

Frequently Asked Questions—Pharmacy Technician

Is the program accredited?

Sierra College is accredited by WASC but the program itself is not accredited, nor is it required to be. Successful completion of the course satisfies all of the guidelines for registration as a pharmacy technician with the State of California and students will qualify to take the National Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) exam.

Can I find my own externship site?

Yes. If you have a site that is willing to take you on as an extern, you will have to work with your instructor and/or Career Training Solutions to obtain the proper paperwork to submit for approval.

Can I request to be placed at Kaiser?

We do not currently work with Kaiser for externship placements, so it would be up to the student to make their own arrangements and submit the proper paperwork for approval.

My high school diploma is from a foreign country, will this be okay?

To register with the State of California as a pharmacy technician you will be required to submit a notarized and translated copy of your foreign secondary school diploma/certificate or transcript. Depending on the circumstances, some students find the translation process to be difficult and choose to take the GED instead. For GED testing, you can contact Roseville Adult School at (916) 782-3952.

Is there homework?

Yes. The class is a combination of both in class assignments and online work. Students will be given access to an online learning platform in which they will access and complete coursework at outside of class.

What is the percentage of students who obtain jobs after completing the program?

We do not have the percentage of students who obtain jobs after completion because this information is really difficult to collect. Typically once students finish our program, we don't hear back from them. What we can attest to is that we have been running this program just about every semester for a number of years and we haven't received complaints about students not obtaining a jobs as a result of their training.

Can I miss a class?

Students can only miss 14 hours of class and must make up any work assignments or skills that they may have missed in a timely manner. It is best to notify your instructor ahead of any absences. Excessive absences may result in dismissal from the program.

Do I have to be available full time for the externship?

Externships are 120 hours. You are required to commit to at least three full business days per week (8am-5pm), with some flexibility.