

Duration: 12 Months (3 Semesters)	Total Credits: 36 SCH	Delivery: Blended (Online/On-Campus)	Clinical Externship: 160 Hours
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1. Executive Summary and Institutional Rationale

The University of Justice extends its academic mission in healthcare and regulatory compliance through the 12-Month Pharmacy Technician Certificate Program. Modern retail, hospital, compounding, long-term care, and institutional/correctional pharmacy systems face a critical demand for highly trained, legally literate pharmacy technicians skilled in drug calculation, sterile compounding, prescription processing, and pharmacy law.

Designed for rapid workforce integration, this program combines pharmacology, pharmaceutical calculations, sterile (USP <797>) and non-sterile (USP <795>) compounding, inventory management, electronic pharmacy software, and pharmacy jurisprudence. Graduates are strategically prepared to pass national board certification examinations (PTCE/ExCPT) and enter diverse pharmacy practice settings.

2. Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

- **Demonstrate Pharmaceutical Calculation Accuracy:** Calculate dosages, flow rates, dilutions, ratio strengths, alligations, and day supplies accurately using standard mathematical principles.
- **Execute Dispensing and Prescription Processing:** Process outpatient and inpatient medication orders, perform prescription entry, verify drug interactions, and utilize pharmacy management software.
- **Perform Sterile and Non-Sterile Compounding:** Prepare IV admixtures, TPN solutions, ointments, suspensions, and suppositories adhering strictly to USP <797>, USP <795>, and USP <800> hazardous drug standards.
- **Apply Pharmacy Law and Regulatory Compliance:** Navigate Controlled Substances Act (CSA), DEA regulations, State Board of Pharmacy rules, HIPAA, and FDA drug approval guidelines.
- **Manage Pharmacy Operations & Inventory:** Execute inventory control, cold-chain storage management, drug recall procedures, third-party billing, and medication error prevention protocols.

3. Admissions Requirements

- **Educational Background:** High School Diploma or GED equivalent with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.
- **Prerequisites:** High School Algebra and Chemistry/Biology (or passing score on institutional math/science placement assessments).
- **Background Clearance:** Comprehensive criminal background check and 10-panel drug screening mandatory for State Board registration and externship placement.
- **Immunization & Health Clearance:** Proof of Hepatitis B series, MMR, Varicella, Tdap, annual PPD/TB test, and State Pharmacy Technician Trainee Registration.

4. Comprehensive 12-Month Curriculum Structure

The program spans three continuous semesters (Fall, Spring, Summer), combining online didactic theory, simulation laboratory compounding practice, and a 160-hour clinical externship (Total: 36 Credit Hours).

SEMESTER 1: PHARMACEUTICAL FOUNDATIONS & CALCULATIONS (12 CREDITS)

PT 101: Introduction to Pharmacy Practice and Terminology	3 Credits
Overview of community, hospital, and institutional pharmacy practice, medical terminology, dosage forms, drug classifications, and brand/generic identification.	
PT 103: Pharmaceutical Calculations and Dosage Mathematics	3 Credits
In-depth study of metric conversions, household measurements, ratio and proportion, alligation, IV flow rates, pediatric dosing, and business calculations.	
PT 105: Pharmacy Law, Ethics, and Federal Regulations	3 Credits
Comprehensive coverage of federal and state pharmacy laws, Controlled Substances Act, DEA guidelines, HIPAA, FDA regulations, and State Board rules.	
PT 107: Prescription Processing & Pharmacy Software Lab	3 Credits
Hands-on instruction in prescription entry, sig code deciphering, insurance third-party adjudication, automated dispensing systems, and EHR systems.	

SEMESTER 2: ADVANCED PHARMACOLOGY & COMPOUNDING (15 CREDITS)

PT 201: Pharmacology for Pharmacy Technicians I	4 Credits
Study of drug actions, indications, contraindications, side effects, and drug interactions across cardiovascular, respiratory, renal, and gastrointestinal body systems.	
PT 203: Non-Sterile Compounding and Extemporaneous Prep (USP <795>)	4 Credits
Techniques for compounding creams, ointments, oral suspensions, capsules, and suppositories following USP <795> quality assurance guidelines.	
PT 205: Sterile Compounding and Aseptic Technique (USP <797> & <800>)	4 Credits
Aseptic technique in laminar airflow hoods, preparation of IV admixtures, TPN, chemotherapy safety handling (USP <800>), and cleanroom protocols.	
PT 207: Pharmacology II & Body System Pathophysiology	3 Credits
Study of anti-infectives, endocrine medications, central nervous system agents, oncology therapeutics, and biological response modifiers.	

SEMESTER 3: PHARMACY OPERATIONS & EXTERNSHIP (9 CREDITS)

PT 301: Pharmacy Inventory, Billing, and Supply Chain	3 Credits
Inventory purchasing, drug storage/cold-chain, formulary management, drug recalls, third-party claim resolution, and medication safety systems.	
PT 303: National Certification Board Review (PTCE/ExCPT Prep)	2 Credits
Comprehensive review of the Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam (PTCE) content domains, practice exams, resume building, and career strategies.	
PT 305: Pharmacy Technician Clinical Externship (160 Hours)	4 Credits
Supervised practical placement in retail community pharmacies, hospital health systems, compounding centers, or institutional facilities.	

5. Tuition and Comprehensive Cost Structure

Transparent pricing model covering tuition, sterile cleanroom supplies, software access, and laboratory consumables.

Direct Institutional Costs (Billed Directly)

Expense Category	Cost (USD)	Description
Tuition (\$450 / credit × 36 credits)	\$16,200.00	Covers all 36 didactic, laboratory, and externship credits.
Institutional Program Fee	\$1,200.00	Includes student services, library access, technology fees, and LMS infrastructure.
Pharmaceutical Lab & Compounding Fee	\$900.00	Covers sterile IV bags, syringes, laminar hood filters, compounding chemicals, ointments, PPE, and USP testing kits.
Pharmacy Software & Simulation Fee	\$350.00	Access to pharmacy dispensing simulation software, drug interaction databases, and digital calculation suites.
Total Direct Institutional Costs	\$18,650.00	Total billed directly by the University of Justice.

Estimated Indirect Expenses (Out-of-Pocket / Third-Party)

Note: These items are not billed by the university but are required for program participation.

Expense Item	Estimated Cost (USD)	Notes
Textbooks & Digital Calculations Suite	\$450.00	Required bundles (Pharmacy Practice, Calculations, Pharmacology).
Cleanroom Scrubs & Safety Attire	\$200.00	Designated pharmacy scrubs, cleanroom footwear, and safety goggles.
State Board Trainee Registration Fee	\$100.00 – \$150.00	Mandatory registration with State Board of Pharmacy.
Background Check & Drug Screening	\$120.00	Mandatory for clinical externship placement.
PTCE / ExCPT National Exam Fee	\$129.00 – \$140.00	National certification exam fees (PTCB or NHA).
Total Estimated Indirect Costs	\$999.00 – \$1,060.00	Estimated out-of-pocket expenses.

GRAND TOTAL ESTIMATED PROGRAM INVESTMENT: \$19,649.00 – \$19,710.00

6. Financial Aid and Payment Options

Financial support mechanisms for the Pharmacy Technician Certificate Program include:

- **Institutional Monthly Payment Plans:** Interest-free monthly installment options spread across the 12-month program duration.
- **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA):** State and federal workforce development grant funding for eligible allied health certificate candidates.
- **Veterans' Educational Benefits:** Approved for GI Bill® and VA educational funding streams.
- **Private Health Education Financing:** Specialized loan options for short-term pharmacy technician certificate students.

7. Professional Certification Pathway

Upon completion of the program, graduates are immediately eligible to sit for nationally recognized credentialing examinations:

- **CPht (PTCB):** Certified Pharmacy Technician through the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board.
- **CPht (NHA / ExCPT):** Certified Pharmacy Technician through the National Healthcareer Association.
- **CSPT (PTCB):** Certified Compounded Sterile Preparation Technician pathway.
- **State Registration:** Registration as a Licensed Registered Pharmacy Technician with State Boards of Pharmacy.