

Pharmacy Technician Education Requirements

To work in a pharmacy as a pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician trainee, individuals must be registered with the Texas State Board of Pharmacy (TSBP). After TSBP notifies an individual of registration, the individual may work in a pharmacy. Board rule [§297.6](#) requires every pharmacy to provide pharmacy technicians/trainees initial on-the-job training. All pharmacy technicians/trainees are required to complete the initial training when beginning employment in a pharmacy. The rules are very specific as to the areas that must be covered in on-the-job training programs. On-the-job training is the only training required for pharmacy technicians/trainees. Currently, there is not a requirement for a pharmacy technician/trainee to attend a formal education program. However, TSBP is aware that many pharmacy technicians are choosing to complete formal training programs in local community colleges or technical schools. The Board recognizes the importance and value of completing a formal education program and encourages pharmacy technicians/trainees to consider these programs. It should be noted that the curriculum and the costs of attending a formal program varies greatly. Individuals considering formal pharmacy technician education programs should consider the following.

- Is the pharmacy technician program accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)? TSBP has designated as “Board Approved Programs” any program that is currently accredited by ASHP. [Click here for a list of ASHP accredited programs.](#)
- How long is the program and how much does the program cost? Length of and cost of programs may vary.
- Most programs include an externship during allowing the student to work in a pharmacy as part of the program. Individuals must be registered with TSBP as a pharmacy technician or pharmacy technician trainee before starting an externship in a pharmacy.