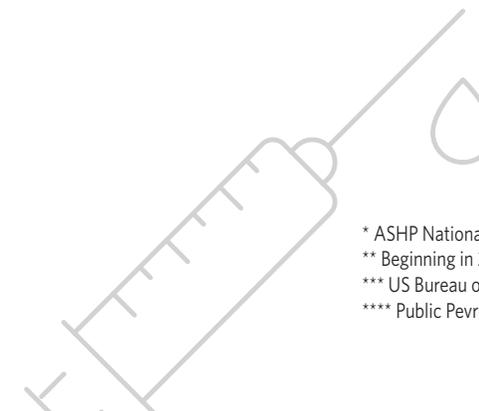


* ASHP National Survey of Pharmacy Practice in Hospital Settings - Prescribing and Transcribing 2016

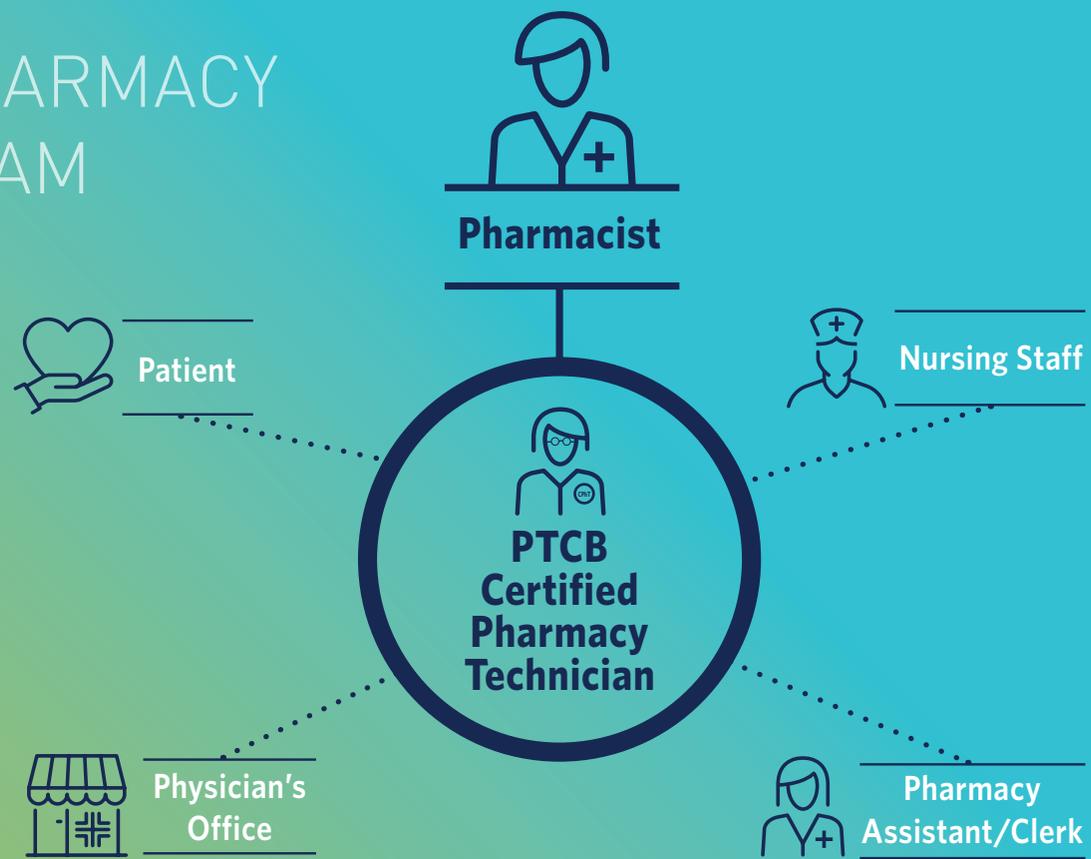
** Beginning in 2020, PTCB will require completion of a PTCB-recognized education/training program OR equivalent work experience.

*** US Bureau of Labor Statistics, US Department of Labor

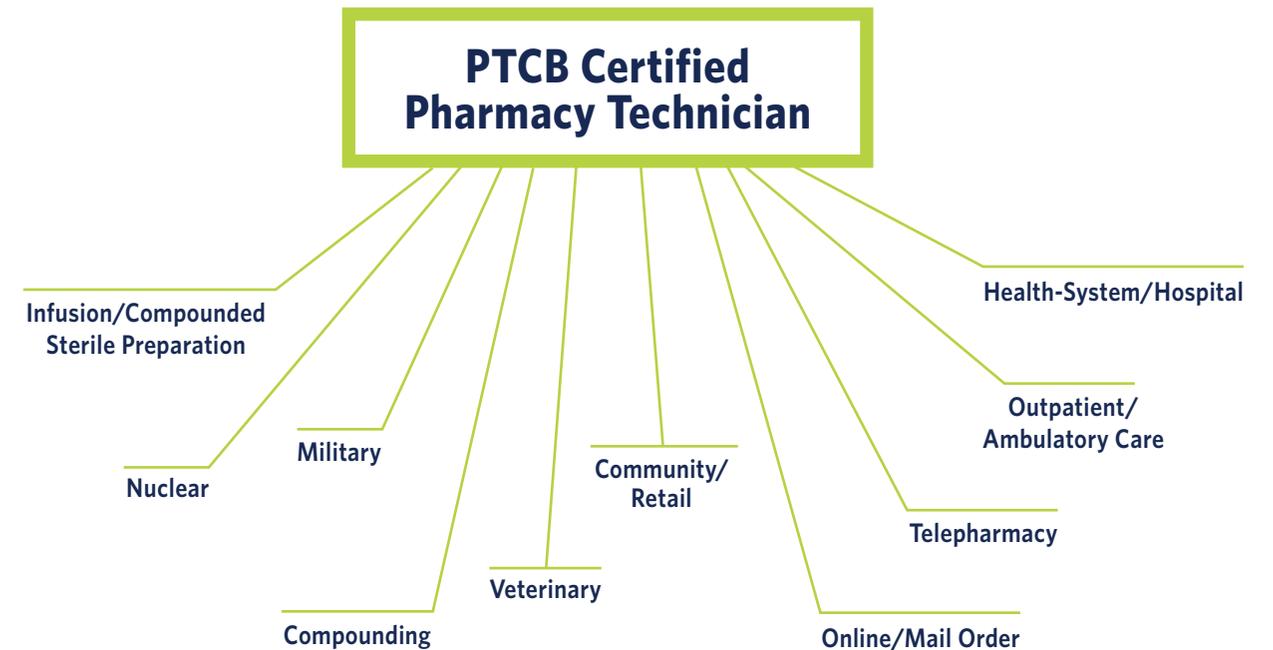
**** Public Perception Survey, PTCB 2016, ptcb.org



PHARMACY TEAM



PHARMACY PRACTICE SETTINGS



“Pharmacy technicians should obtain and maintain their PTCB CPhT Certification throughout their professional career. Once certified, a CPhT gains flexibility to work throughout the US with a nationally-recognized certification they can use in any practice setting within the realm of pharmacy.”

—Tiffany Kofroth, CPhT, CSPT



“I was placed in an advantageous position compared to my fellow technicians when I acquired PTCB Certification. When employers are hiring or advancing employees, they choose those who are PTCB-Certified.”

—Nadia Camacho, CPhT

How can PTCB CPhTs advance in their careers?

As pharmacists become responsible for more direct patient care in settings such as pharmacy-based immunization programs and community pharmacy clinics, PTCB CPhTs are assuming expanded roles that advance their careers. These include medication safety, immunization assistance, supply chain management, financial assistance, medication therapy management, patient care transitions, training, leadership, and supervisory roles.

Does PTCB offer advanced certifications?

PTCB CPhTs working in health systems and other settings may be responsible for preparing intravenous and other medications using sterile techniques. PTCB offers the **Compounded Sterile Preparation Technician™ (CSPT™)** Certification to qualified PTCB CPhTs.

How do CPhTs find employment?

The PTCB Career Center at careers.ptcb.org is an online resource to help PTCB CPhTs find jobs across pharmacy practice settings. Through this site, CPhTs from across the US apply for jobs and employers post job openings and browse resumes.

How can CPhTs get involved in their profession?

State pharmacy associations and national pharmacy associations, including the American Pharmacists Association and the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, offer pharmacy technician memberships, continuing education, and opportunities to be a voice for CPhTs.

