

TABLET

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IN THIS ISSUE

- ASHP's Midyear Clinical Meeting
- Pharmacy Technician Day
- New Accreditation Standard Now in Effect
- Preparing for the Certification Exam? We Can Help!
- Congrats to Jack!
- PTAC Update
- CE Opportunities
- Pharmacy Tech - Named "Top Job" by Forbes Magazine
- Accreditation Services Office News Updates



ASHP's Midyear Meeting

ASHP's Midyear Clinical Meeting is known as THE PLACE for education about medication safety, patient care, and networking. This year marks ASHP's 50th Midyear Clinical Meeting, to be held in the exciting city of New Orleans. The Midyear is the largest gathering of pharmacy professionals in the world! It offers opportunities to learn and obtain continuing education credits for technicians and pharmacists, network with your colleagues, and have a little Louisiana-style fun, too. Mark your calendar for the MCM, December 6-10, 2015.



Pharmacy Technician Day 2015

Pharmacy Technician Day will be celebrated on **Tuesday, October 20, 2015**, during National Hospital and Health-System Pharmacy Week, October 18 – 24.

Technicians deserve a special day of recognition for all that they do to support patient care. What does your workplace do to celebrate Pharmacy Technician Day? Share your ideas with ASHP by sending an email to asd@ashp.org describing your celebration. Some of those ideas will be highlighted in future editions of the *Pharmacy Technician Education and Training Tablet*.

New Accreditation Standard in Effect

The new Accreditation standard, a joint effort between the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) and ASHP, was approved in 2013 and revised earlier this year. This standard applies to all programs that undergo accreditation and is available on the [ASHP website](#).

A [guidance document](#), which provides more information and examples of evidence programs can provide to surveyors to show compliance with the standards, is also available. Finally, the *Model Curriculum, 3rd Edition* provides examples of student activities that will help them progress on the associated objectives.

If you have any questions about the Standard, please [send us an email at asd@ashp.org](mailto:asd@ashp.org).

Preparing for Certification? Here's Help!

ASHP publishes a number of books that are great resources for anyone studying for the certification exam. Forty different resources for pharmacy techs on the ASHP digital bookstore, <http://store.ashp.org/>, including e-books, videos, and a Pharmacy Technician Certification Review and Practice Exam. Bulk pricing is available for technician training programs, and discounts are offered to ASHP members.

Congrats to Jack Bruggeman

Congratulations are in order to Jack Bruggeman, ASHP's Director of Special Publishing. Jack was recently honored with the Pharmacy Technician Educator's Council's (PTEC) Phil Naut Award. This award recognizes professionals who have made valued contributions to the education of pharmacy technicians. Jack was recognized for his leadership in publishing ASHP textbooks and other resources for pharmacy technician programs as well as his work to establish *Tech Teaching Tips: Advice for Pharmacy Technician Educators* and his presentations at PTEC meetings over several years. Jack received this award in New Orleans at the annual PTEC Conference in July.



Pharmacy Technician Accreditation Commission Update

The Pharmacy Technician Accreditation Commission (PTAC), a collaboration of ASHP and the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), recently held its first meeting. The goals of PTAC are to create a highly trained technician workforce, improve patient safety, maintain greater consistency in the technician workforce, update accreditation standards to keep pace with changing technician roles and responsibilities, increase the ability to shift appropriate duties from pharmacists to technicians, and decrease turnover in technician positions. The below 2015 PTAC members were appointed by ASHP and ACPE:

- Angela Cassano, Pharm.D., BCPS, FASHP – Pharmfusion Consulting, Midlothian, VA
- Michael Diamond, M.Sc. – World Resources Chicago, Evanston, IL
- Jacqueline Hall, R.Ph., MBA – Walgreen's, New Orleans, LA
- Jan Keresztes, Pharm.D. – South Suburban College, South Holland, IL
- Barbara Lacher, B.S., RPhTech, CPhT – North Dakota State College of Science, Wahpeton, ND
- Douglas Scribner, CPhT – Central New Mexico Community College, Albuquerque, NM
- John Smith, Ed.D. – Zenith Education Group, Santa Ana, CA
- Donna Wall, Pharm.D. – Indianapolis University Hospital, Indianapolis, IN
- LiAnne (Webster) Brown, CPhT – Richland College, Dallas, Tx
- Anthony Provenzano, Pharm.D. – ACPE Board Liaison, New Albertson's, Inc, Chicago, IL
- Kelly Smith, Pharm.D. – ASHP Board Liaison, University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy, Lexington, KY

PTAC is chaired by John Smith, Ed.D. and its secretary is Lisa Lifshin, B.S.Pharm.

PTAC members reviewed surveyor's reports about technician training program accreditation and reviewed 71 programs during its May 5-6 meeting, bringing the total number of training programs in the accreditation process to at the time of this meeting

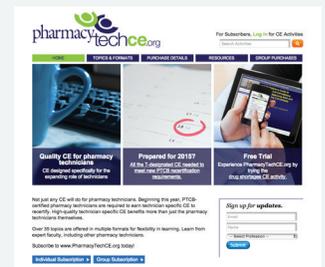
to 276. ACPE and ASHP would like to congratulate the following programs, which were granted initial accreditation:

- Carrington College, Ponomo, CA
- Everest College – Orange Park, Orange Park, FL
- Oconee Fall Line Technical College, Dublin, GA
- Ross Medical Education Center, Fort Wayne, IN
- Virginia College – Greensboro, Greensboro, NC
- Central Piedmont Community College, Charlotte, NC
- Everest Institute – Gahanna, Gahanna, OH
- Fortis Institute – Cookeville, Cookeville, TN

Continuing Education Resources for Technicians

If you are in need of continuing education to maintain your certification, here are a few recommendations for you.

- **PharmacyTechCE**, ASHP’s subscription-based continuing education (CE) service, includes a wide variety of topics for pharmacy technicians, covering everything from medication and patient safety to pharmacy law. Subscriptions are available for individuals and employers, and subscribers may select from a variety of learning formats, including podcasts or on-demand formats. Programs may be viewed with iPads or smart phones!
- Have you ever attended the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting? This year’s meeting, to be held in New Orleans, December 6-10, is the 50th for ASHP and will feature many special celebratory events. With the [special educational tracks](#) for pharmacy technicians that are offered, you can get your CE while enjoying all that New Orleans has to offer! Visit the ASHP website’s [Events link](#) to view the Midyear Clinical Meeting offerings for pharmacy technician education.
- Learn about everything from USP <800> to storage of temperature-sensitive medications on the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board’s (PTCB’s) [website](#). PTCB offers a wide variety of interesting and free CE via webinars or other formats to fit different learning styles and preferences.



Pharmacy Technician Named One of 15 Best Jobs

Forbes Magazine recently featured a story on “The 15 Best Jobs for Young People.” Editors considered pay, job growth potential, and annual job openings before choosing which jobs to feature. Pharmacy tech came in at #7 on this list! With growth potential of 30.6% and 18,200 annual openings in the field, pharmacy techs can be assured that they have chosen a great career.



Accreditation Services Office News

ASHP's Accreditation Services Office is pleased to announce the hiring of surveyors Mary McHugh, Pharm.D., and Kathryn R. Schultz, Pharm.D., MPH, FASHP. Mary and Kathy assist with accreditation surveys of technician education and training programs.

- Mary, from Missoula, MT, is a contract lead surveyor. She held various staff and management positions in both retail and hospital pharmacy, and most recently was the program director for the Pharmacy Technology Training Program at Missoula College - University of Montana.
- Kathy, from Maplewood, MN, is an Accreditation Services Associate. She has held primarily clinical and management positions within health systems in Minnesota as a pharmacist; prior to that, she was a pharmacy technician for 12 years.

We wish a fond farewell to a lead surveyor who has admirably served ASHP for many years. Sister Mary Louise Degenhart, who has surveyed many technician education and training programs, is retiring. Sister Mary Louise's dedication, expertise, hard work, and great sense of humor will be sorely missed.