

## Pharmacy Technician Licensure in Colorado

Requirements for pharmacy technician state licensure in Colorado and obtaining and maintaining national pharmacy technician certification:

In Colorado, the requirements for becoming a licensed pharmacy technician are as follows:

1. Education: Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent.
2. Training: Applicants must complete a pharmacy technician training program that is approved by the Colorado State Board of Pharmacy or accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP).
3. Background Check: Applicants must undergo a criminal background check.
4. Examination: Applicants must pass the Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam (PTCE) administered by the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) or the Exam for the Certification of Pharmacy Technicians (ExCPT) administered by the National Healthcareer Association (NHA).
5. Application: Applicants must submit a completed application to the Colorado State Board of Pharmacy, along with the required fee.

For national certification, pharmacy technicians must pass either the PTCE or the ExCPT exam. The requirements for both exams are similar, but the PTCE is more widely recognized and preferred by most employers. The PTCE requires applicants to have a high school diploma or equivalent, and to have completed a pharmacy technician training program or gained equivalent work experience. The ExCPT also requires applicants to have a high school diploma or equivalent, and to have completed a pharmacy technician training program or gained equivalent work experience.

Additionally, pharmacy technicians must maintain their certification by completing continuing education credits or by retaking the certification exam every two years.

**\*\* Code of Regulations: Colorado Board of Pharmacy 29.00.00 PHARMACY TECHNICIANS**

**Rule 29.00.30 Certification requirements.**

- a. An applicant for a provisional or non-provisional certification shall submit an application as provided by the Board and the prescribed fee.
- b. An applicant for a non-provisional certification shall submit proof that the applicant is certified by a nationally recognized certification board or body. For the purpose of obtaining a Board-issued non-provisional certification to practice as a pharmacy technician, the Board defines a “nationally recognized certification board or body” for pharmacy technicians as those boards or bodies approved by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) or the National Commission of Certifying Agencies (NCCA).
- c. Each applicant for a provisional or non-provisional certification shall provide proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant submitted to a criminal history check as a condition of employment at a pharmacy or other outlet, as required by the applicant’s current employer, as a condition of participating in a course of study for or with a certifying board or body, or in connection with obtaining certification from a certifying board or body.