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**PHARMACY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM AT**

**LONE STAR COLLEGE NORTH HARRIS (LSC-NHC)**

**At LSC-NHC, we offer 2 certificate programs, day and evening. The day program begins in late August and ends in mid May of the following year. The daytime classes meet Mon-Fri from 8:00 am to 2 pm. The evening program begins in mid January and ends in late November of the same year. The evening classes meet Mon-Thurs from 6 pm to 10 pm. Once the students complete the certificate program, they can continue to the Associate Applied Science (AAS) degree program in pharmacy technology.**

**To apply, call the academic advisor Meishon Bell at 281-765-7957 or send her an e-mail at Meishon.M.Bell@lonestar.edu. The day program enrollment begins in March, while the evening program enrollment begins in November. Since enrollment must be done in person, students must meet all the requirements and have all the required documents before meeting with the academic advisor. *Questions regarding felony or misdemeanor must be addressed to TSBP (Texas State Board of Pharmacy)*.**

**Once the students are enrolled, students must attend a mandatory orientation in order to be in the program. The orientation is held twice a year at the beginning of the fall semester for the daytime students and at the beginning of the spring semester for the evening students. The following are the requirements to be accepted into the certificate program:**

1. **Be a high school graduate or have a GED and submit your official transcript to academic counselors at Lone Star College System.**
2. **Highly recommend (but not required) to meet the math (MATH 0308), reading (ENGL 0305), and writing (ENGL 0306) requirements by taking an examination like the ASSET, COMPASS, TSIA, or THEA or taking these classes and receive a grade of “C” or better.**
3. **Must have a GPA of 2.00 or above. GPA refers to the most recent accumulative GPA.**
4. **Must register with Texas State Board of Pharmacy (TSBP) as a “pharmacy technician trainee” for a background check and fingerprint at** [**www.tsbp.state.tx.us**](http://www.tsbp.state.tx.us) **by clicking on pharmacy technician at the Home page, reading the instructions, then creating a user name and pass word, and completing the initial application. International students must have a social security number to go through this process.**
5. **Must complete a CPR training for healthcare professionals.**

**All requirements must be done before meeting with the academic advisor, Meishon Bell, for enrollment. Documents required for enrollment are: (1) an unofficial transcript issued by Lone Star College; (2) an original CPR card or certificate plus a copy of both sides; and (3) a proof of registration with TSBP such as a fingerprint letter or the red-white certificate plus a copy of it.**

**Training Purpose**

1. To provide student with pharmacy knowledge in assisting the pharmacist in various activities of the pharmacy department including assisting patients and customers, maintaining records, filling and dispensing routine orders for stock supplies of patient care area, maintaining inventory of drug supplies, prepare sterile compound products, dispensing medications, accepting prescriptions and refill requests, assisting the pharmacist in preparing and filing prescriptions.
2. To provide student with experiences working in both the community and hospital pharmacies.
3. To prepare student for the Pharmacy Technician Certification Examination (PTCE).
4. To provide student with an option to pursue an associate of applied science degree in pharmacy technology.

**Employment Prospects**

Employment prospects for pharmacy technicians are good since there has been a steady increase in demand for pharmacy services in the community. With pharmacists are busier than ever, there is a high demand for pharmacy technicians to fill the gap for all technical functions in the pharmacy. With many new drugs launching into the market every year, this creates a high demand for pharmacists to provide patient counseling and pharmacy technicians are definitely needed to relieve pharmacists for their clinical duties. At present, the demand for the pharmacy technician career is up.

**Salary Expectations**

According to the May 2011 pharmacy technician occupational employment and wages, the national mean hourly wage was $14.43 per hour and the national mean annual wage was $30,020 per year. The median hourly wage at 50th percentile was $13.91 per hour with a range of $9.76 per hour in the 10th percentile to $20.13 per hour in the 90th percentile. The median annual wage at 50th percentile was $28,940 per year with a range of $20,310 per year at the 10th percentile to $41,880 per year at the 90th percentile.

There were seven categories of industries that hired a pharmacy technician. They were: (1) health and personal care stores; (2) drugs and druggists’ sundries merchant; (3) other general merchandise stores; (4) electronic shopping and mail-order houses; (5) department stores; (6) grocery stores; and (7) general medical and surgical hospitals. The industries with the highest level of employment and the highest concentration of employment for pharmacy technicians were health and personal care stores (18.79%). On the other hand, the industries with the lowest level of employment for pharmacy technicians were grocery stores (0.95%), and the industries with the lowest concentration of employment for pharmacy technicians were department stores (1.16%). The industries with the highest mean wage per hour ($16.26) and the highest mean wage per year ($33,830) were general medical and surgical hospitals, and the industries with the lowest mean wage per hour ($13.13) and the lowest wage per year ($27,300) were department stores.

There were five top paying industries for pharmacy technicians: (1) federal executive branch; (2) management, scientific, and technical consulting services; (3) outpatient care centers; (4) computer system design and related services; and (5) colleges, universities, and professional schools. The number one top paying industries for pharmacy technicians were federal executive branches (OES designation) with the mean wage of $19.40 per hour and $40,350 per year. Colleges, universities, and professional schools had the lowest number of pharmacy technician employment (0.04%) and the lowest wage of $17.85 per hour or $37,120 per year among the five top paying industries for pharmacy technicians.

The top five states with the highest employment for pharmacy technicians in descending order were: (1) California; (2) Texas; (3) Florida; (4) New York; and (5) Illinois. However, based on the employment per thousand jobs statistics, Florida, Illinois, and Texas were the top three states. The highest mean hourly wage ($18.45) and mean annual wage ($38,380) were in California, while the lowest mean hourly wage ($13.56) and mean annual wage ($28,190) were in Florida.

There were six metropolitan areas in the United States with the highest employment level for pharmacy technicians. They were: (1) Chicago; (2) New York; (3) Houston; (4) Los Angeles; (5) Atlanta; and (6) Dallas. Chicago area had the highest number of employment for pharmacy technicians (9,210), while Dallas area had the lowest number of employment for pharmacy technicians (4,790). For wages, Los Angeles had the highest pay with the mean hourly wage of $17.88 and mean annual wage of $37,200, while Atlanta had the lowest pay with the mean hourly wage of $13.76 and mean annual wage of $28,610.

**Continuing Education Requirements**

CE requirements for maintaining the certified pharmacy technician status, 20 hours of CE every 2 years and at least one hour must be in pharmacy law. For more information, please go to <http://www.nabp.net/programs/cpe-monitor/cpe-monitor-service/technicians>​

**AHA-Healthcare Provider CPR**

These are just a few of the local places that offer AHA-Healthcare Provider CPR. You do NOT have to use one of these. This list may not be 100% accurate. Please call the company for more information or if you have questions.

**CPR-NOW** 22730 Lain Rd, Spring, TX 77379

[www.cpr-now.com](http://www.cpr-now.com)

281-379-6022

Every Saturday at 9am

Every Wednesday at 6pm

**Lansford’s Life Savers** 925-550-6190

[elansford@gmail.com](mailto:elansford@gmail.com)

Conroe Area

Call for info, flexible schedules available.

$50.00 for initial BLS for Healthcare Provider

(Capable of accepting credit cards)

**Keep ‘em Pumpin’** 713-301-0899

**Cypress Creek EMS** Lisa Robbins

7111 Five Forks, Houston, 77379

281-378-0800

**Harris County** 2800 Aldine Bender Rd. Houston, TX 77032

**Emergency Corps** 281-449-3131

[www.HCEC.com](http://www.HCEC.com) (for schedules and registration, under the education tab)

**Cy-Fair VFD** 9630 Telge Rd, Houston, TX 77095

281-550-6663

**You can also look for other companies at the AHA’s website:**

**AHA (American Heart Association)**

[www.AmericanHeart.org](http://www.AmericanHeart.org)

10060 Buffalo Speedway

Houston, Texas

877-AHA-4CPR

**Fall Start date course offering by semester**

**Fall**

PHRA 1309 Pharmaceutical Math I 3 credit hours

PHRA 1413 Community Pharmacy Practice 4 credit hours

PHRA 1102 Pharmacy Law 1 credit hour

PHRA 1305 Drug Classification 3 credit hours

PHRA 1361 Clinical I (Community Pharmacy Intersh) 3 credit hours

**Spring**

PHRA 1347 Pharmaceutical Math II 3 credit hours

PHRA 1449 Institutional Pharmacy Practice 4 credit hours

PHRA 1304 Pharmacotherapy and Disease Process 3 credit hours

PHRA 1345 Intravenous Admixture & Sterile Compd 3 credit hours

PHRA 1143 Pharmacy Technician Certification Review 1 credit hour

**Summer Mini**

PHRA 2361 Clinical II (Hospital Pharmacy Internship) 3 credit hours

**Spring Start date course offering by semester**

**Spring**

PHRA 1305 Drug Classification 3 credit hours

PHRA 1413 Community Pharmacy Practice 4 credit hours

PHRA 1102 Pharmacy Law 1 credit hour

PHRA 1309 Pharmaceutical Mathematics I 3 credit hours

**Summer Mini**

PHRA 1361 Clinical I (Community Pharmacy Int) 3 credit hours

**Summer**

PHRA 1347 Pharmaceutical Mathematics II 3 credit hours

PHRA 1345 Intravenous Admixture & Sterile Compounding 3 credit hours

**Fall**

PHRA 1304 Pharmacotherapy and Disease Process 3 credit hours

PHRA 1143 Pharmacy Technician Certification Review 1 credit hour

PHRA 1449 Institutional Pharmacy Practice 4 credit hours

PHRA 2361 Clinical II (Hospital Pharmacy Internship) 3 credit hours