



Education Requirements

Pharmacy Aide

Pharmacy aide positions do not necessarily require formal education.

Pharmacy Technician

Certification for pharmacy technicians is typically voluntary. Still, pharmacy techs must be registered in the state they reside/work. Two organizations that administer national certification examinations are the National Healthcare Association's Institute for the Certification of Pharmacy Technicians and the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board.

Pharmacist

Pre-pharmacy students must complete at least two years of college to be eligible for pharmacy school, though most complete 3-4 years of a bachelor's degree program. While bachelor's degrees in pharmacy were once the requirement for entry-level positions, pharmacists are now required to hold a Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) professional degree. Pharm.D. programs take four years to complete and prepare students for the technical, scientific and patient-care aspects of the profession.

Medical Science Liaison

Employers often require a doctorate in medicine or a life sciences field with a human-health focus. Common degrees in this profession include Ph.D., Medical Doctor (M.D.) and Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.).

Academic Pharmacists

Becoming a member of the faculty at a college of pharmacy usually requires a postgraduate degree and/or training (e.g., Ph.D. degree or residency or fellowship training following the professional degree program).

key

SALARY

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	\$25,000 or lower
\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	\$25,001 to \$39,999
\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	\$40,000 to \$59,999
\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	\$60,000 to \$99,999
\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	\$100,000 or higher

JOB OUTLOOK

★ ★ ★ ★ ★	4.9% increase or lower
★ ★ ★ ★ ★	5% - 9.9% increase
★ ★ ★ ★ ★	10% - 14.9% increase
★ ★ ★ ★ ★	15% - 19.9% increase
★ ★ ★ ★ ★	20% increase or higher

EDUCATION

🎓 🎓 🎓 🎓 🎓	High school diploma or equivalent
🎓 🎓 🎓 🎓 🎓	Postsecondary non-degree award or Associate's degree
🎓 🎓 🎓 🎓 🎓	Bachelor's degree
🎓 🎓 🎓 🎓 🎓	Master's degree
🎓 🎓 🎓 🎓 🎓	Doctoral or professional degree

Data for salary, job outlook and education infographics were compiled from Missouri 2012-2022 Occupational Projections, published online by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC) within the Missouri Department of Economic Development. When positions in this publication were not directly comparable to a position in MERIC's data, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, data for salary, job outlook, and education were used.



pharmacy

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pharmacy

Pharmacy workers prepare medications that have been prescribed by doctors and other health providers. They provide information about the medicines to patients and recommend the right dose. They may talk to patients about possible side effects.



- receive, store and inventory pharmaceutical supplies or medications
- check for outdated medications, and notify the pharmacist when inventory levels are low
- may prepare prescription labels, answer customer calls and refer callers to the pharmacist
- operate a cash register and accept prescriptions for filling



- receive prescriptions or refill requests and make sure information is complete and accurate
- measure, count, label and record the amounts and doses of medicines
- make sure drugs are stored and secured correctly



- responsible for filling patients' prescriptions with the correct medicines
- tell patients about medicines and the proper way to take them
- work with doctors on choosing the right medicines, making sure they will work with other medications taken by the patient and explaining side effects

career spotlight

MIRANDA, INDEPENDENT RETAIL PHARMACIST



Pharmacy is such a rewarding career. I couldn't have picked a better career path. When I was in high school, I struggled with what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. I knew I wanted to do something in the health care field, and always assumed I would be a doctor. After some thorough reading and thinking, I knew that was not the best option for me. So I looked into what being a pharmacist was like and decided I was interested in pursuing this career path. I then decided to get a job in a pharmacy as a pharmacy technician. After a few weeks, I knew this was the right choice for me. The thing I love most about pharmacy is the patient contact. I love being able to visit with patients when they come in and answer their questions when needed. Getting to know my patients, seeing them on a regular basis and helping solve their problems is what makes my job so great and rewarding. I also like that there are so many different career options for a pharmacist. From retail, hospital to clinical pharmacy, the options are endless depending on what you like to do. A career in the health care field is a great option so definitely take a look at becoming a pharmacist.



- involved with research and development, drug safety, regulatory affairs, marketing and sales
- keep health care providers and researchers updated on latest research, attend conferences, and present new product information to physicians



- train future pharmacists and conduct research
- share pharmaceutical knowledge and information with other health care professionals and students
- speak at industry events, contribute to science and education publications
- may have direct contact with patients

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