



## Pharmacy Technician Continuing Education

**Updated 1/7/2022**

All **registered pharmacy technicians** are required to complete a total of ten contact hours (1.0 CEUs) of continuing pharmacy education during the 24 months preceding the expiration date of the technician's registration (i.e., 24 months prior to the March 31<sup>st</sup> renewal deadline).

**UPDATE:** On December 6, 2021, the Board of Pharmacy approved a resolution for registered pharmacy technician continuing education. **All registered pharmacy technicians expiring on March 31, 2022, may apply continuing education hours obtained between April 1, 2018 and March 31, 2022 toward the continuing education required for renewal.** See [Q9 of this document](#) for more information.

*(See Q1 of this document for more information on certified pharmacy technician continuing education requirements.)*

Continuing pharmacy education should be in pharmacy technician-specific subject matter and shall include the following:

- Two contact hours (0.2 CEUs) of continuing pharmacy education in the subject of pharmacy jurisprudence (law); and
- Two contact hours (0.2 CEUs) of continuing pharmacy education in the subject of patient or medication safety.

Additionally, a registered pharmacy technician may satisfy up to one-third of the technician's continuing education requirements by providing health care services as a volunteer in accordance with [4745.04](#) of the Revised Code.

For rules on pharmacy technician continuing education requirements, visit: <http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/4729%3A3-5>



## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Q1)** I am a **certified pharmacy technician**. Do I need to complete continuing pharmacy education?

**A1)** Certified pharmacy technicians are required to complete all continuing education requirements necessary to maintain a pharmacy technician certification (ExCPT or PTCB). A certified technician is **not** required to complete the ten contact hours that is required for a registered pharmacy technician.

**Q2)** I am a **pharmacy technician trainee**. Do I need to complete continuing pharmacy education?

**A2)** Pharmacy technician trainees are not required to complete any continuing education requirements.

**Q3)** I became a **registered pharmacy technician**, and my initial registration was within six months of the expiration date of the registration. Do I need to complete ten hours of continuing pharmacy education?

**A3)** A registered pharmacy technician that has obtained an initial registration within six months of the expiration date of the registration does not need to complete continuing pharmacy education. The technician may begin to accrue continuing education for the next renewal period after the March 31<sup>st</sup> renewal deadline.

**Q4)** Where can I obtain continuing pharmacy education?

**A4)** Continuing pharmacy education may only be obtained from the following providers:

- A pharmacy jurisprudence program (see definition in next question).
- An Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) accredited continuing education provider. To search for an ACPE approved course visit:  
<https://plan.acpe-accredit.org/>
- An approved in-state provider of volunteer healthcare services in accordance with [4745.04](#) of the Revised Code.

**Q5)** What qualifies as a pharmacy jurisprudence continuing education program?

**A5)** A pharmacy jurisprudence program includes any of the following:

- An ACPE law program as identified by the ACPE numbering convention "03." All ACPE programs are assigned a Universal Activity Number (UAN). Therefore, you can identify a law course by looking for an "03" in the second to last series of letters and number. For example, 0798-0000-16-023-H**03**-T.
- A program offered by a Board approved in-state provider that pertains to recent changes in laws, rules, and regulations relating to the practice of pharmacy. Approved jurisprudence programs are available by visiting:  
<http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/Licensing/JurisprudencePrograms.aspx>
- A program presented by the Board of Pharmacy that pertains to recent changes in laws, rules, and regulations relating to the practice of pharmacy. The Board currently offers the following free online CPE jurisprudence quizzes:
  - [2021 CPE Quiz - One Credit Hour of Jurisprudence](#)
  - [Institutional Inspection Guide Review Quiz - One Credit Hour](#)
  - [Outpatient Pharmacy Inspection Guide Review Quiz - One Credit Hour](#)

**Q6)** What qualifies as a patient or medication safety continuing education program?

**A6)** An ACPE continuing education program identified by ACPE numbering convention "05." The program must deal with prevention of healthcare errors and elimination or mitigation of patient injury caused by healthcare errors.

All ACPE programs are assigned a Universal Activity Number (UAN). Therefore, you can identify a patient or medication safety course by looking for an "05" in the second to last series of letters and number. For example, 0202-0000-17-071-H**05**-T.

**Q7)** How do I locate ACPE approved continuing education?

**A7)** ACPE lists all courses on its website: <https://plan.acpe-accredit.org/>

**Q8)** How do I document that I have successfully completed my required continuing education?

**A8)** All registered pharmacy technicians must obtain a free CPE Monitor account from the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy. This account will be used to report and monitor the successful completion of ACPE approved continuing pharmacy education.

**Registered pharmacy technicians are encouraged to obtain a CPE Monitor account as soon as possible for any continuing education to be reported.**

To create your free account, visit: <https://nabp.pharmacy/programs/cpe-monitor/>

For more information on CPE Monitor visit: <https://nabp.pharmacy/cpe-monitor-service/cpe-monitor-faqs/>

**IMPORTANT:** Rule [4729:3-5-02](#) requires registered pharmacy technicians to keep all certificates and other documented evidence of participation which have been issued by a non-ACPE accredited provider (i.e. in-state providers or pharmacy jurisprudence or volunteer healthcare services) for which the pharmacy technician has claimed continuing education units towards renewal of the technician's registration for a period of one year following the year in which evidence was required for renewal.

**NOTE:** The Board will be conducting audits of registrants to determine if continuing education requirements have been met.

**Q9)** What are the continuing education requirements for the 2022 renewal cycle?

**A9)** Per Board resolution (see next page), all registered pharmacy technicians required to renew and earn continuing education for the 2022 renewal must complete a total of ten contact hours (1.0 CEUs) of continuing pharmacy education between **April 1, 2018 and March 31, 2022.**

Continuing pharmacy education should be in pharmacy technician-specific subject matter and shall include the following:

- Two contact hours (0.2 CEUs) of continuing pharmacy education in the subject of pharmacy jurisprudence (law); and
- Two contact hours (0.2 CEUs) of continuing pharmacy education in the subject of patient or medication safety.

Additionally, a registered pharmacy technician may satisfy up to one-third of the technician's continuing education requirements by providing health care services as a volunteer in accordance with [4745.04](#) of the Revised Code.

**NOTE: If a registered pharmacy technician met the continuing education requirements for the 2020/2021 renewal cycle, they do not need to complete additional continuing education for the 2022 renewal.** All registered pharmacy technicians are encouraged to review their CPE Monitor account and/or certificates of completion to confirm they are in compliance with the CE requirements prior to completing their renewal application.

**RESOLUTION: Registered Pharmacy Technician Continuing Education Requirements for the 2022 Renewal Period (Adopted December 6, 2021)**

*To address overlapping time periods for HB 197 and HB 404 impacted registered pharmacy technicians, the Board hereby establishes the following continuing education requirements for registered pharmacy technicians renewing during the 2022 renewal period:*

*All registered pharmacy technicians expiring on March 31, 2022, are required to complete a total of ten contact hours (1.0 CEUs) of continuing pharmacy education between April 1, 2018, and March 31, 2022. Continuing pharmacy education shall be in pharmacy technician-specific subject matter and shall include the following:*

*Two contact hours (0.2 CEUs) of continuing pharmacy education in the subject of pharmacy jurisprudence (law); and*

*Two contact hours (0.2 CEUs) of continuing pharmacy education in the subject of patient safety or medication errors.*

*A registered pharmacy technician may apply continuing education earned for the purpose of the 2020/2021 renewal period to the 2022 renewal period. This resolution supersedes the continuing education requirements in rule 4729:5-2-03 of the Administrative Code for the 2022 renewal cycle only.*