

Technical Standards for Pharmacy Technician

Program Requirements Summary

All Pharmacy Technician students must be capable of meeting the following technical standards to successfully complete the program and gain employment in the field.

Observation

- Critically observe demonstrations, laboratory manipulations, and hands-on competencies
- Requires functional use of vision, hearing, and sensory perception

Communication

- Communicate effectively in English — verbal, non-verbal, and written
- Use correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling
- Read, write, and comprehend academic and clinical materials
- Exchange information with clients, peers, faculty, and healthcare team members
- Observe and interpret nonverbal communication
- Social media and texting are not acceptable communication forms

Physical Requirements

- Stand or walk up to 8–12 hours a day on hard surfaces
- Lift up to 40 lbs. unassisted; carry up to 30 lbs. at waist level
- Push/pull carts and reach above shoulder or below waist level
- Bend, squat, and move quickly in tight spaces

Motor Skills & Dexterity

- Handle syringes, needles, spatulas, tablet counters, and balance sets
- Operate computers, cash registers, and automated dispensing equipment
- Mix pharmaceutical preparations, weigh, measure, and count products
- Maintain steady hand movements and strong eye–hand coordination

Visual Abilities

- Read fine print on monitors, devices, and printed materials
- Distinguish colors, tablet/capsule markings, and syringe gradients
- Detect cloudiness/turbidity in medications
- Recognize facial expressions and body language

Auditory Abilities

- Follow verbal instructions clearly
- Communicate via phone, speaker, drive-thru intercom, or through a face mask

- Recognize and respond to soft voices

Olfactory Abilities

- Tolerate unpleasant odors
- Detect smells that may signal unsafe chemical or biological conditions

Intellectual & Cognitive Abilities

- Apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Perform pharmaceutical calculations
- Retain and apply complex pharmacy knowledge
- Complete tasks within required time limits
- Fully participate in lab exercises and clinical experiences

Behavioral & Emotional Standards

- Function effectively under stress and heavy workloads
- Demonstrate compassion, integrity, and professionalism
- Accept constructive criticism and modify behavior accordingly
- Work independently and as part of a team
- Recognize and respond appropriately to emergency situations
- Maintain respectful, culturally sensitive interactions with diverse populations
- Meet attendance requirements as outlined in the program handbook

Legal & Health Requirements

- Pass a background check through the Arkansas Board of Pharmacy (FBI + AR State Police)
- Pass a drug screen; submit to random screens as required by the program or clinical affiliates
- Provide proof of MMR, Varicella, Hepatitis B, and Flu vaccinations
- Submit a negative TB test result
- Complete a physical examination before starting the program
- Self-disclose any history of substance use, addiction, mental/physical impairment, or legal issues (including expunged records)

Date

Student Name

Program Director Signature

Student Signature