

Pharmacy Technician

17-536-1 Technical Certificate

Campuses: New Richmond* and Superior*

*via Online and On-Site instruction

Students in selected health sciences programs will travel to the Shell Lake Health Education Center. Travel requirements are customized to meet individual program course competencies.

Program Overview

The Pharmacy Technician program will prepare students for a rewarding, demanding and ever-evolving career as a pharmacy technician. Pharmacy technicians perform a variety of duties and responsibilities including preparation of prescriptions, record-keeping, inventory control, handling monetary transactions, filing third-party claims, preparing IV admixtures and unit dose medications and compounding.

Special Feature

Students are able to complete this program in the evening and Online over one semester.

Admission Requirements

- Complete Online application form
- Have earned a high school diploma or GED certificate; current high school seniors must provide both a current high school transcript and a final (official) transcript with confer date
- Review and sign Background Check Disclosure
- Review and sign Functional Abilities Disclosure
- Complete admissions meeting with a Northwood Tech counselor (academic admission requirements apply - see page 33 for more information)

Program-Specific Requirements

- Submit Background Check fee
- Have an acceptable Wisconsin Caregiver Background Check, National Criminal Background Check, Minnesota Caregiver Background Check (if applicable), and other states, if applicable
- Pass a physical exam, have current immunizations, and demonstrate negative status for tuberculosis (Tb)
- COVID vaccination---highly recommended

NOTE: Northwood Technical College cannot guarantee clinical placement or ability to progress in the program if a student is not able to meet the clinical site requirements including but not limited to; influenza vaccine, covid vaccine, negative tb skin test or QuantiFERON®-TB Gold In-Tube test (QFT-GIT) or T-SPOT®. TB test (T-Spot), up to date acceptable background check, or any other clinical requirements required by the clinical site. Northwood Technical College cannot guarantee clinical placement if the clinical site must be changed due to students inability to meet the site specific requirements. Many sites require the student information 4-6 weeks prior to the clinical start date.

- Review and sign Health Sciences Confidentiality Statement
- Possess current certification of "BLS Basic Life Support"
- Participate in a mandatory program orientation session
- Pass a mandatory drug test

Program Outcomes

Pharmacy Technician graduates will be able to:

- Communicate clearly to customers/patients and healthcare providers
- Demonstrate professional behaviors and knowledge in the practice of pharmacy
- Compound sterile and nonsterile medications
- Apply policies and procedures when processing orders and ensuring inventory accuracy
- Adhere to state and federal regulations governing the practice of pharmacy
- Demonstrate safe and inclusive practice with all customers/patients

Career Outlook

Typical positions available after graduation include:

- Pharmacy Technician – Hospital
- Pharmacy Technician – Nursing Home
- Pharmacy Technician – Community
- Pharmacy Buyer
- Prior Authorization Technician
- 340B Analyst

Required Courses

Number	Course Title	Credits (cr.)
Program Courses		
10536141	Introduction to Pharmacy*	3 cr.
10536142	Pharmacy Calculations*	2 cr.
10536143	Pharmacy Lab Skills*	3 cr.
10536144	Pharmacology for Technicians*	2 cr.
10536145	Pharmacy Clinical*	<u>1 cr.</u>

TOTAL CREDITS 11 cr.

* Requires a prerequisite and/or corequisite that must be completed with a grade point of 2.0 or better.

You must earn a grade point of 2.0 or better in all required courses.

Course repeat policies exist that allow for only a certain number of retakes within this program; please refer to the policies for details.

Course Descriptions

(See pages 38-41 for General Education course descriptions)

10536141

Introduction to Pharmacy - Credits: 3

This course introduces pharmacy practice and the technician's role in a variety of pharmacy settings. Topics include medical terminology and abbreviations, law and ethics, prescription and medication orders, patient safety and quality assurance. This course also focuses on pharmaceutical business terminology, record keeping, inventory-control systems, reference materials, and employability skills. PREREQUISITE: Admission to the Pharmacy Technician program

10536142

Pharmacy Calculations - Credits: 2

This course prepares the learner to conduct conversions and other calculations pertinent to the preparation of pharmaceuticals using metric, apothecary, and household measuring systems, as well as temperature and time. The course also focuses on medication doses, volumes, and flow rates. PREREQUISITE: Admission to the Pharmacy Technician program

10536143

Pharmacy Lab Skills - Credits: 3

In this course, students will develop the skills and knowledge required to complete the prescription-filling process, as well as extemporaneous compounds. This course also provides the learner with the skills to utilize aseptic technique in horizontal laminar flow hoods for preparation of solutions and medications. Students will utilize critical-thinking, problem-solving and communication skills to collect, assess, plan, implement and follow-up on patients. PREREQUISITE: Admission to the Pharmacy Technician program

10536144

Pharmacology for Technicians - Credits: 2

The purpose of this course is to provide a comprehensive overview of the principles of pharmacology and pharmacokinetics including the understanding of body system disease states and the effects of medications in treating disease conditions. Students will learn the cautions involved in adverse drug effects, food and drug interactions, and drug-disease contradictions. Students will learn the therapeutic classifications, indications, and common strengths for the most common drugs. PREREQUISITE: Admission to the Pharmacy Technician Plan

10536145

Pharmacy Clinical - Credits: 1

In this course, students will have the opportunity to experience the daily activities of a pharmacy technician in a pharmacy setting. Students will learn how medication orders are prepared, processed, and delivered along with maintaining medication inventory in several areas, interacting with other medical staff and following policies and procedures. This course prepares the learner to apply policies and procedures in the pharmacy, process prescriptions, and maintain patient medical histories. PREREQUISITE: Admission to the Pharmacy Technician program and COREQUISITES: 10536141 Introduction to Pharmacy and 10536143 Pharmacy Lab Skills