

Winter 2018
Vol. 11, Issue 1

IN THIS ISSUE

- PTAC Biannual Meeting
October 25-26, 2017
Bethesda, MD
 - Program Accreditation and Reaccreditation Approvals
- New Draft Accreditation Standards for Pharmacy Technician Education and Training Programs
- 2017 Midyear Clinical Meeting Recap
 - ASHP launches new Pharmacy Technician Forum
 - Technician-specific Programming
 - Pharmacy Technician Workforce and State Updates
- PTCB Updates
 - New Executive Director/CEO named
 - Changes to Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT) Program
- PTEC
 - New Executive Director named
- Upcoming Meetings:
 - PTAC: May 1-2, 2018
 - PTEC Annual Conference: July 12-14, 2018
Indianapolis, Indiana
 - Midyear Clinical Meeting: December 2-6, 2018
Anaheim, California
- Resources



PTAC Biannual Meeting October 25-26, 2017 Bethesda, MD

PTAC held its biannual meeting October 25-26, 2017 in Bethesda, Maryland. In addition to reviewing survey reports and applications for new program directors, commission members also discussed progress on revisions to the ASHP/ACPE pharmacy technician training and education standards as one of the outcomes from the Pharmacy Technician Stakeholders Conference proceedings.

Program Accreditation/Reaccreditation

The Commission reviewed survey site visit reports for 11 new programs and 19 previously accredited programs seeking reaccreditation. Midterm reports (2) and special case reports



(14) were also reviewed along with 25 applications for new program directors. As of the date of the meeting, 264 programs are in the accreditation process which includes accredited programs and programs in candidate status.

Congratulations to the following programs that were granted initial accreditation or reaccreditation!

Initial Accreditation

- Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Lexington, Kentucky
- Delta College, Covington, Louisiana
- Medical Training College, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
- Baton Rouge Community College, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
- Unitech Training Academy - Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
- Guilford Technical Community College High Point Campus, High Point, North Carolina
- Northwest Career College, Las Vegas, Nevada
- The College at Brockport, Rochester Educational Opportunity Center, Rochester, New York
- Ross Education, LLC - Ontario Campus, Ontario, Ohio
- Mountainland Applied Technology College, Lehi, Utah
- Yakima Valley College, Yakima, Washington

Reaccreditation

- Carrington College - Sacramento, Sacramento, California
- Carrington College - San Leandro, San Leandro, California
- Cerritos College, Norwalk, California
- Carrington College - San Jose, San Jose, California
- Carrington College - Pleasant Hill, Pleasant Hill, Pennsylvania
- Carrington College - Citrus Heights, Citrus Heights, California
- Cosumnes River College, Sacramento, California
- McFatter Vocational Technical Center, Davie, Florida
- Southeastern College - West Palm Beach Campus, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
- Southeastern College - Miami Lakes Campus, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
- South Suburban College, South Holland, Illinois
- North Dakota State College of Science, Wahpeton, North Dakota
- Midlands Technical College, Columbia, South Carolina
- Virginia College - Spartanburg, Spartanburg, South Carolina
- Southeastern Institute - North Charleston, North Charleston, South Carolina
- Tennessee College of Applied Technology Murfreesboro, Murfreesboro, Tennessee
- Tennessee College of Applied Technology-Memphis, Memphis, Tennessee
- Northwest Vista College, San Antonio, Texas
- North Seattle College, Seattle, Washington

New Draft Accreditation Standards for Pharmacy Technician Education and Training Programs

A writing group formed of representatives from major areas of pharmacy practice met in late summer to continue the work on development of new draft standards. The group included Tim Koch from Walmart, Mark Ey representing the community pharmacy sector, Donna Wall from PTAC, John Smith from PTAC, Sheri Roumell as a community college program director and lead surveyor, Harold Kornfuhrer as a lead surveyor, Barbara Lacher as a college program director and PTAC, Chris Ellison from ASHP, Rafael Saenz representing hospital practice, Lisa Lifshin from ASHP, Janet Silvester from ASHP, and Peter Vlases from ACPE who also drafted the preamble to the standards.

Using the task analysis compiled by PTCB as the foundation for the work, the group was charged with evaluating required competencies and establishing timeframes for the didactic, simulation, and experiential components of training for both entry level and advanced education and training programs. Comments on the draft were solicited from all PTAC and Pharmacy Technician Stakeholders Conference Advisory Committee members and incorporated into the draft that is now available for public comment through March 23, 2018. The goal for approval of the new standards by the ASHP and ACPR boards of directors is June 2018 with target implementation beginning in January 2019.

The draft standards are available [here](#). Comments, both general and specific, are welcomed and encouraged and must be received by March 23, 2018. Please note, for specific comments indicate the corresponding line number, standard number, and key element number at the start of each comment. Comments and/or suggested edits may be submitted either via email to acassano-CTR@ashp.org or in writing to:

ASHP
Accreditation Services Office
Attn: Draft Standards- Pharmacy Technician Education and Training
4500 East-West Highway, Suite 900
Bethesda, MD 20814



Midyear Clinical Meeting Recap

Pharmacy Technician Forum

ASHP launched the new Pharmacy Technician Forum during the 2017 Midyear Clinical Meeting in Orlando, Florida. The decision to develop this enhanced membership home for pharmacy technicians was unanimously approved by the ASHP Board of Directors on September 29, 2017. The goals of this new forum include providing education, tools, and resources for pharmacy technicians to advance their careers and solidify their roles as members of an inter-professional patient-care team.

From ASHP CEO Paul Abramowitz: "Pharmacy technicians play a vital role in patient care and are the key to allowing pharmacists to spend their time providing direct patient care in hospitals, clinics, and all settings," ASHP's goal with the Pharmacy Technician Forum is to give our technician colleagues the respect they deserve as well as the tools they need to continue to professionalize and advance their careers. As the organization that for decades has led the way in elevating the role of pharmacy technicians, we believe that ASHP will serve as the perfect home for technicians who wish to take their careers to the next level and beyond."

The framework for the Pharmacy Technician Forum will include an executive committee that will advise ASHP on the optimal programs, education, tools, policies, and resources pharmacy technicians need to be successful in their careers. ASHP will also be dedicating a team of staff members to support the forum and will be charged with constantly seeking ways to support pharmacy technician members' needs and enhance their engagement in ASHP.

Current pharmacy technician members of ASHP will be automatically incorporated into the Forum and will continue to receive the full range of ASHP member benefits along with the new benefits offered through the forum. More information about the new Pharmacy Technician Forum can be found [here](#).

Pharmacy Technician-specific Programming

The 2017 Midyear Clinical Meeting offered more than 20 pharmacy technician-specific sessions covering a wide variety of topics including many that provided continuing education credit. A list of the topics covered can be found [here](#) (enter “technician” in the filter box to view pharmacy technician-specific sessions).

Pharmacy Technician Workforce and State Updates

National perspectives on the pharmacy technician workforce and state updates were presented by Janet Silvester, Vice President, Accreditation Services, ASHP; Lisa Lifshin, Director, Technician Training Program Accreditation and Residency Services, ASHP; and Nicholas J. Gentile, Director of State Grassroots Advocacy and Political Action, ASHP during the 2017 Midyear Clinical Meeting in Orlando, Florida. The presentation included an overview of the results from the 2015 National Pharmacy Technician Workforce survey including new and emerging roles, job satisfaction; an update from the Pharmacy Technician Accreditation Commission; PTCB certification program changes; and, state regulations affecting pharmacy technicians. The slides from the presentation can be found [here](#).

PTCB Updates

New Executive Director and CEO

The Board of Governors of the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) recently announced the appointment of William Schimmel as PTCB’s new Executive Director and CEO. Mr. Schimmel had previously served as PTCB’s Associate Executive Director for seven years and succeeds Everett B. McAllister, MPA, RPh, Colonel, USAF (Ret.), who had served as the Executive Director and CEO since 2012.

Changes to the Certified Pharmacy Technician Program

PTCB recently announced changes to Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT) Program that will go into effect on January 1, 2020. Changes included an updated education/training eligibility requirement for PTCB CPhT and updated Pharmacy Technician Certification Examination (PTCE) content outline. Additional information about these changes can be found [here](#).

New Certification Program in Compounded Sterile Preparation

PTCB has launched the PTCB Certified Compounded Sterile Preparation Technician™ (CSPT™) Program. The CSPT™ Program is the first new certification program PTCB has offered since the organization was founded in 1995 with the introduction of its Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT) Program. To earn CSPT Certification, eligible CPhTs are required to: 1) pass the CSPT™ Exam, a 2-hour, 75-question exam; and 2) submit Competency Attestation documentation from a qualified supervisor. Learn about the CSPT Program [here](#).

PTEC Updates

New Executive Director

The Pharmacy Technician Educators Council (PTEC) recently announced the selection of its new Executive Director, Anne Barnes. Ms. Barnes is the Pharmacy Technician Program Coordinator at Tri-County Technical College in Pendleton, SC.

Upcoming Meetings and Important Dates

March 23, 2018: Comments Due for Draft Accreditation Standards for Pharmacy Technician Education and Training Programs

PTAC Meeting: May 1-2, 2018

PTEC Annual Meeting: July 12-14, 2018 Indianapolis, Indiana

ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting: December 2-6, 2018 Anaheim, California

Resources

Accreditation

[ASHP Pharmacy Technician Practice and Policy Accreditation Regulations, Standards, and Other Tools](#)
[Starting a Pharmacy Technician Training Program](#)
[Applying for Accreditation](#)
[Preparing for an Accreditation Survey](#)

Governance

[Pharmacy Technician Accreditation Commission \(PTAC\)](#)
[Pharmacy Technician Certification Board \(PTCB\)](#)
[Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education \(ACPE\) Pharmacy Technician Education Accreditation Collaboration](#)
[American Society of Health-system Pharmacists \(ASHP\)](#)

Education and Workforce Development

[Pharmacy Technician Educators Council \(PTEC\)](#)
[Pharmacy Workforce Center \(PWC\)](#)

Publications

Introduction to Acute and Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Practice, Second Edition (used to be called *Introduction to Hospital and Health-System Pharmacy Practice*) by David Holdford

- This book was originally intended for schools of pharmacy but drew lots of interest from the technician programs. The second edition was updated to incorporate more information specific to technicians.

<https://store.ashp.org/Store/ProductListing/ProductDetails.aspx?productId=565435959>

Learning and Mastering Pharmaceutical Calculations by Nicholas Ferencz

- Workbook that could be a supplement to any calculations course and offers a variety of practice problems in an easy-to-follow format with solutions provided.

<https://store.ashp.org/Store/ProductListing/ProductDetails.aspx?productId=565435961>

Compounding Sterile Preparations, Fourth Edition by E. Clyde Buchanan, Philip Schneider, and Ryan Forrey

- New updated edition includes information on Chapter 800 and regulations related to the Drug Quality and Security Act. Seven new chapters and extensive online references.

<https://store.ashp.org/Store/ProductListing/ProductDetails.aspx?productId=564270670>

Aseptic Compounding Technique: Learning and Mastering the Ritual - Zachary Jordan

- Each chapter in the book is in outline, step-by-step format with photographs and drawings accompanying every critical step. The skills and techniques discussed in this how-to, hands-on text are derived from practice and teaching in the field and classroom, and guidance from U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP) Chapters <797> and <800>. - publishing February 2018

Other Resources:

Pharmacy Technician Development: [ASHP Store](#) (search for Pharmacy Technicians under the Topics section)

PTCB's Practice Tools: <http://ptcb.org/get-certified/prepare/practice-exam-and-tools>

Comments and suggestions for upcoming Technician TABLET newsletter articles may be sent to asd@ashp.org