Pharmacy Experiences mainly...

Becoming a Pharmacy Technician

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Pharmacy Experiences

- Pharmacy technician
- Working any role in a pharmacy (cashier, etc.)
- Pharmacist shadowing (diversity is good -- don’t just shadow a community pharmacist)
- Research
- Clinics or any other volunteer work
- Experiences in leadership, teamwork, diversity, etc.
  - Basically any typical pre-health experience will be good!

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What does a pharmacy technician do?

- Pharmacy technicians work closely with pharmacists and other healthcare professionals in settings such as hospitals, clinics, and community pharmacies.

- Roles typically include:
  - Accurately prepare and distribute patient medications
  - Prepare sterile medications
  - Work directly with patients to obtain medication histories
  - Ensure compliance with regulatory requirements
  - and more!
Why become a pharmacy technician?

- Healthcare is adding pharmacy technician jobs -- expected growth is 12% through 2026.
- There are lots of options in your work environment.
- There is opportunity for advancement.
  - Excellent experience for becoming a pharmacist!
- Average pay in CA is $17.36 / hour.
Pharmacy technician requirements in CA

- CA requires you to possess and keep current registration with the California State Board of Pharmacy to work as a pharmacy technician.

- To apply for a license, you must complete and submit the application for pharmacy technician license ($80 fee).

- The following are minimum requirements for registering for licensing:
  - Have a high school diploma or GED
  - Meet one of the following education requirements:
    - Complete a PTCB (Pharmacy Technician Certification Board) recognized education/training program.
    - Equivalent work experience as a pharmacy technician (min. 500 hours).
PTCB-recognized pharmacy technician programs in CA

- There are 146 recognized programs in California.
- Most programs can be completed in less than 1 year.
- Tuition prices are on a large spectrum, but most look to be around $2,000.
Obtaining certification in CA

● Must take the CPhT (Certified Pharmacy Technician) Certification exam.
  ○ Offered year-round at Pearson testing centers.
  ○ $129 fee.
  ○ Computer based exam: 90 questions, 110 minutes.
  ○ Unofficial score will be shown immediately after completion, and an official report will be made in 2-3 weeks after the exam.
  ○ If you pass, you are certified!

● Renewal is required every 2 years.
  ○ Complete a minimum of 20 continued education (CE)
And then,
GO GET A JOB!
Questions?