Empowering CPhTs for Success

The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that pharmacy technician employment is expected to increase more than 31% by 2018[1]. Individuals must find creative ways to network within the profession and stand out in the growing pharmacy technician workforce.

PTCB remains committed to providing our Certified Pharmacy Technicians (CPhTs) with the resources necessary to leverage their certification and advance patient safety through employment within the pharmacy profession. We hope you find this guide useful in navigating your career path.


PTCB Mission

The Pharmacy Technician Certification Board develops, maintains, promotes, and administers a nationally accredited certification and recertification program for pharmacy technicians to enable the most effective support of pharmacists to advance patient safety.

Career Resource GUIDE

For additional information on the PTCB Certification Program, or employment resources, please visit www.ptcb.org.
Maintain Your Certification

Many employers and/or State Boards of Pharmacy require that pharmacy technicians maintain their PTCB certification for employment. Certification demonstrates your commitment to the profession, and positions you for career advancement.

Volunteer

Volunteering in a pharmacy is a great way to get your foot in the door and gain practical knowledge before landing your dream job. While most volunteer positions do not pay, they look great on a résumé, offer an opportunity to give back to patients, and show employers that you are committed to being a pharmacy technician. Check with local community pharmacies, hospitals, and health-systems for openings in your area.

Connect through Social Media

Social media has become an increasingly important way for CPhTs to network within the profession and build relationships with other pharmacy technicians and employers. Through sites like LinkedIn and Facebook, you can interact directly with fellow pharmacy technicians and employers, view job announcements direct from recruiters and employers, and maintain a professional profile visible to potential employers.

Search Online

Online career centers like those offered by the American Association of Pharmacy Technicians (AAPT) and the National Pharmacy Technician Association (NPTA) are a great platform to post résumés, search job openings, and interact with employers. Many career centers are open to both job seekers and employers.

Join a Professional Association

Professional associations, such as AAPT, NPTA, and national pharmacy associations and societies offer pharmacy membership options exclusively for pharmacy technicians and often at a discounted rate. These organizations may host networking events, Continuing Education (CE) opportunities, and offer employment resources unique to your geographic location.

Learn a New Skill

Pharmacy technicians with advanced training and certification are taking on many innovative roles within the pharmacy profession. Consider learning a new skill or earning an advanced certification in sterile products, chemotherapy, or compounding to build your resume and take on new responsibilities.

Complete an ASHP Accredited Training Program

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) accredited pharmacy technician training programs involve a combination of classroom instruction, as well as experiential training and internships, where students gain hands-on experience in actual pharmacies. Experience is a key component in employer hiring decisions. For full details on ASHP accreditation standards, policies and procedures, and a directory of accredited programs, please visit www.ashp.org.

Network within the Profession

National pharmacy meetings and conventions are a great way to network within the profession. Many offer pharmacy technician-specific CE opportunities, providing you with an excellent way to keep up with the latest advances in the field.

Do-it-Yourself

Resources, like the free ebook The Edupunks’ Guide to a DIY Credential! The Edupunks’ Guide sponsored by the Gates Foundation, provide great tips on learning online using the latest innovative tools. To learn more, visit www.edupunksguide.org.