

PROGRAM APPROVAL APPLICATION
NEW or SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE or LOCALLY APPROVED
(This application may not exceed 3 pages)

Fill In Form

Pharmacy Technology Basic

Proposed Program Title

Santa Ana College

College

Rancho Santiago Community College District

District

Existing program

Projected Program Start Date

Bart Hoffman

Voting Member

Dean, Career Education & Workforce
Development

Title

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Phone Number

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E-mail Address

Goal(s) of Program (Check all that apply):

Career Technical Education (CTE)

Transfer

Other

Type of Program (Check all that apply):

A.S. Degree

A.A. Degree

Certificate of Achievement:

18+ semester (or 27+ quarter) units

12-18 semester (or 18-27 quarter) units

Reason for Approval Request: (Check One)

New Program

Substantial Change

Locally Approved

Program Information

Recommended Taxonomy of Program (TOP) Code 122100

Units for Major-Degree [Click here to enter text.](#)

Total Units for Degree [Click here to enter text.](#)

Required Units-Certificate 19.5

Written Form

1. Insert the description of the program as it will appear in the catalog.

The Basic Certificate option prepares students for entry-level employment as pharmacy technicians in the retail pharmacy sector. By completing the Basic Certificate option, students will meet the minimum academic training requirements for licensing as specified by the California State Board of Pharmacy.

Students who intend to complete only the Basic Certificate option will be placed for a minimum of 80 hours of externship in an outpatient (drug store or ambulatory care clinic) pharmacy site to gain workplace experience. Background checks, health screenings, and/or drug testing will be required prior to externship placement. Any required investigations are done at the student's expense.

The Basic Certificate option is not accredited by the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists (ASHP). Students who earn the Basic Certificate and then continue through the Advanced Certificate will be designated as having completed an ASHP-accredited program.

Students must complete each required course with a grade of "C" or better (Externship with a grade of "P") to qualify for the Basic Certificate.

All courses are required to be completed within a 3-year period to be eligible for Pharmacy Technology program enrollment.

2. Provide a brief rationale for the program.

Since 1972, Santa Ana College has offered a training program for pharmacy technicians planning to work in outpatient, inpatient, and home health care pharmacy. In 1984, SAC became the first community college in the United States to be accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP). SAC currently has full-cycle (six year) accreditation by ASHP and is the only program ever to receive accreditation with commendation!

Until now, students completing the Basic Certificate received a certificate of proficiency. Per curriculum committee and counselor requests, 3 units of a Communication Studies class has been transferred from Elective to Required, increasing the unit value from 16.5 to 19.5.

3. List all courses required for program completion, including core requirements, restricted electives and prerequisites. (Push Enter after each entry to begin a new line)

Courses	Course No.	Course Title	Units
Introduction to Pharmacy Technology	PHAR 048	Required Core	2
Body Systems I	PHAR 051	Required Core	3.5
Body Systems II	PHAR 052	Required Core	3.5
Pharmacy Calculations	PHAR 054	Required Core	2
Pharmacy Operations	PHAR 056	Required Core	4.5
Pharmacy Technology Externship AND	PHAR 072	Required Core	1
Introduction to Interpersonal Communication OR	CMST 101	Pick one of next 4	3
Honors Introduction to Interpersonal Communication OR	CMST 101H	courses	3
Public Speaking OR	CMST 102		3

American English Conversational Skills	CMST 097		3
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- Summarize the Labor Market Information and employment outlook (including citation of the source of the data) for students exiting the program.

According to the Labor Market Information of Estimated Employment and Projected Growth for Pharmacy Technicians, there are 3010 projected openings in Los Angeles County and 1690 projected openings in Orange County over a ten year period (2010-2020). The average number of combined yearly job openings for Los Angeles and Orange counties for Pharmacy Technicians is estimated to be 470. According to the Chancellor's Office Data Mart, the highest number of completions over the past five years for programs with a TOP code of 122100 Pharmacy Technology was 130 (2010-2011). Therefore 470 minus 130 would still result in a Net Annual Labor Demand of 340 jobs.

Source: Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division
<http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/>

- List similar programs at other colleges in the Los Angeles and Orange County Region which may be adversely impacted. (Push Enter after each entry to begin a new line)

College	Program	Who you Contacted	Outcome of Contact
Cerritos	Pharmacy Technician	Nick Real—sent email	No concerns--approve
West LA	Pharmacy Technician	Mark Pracher—sent email	No concerns--approve

- Include any other information you would like to share.
 As part of the re-accreditation requirement by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, the Pharmacy Technology Advisory Committee requires that each student complete a Communication Studies class prior to externship (internship). This is the same requirement for pharmacy school, and the requirement enables students to become effective communicators when serving patients. Since at least 1991, the Communication Studies class was a pre-requisite for the externship. Thus, since at least 1991, all students have been required to take this class.