Approved Pharmacy Technician Training Programs - FAQ

Updated 6/6/2024

Ohio pharmacy technician training programs must meet the training requirements outlined in rule [4729:3-3-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code](#).

IMPORTANT: Technicians engaged in drug compounding must complete site-specific training in accordance with USP 797 and 795. Site specific training requirements are listed in rules [4729:3-3-02](#), [4729:3-3-03](#), and [4729:3-3-04](#) of the Ohio Administrative Code.

To assist in the implementation of the training standards, the Board has developed the following frequently asked questions document.

If you need additional information, you can e-mail the Board at: technician@pharmacy.ohio.gov.

Q1) What are the approved training programs in [rule 4729:3-3-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code](#)?

A1) The following are considered approved training programs:

1. A pharmacy technician training program that holds a current accreditation* from the [American Society of Health-System Pharmacists](#).

2. A program of training for pharmaceutical technicians conducted by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, the Indian Health Service of the United States Department of Health and Human Services or the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

77 S. High Street, 17th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215 U.S.A.

Phone: 614 | 466 4143
Fax: 614 | 752 4836

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE | Ohio

The State of Ohio is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider of ADA Services

3. An employer-based training program that meets the requirements of the rule.

4. A pharmacy technician training program offered by an Ohio public high school as part of a career-technical education program approved by the Ohio Department of Education pursuant to section [3317.161](#) of the Revised Code. Each careertechnical education program shall require approval by the Board. For more information on the approval process, visit: [www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/TechHS.](#)

5. The completion of a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) program if the applicant's graduation date is within five (5) years of an application for registration.

6. Held an active pharmacist or pharmacy intern license or registration in good standing in another state or jurisdiction for at least one year within five (5) years of an application for registration.

*The Board of Pharmacy approved the following resolution regarding pharmacy technician training programs:

Resolution: Candidate Status – American Society of Health-System Pharamcists/Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education

Approved 3/4/2019

The Ohio Board of Pharmacy hereby recognizes and approves all pharmacy technician training programs that have candidate or accreditation status with American Society of Health-System Pharmacists/Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education as meeting the requirements of paragraph (A)(1) of rule 4729:3-3-02 of the Administrative Code and division (C) of section 4729.94 of the Revised Code.

All programs in candidate status must be notified of accreditation status no later than eighteen months from the time the program receives its initial notification of candidate status.

All programs in candidate status must notify all current and potential participants that the program is in candidate status.

Failure to comply with the requirements of this resolution will result in the rescission of the program's status as an approved pharmacy technician training program.

Q2) I am a pharmacy technician training program at a vocational school that is not part of a public high school career-technical education program (i.e. career college, community college, etc.). How do I become an approved training program?

A2) The program needs to hold a current accreditation or candidate status from the [American Society of Health-System Pharmacists](#) by April 6, 2019. See Q1 of this document for more information regarding programs in candidate status.

Q3) How do I know which high school career-technical education programs have been approved by the Board?

A3) All high school career-technical education programs approved by the Board will be posted to the pharmacy technician registration page: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/tech. For a direct link to the approved courses, [click here](#).

Q4) I am working to update my employer-based training program. Can I use outside resources to fulfill the didactic training requirements?

A4) Yes. Paragraph (B)(2)(b) of rule [4729:3-3-02](#) allows didactic training to consist of the following:

Didactic training may include self-directed learning experiences, including but not limited to home study, computer programs, internet or web-based courses, or any other coursework approved by the program director.

NOTE: Didactic training is a part of the training program that does not require a separate simulated or experiential setting. It must progress from more basic to more complex information, concepts, and skills.

Q5) For an employer-based program, can I meet the didactic testing requirements using a series of modules (i.e. assessments following each didactic topic) that add up to a total of ninety questions?

A5) Yes. However, the program must be able to demonstrate that the student received at least seventy-five percent as a passing score if all the module test questions were combined into a single examination.

Q6) Do my program participants need to be registered as technician trainees?

A6) If program participants are engaged in any activity outlined in rule 4729:3-3-01 of the Administrative Code, then they must be registered as pharmacy technician trainees.

Q7) If I hire or currently employ someone who is an <u>Ohio registered</u> <u>technician</u> <u>trainee</u> but possesses a current ExCPT or PTCB certification, are they required to undergo the employer-based didactic training required in rule 4729:3-3-02?

A7) No. A technician trainee holding a current ExCPT or PTCB certification is exempt from the employer-based didactic training requirements in rule 4729:3-3-02 [see paragraph (B)(2)(d)]. This also exempts the individual from having to complete the required didactic testing component of employer-based training in paragraph (B)(2)(c) of rule 4729:3-3-02. Be advised the individual is still required to undergo applicable sterile and non-sterile compounding training and to complete three hundred hours of practical experience in a pharmacy under the direct supervision of a licensed pharmacist [see paragraphs (B)(2)(e), (C) and (D)]. *This exemption also applies to a trainee that obtains certification during employment.*

Q8) What type of documentation is required to be provided to those who have successfully completed an approved training program as outlined in rule 4729:3- 3-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code?

A8) The required documentation necessary to demonstrate successful completion of an approved training program is as follows:

1) **For a pharmacy technician training program that holds a current accreditation (or candidate status) from the American Society of**

Health-System Pharmacists: The program must provide the following as required by ASHP standards:

6.2.a. Programs shall recognize those pharmacy technicians who have completed successfully the pharmacy technician training program by awarding an appropriate certificate or diploma.

6.2.b. The certificate must be signed by the highest-ranking officer of the institution and the program director.

6.2.c. Programs must not issue a certificate to an individual who has failed to complete the prescribed program or to meet the intent of this accreditation standard.

6.2.d. The certificate must contain the name of the organization, program name and location, student name, completion date, and confirmation that the program is ASHP/ACPE-accredited or in an ASHP/ACPE candidate status.

2) **For a program of training for pharmaceutical technicians conducted by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, the Indian Health Service of the United States Department of Health and Human Services or the United States Department of Veterans Affairs:** A signed letter from the training program director or current pharmacist supervisor that the technician successfully completed the training program and is competent to practice as a pharmacy technician in the state of Ohio.

3) **For an employer-based training program:** A signed attestation (or certificate) issued by the pharmacy licensed as a terminal distributor which clearly indicates the training location and includes all of the following:

   a. Name of the technician trainee;

   b. Name of the employer;

   c. Address of the primary training location; and

   d. Training program completion date.

4) **For a pharmacy technician training program offered by an Ohio public high school as part of a career-technical education program approved by the Board:** The program must provide the following as required by the Board's standards:

5.2.a. Programs shall recognize those pharmacy technicians who have completed successfully the pharmacy technician training program by awarding an appropriate certificate.

5.2.b. The certificate must be signed by the program director.

5.2.c. Programs must not issue a certificate to an individual who has failed to complete the prescribed program.

5.2.d. The certificate must contain the name of the organization, program name and location, student name, completion date, and confirmation that the program is approved by the Ohio Board of Pharmacy.

Q9) If I previously worked as a technician in another state, do I still have to show proof of a completed training program?

A9) Technicians who hold a pharmacy technician license or registration in another state AND have actively worked as a pharmacy technician in another state for at least one year within the previous three years can apply to Ohio using reciprocity.

In lieu of submitting proof of a completed training program, eligible applicants are required to upload the Board's technician reciprocity attestation form and proof of their out-of-state license/registration. For more information on pharmacy technician reciprocity, visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/TechRecGuide.