

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN PROGRAM

DIPLOMA CURRICULUM

The diploma-level Pharmacy Technician Program at Midlands Technical College consists of three (3) semesters of instruction for a total of forty-nine (49) credit hours. This program is accredited by the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists (ASHP) and meets criteria for Pharmacy Technician state certification requirements mandated by the South Carolina Board of Pharmacy. This program prepares an individual to practice in a variety of settings including community retail pharmacy, hospital pharmacy, infusion services, home health, long-term care facilities, military and VA services.

The program begins Fall semester of every year. A program orientation session will be scheduled on the Airport Campus prior to the beginning of Fall semester. Attendance at orientation will be mandatory.

Application to the Diploma-Level Pharmacy Technician Program:

1. Complete an application for Midlands Technical College listing Pharmacy Technician (Diploma) as the program of study. Admission applications can be obtained/submitted in one of the following ways: (a) At the admissions office on Airport or Beltline Campuses, (b) submitted by mail, or, (c) preferably apply online at www.midlandstech.edu/edu/sds/adm/applications.html
2. Schedule placement testing if necessary. All students entering the college **MUST** take the Compass or Asset placement test to qualify for entry into the Pharmacy Technician Program and to receive subsequent advisement **UNLESS EXEMPT**. The following will **EXEMPT** you from taking the MTC placement test:
 - (a) If you have earned a grade of “C” or higher in appropriate college-level English and mathematics courses taken at a regionally accredited college or university.
 - (b) Or, if you have earned advanced placement credit for English and mathematics on CLEP and/or AP exams that are recognized by MTC.
 - (c) Or, if you have taken the MTC Placement Test (COMPASS OR ASSET) within the previous three years.
 - (d) Or, if you have taken the COMPASS or ASSET test at another school and it meets the 3 year limitation and have either a transfer English course or the MTC Writing Sample to complete the testing requirement.
 - (e) Or, you have earned a 2 year degree or higher from a regionally accredited college or university.

SAT or ACT Scores qualify a candidate for admission to the college. SAT or ACT test scores do not qualify as college placement tests. Minimum Scores for the Compass, Asset, SAT, or ACT must be achieved as indicated in the section below entitled *Program Admission Requirements*.

The placement test schedule is available online at www.midlandstech.edu/testcenter/dleitest.html

[Test scores cannot be over 3 years old at time of application]

3. Request official copies of transcripts (high-school and college) sent to Midlands Technical College.
4. Submit two typewritten letters of recommendation (e.g: Current or past employers, high school guidance counselors or teachers, faculty members from colleges previously attended, etc).
5. Qualify for an interview by meeting one of the Program Interview Requirements

Acceptable Scores For Program Interview Eligibility tests:

- SAT: Total 910 (minimum verbal 430 and MTC Writing Sample score of 30); or
- ACT 19 Comp (Minimum verbal 18 and MTC Writing Sample score of 30; or
- Successful completion of the Pre-Health Care Certificate with a 2.5 GPA and “C” or higher in each course.

Visit the college website at www.midlandstech.com/edu/sds/sas/hb/hlc6.html for additional information regarding the Pre-Health Care Certificate.

- HOBET (Composite 50%, minimum reading 50%, and Writing Sample of 30%)
[Test scores cannot be over 3 years old at the time of application]

6. Apply for Financial Aid or Lottery Tuition Assistance. Distance Learning Students must apply for Financial Aid at MTC. You must complete a Financial Aid Application to be eligible for the SC Lottery Scholarships. Visit the following MTC college websites for additional information and forms:
 - Student Financial Services: www.midlandstech.edu/sfs/
 - Federal Student Aid Application: www.fafsa.ed.gov/
 - SC Lottery Tuition Assistance: www.midlandstech.edu/fafsa/
7. Interview with the Director of the Pharmacy Technician Program or designee when steps 1 through 4 and 5 are completed and admission to the college has been granted. Although a prospective student is granted admission to the college, acceptance into the Pharmacy Technician Program is not automatically granted or guaranteed. Acceptance into the Pharmacy Technician Program will be determined upon the results of an interview evaluation process. Final recommendation for acceptance or non-acceptance into the program will be issued by the Program Director.

Program Admission Requirements:

1. Applicants **MUST** be a high school graduate or equivalent. This is a requirement of the American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists (ASHP).
(Recommend high school or college credits in mathematics/science [algebra, biology, chemistry]). You will need to submit documentation that verifies graduation from high school or equivalency program (copy of high school diploma, GED, or transcript which shows graduation date).
2. Applicants must be at least 17 years of age (**MUST** be 18 years of age at time of graduation from the Pharmacy Technician Program [This is a requirement of ASHP]).
3. Acceptable Scores on Placement Tests:
 - Compass (Computer-based)
(minimum Reading score of 80; MTC writing sample score of 30 in order to place out of Eng 100; and minimum algebra score of 60 to place out of MAT 101); or
 - Asset (paper-pencil)
(minimum Reading score of 40; MTC writing sample score of 30 in order to place out of Eng 100; and minimum Arithmetic Numerical score of 40 & Elementary Algebra score of 48 to place out of MAT 101).

The Compass or Asset test can be waived with the following:

 - (1) A transferable English Composition course that is equivalent to MTC's Eng 101 or higher. (Waives the Reading and writing sample requirement)
 - (2) A transferable Math course that is equivalent to MTC's Math 101 or higher. (Waives the math/algebra requirement)
4. Acceptable Scores For Program Interview Eligibility Tests:
 - SAT: Total 910 (minimum verbal 430 and MTC writing sample score of 30); or
 - ACT: 19 Comp (minimum verbal 18 and MTC writing sample score of 30); or
 - Successful completion of the Pre-Health Care Certificate with a 2.5 GPA and "C" or higher in each course.
Visit the college website at www.midlandstech.com/edu/sds/sas/hb/hlc6.html for additional information regarding the Pre-Health Care Certificate.
 - HOBET (Composite 50%, minimum Reading 50%, and writing sample of 30%)
5. Recommend typing skills.
6. Current First Aid and CPR certification at time of entry.
7. Emotional and physical ability to carry out normal pharmacy activities (to include lifting, stretching, and standing for long periods).
8. Physical Examination by a physician and the completion of a personal health form.
9. Mandatory Immunizations/Tests:
 - Tetanus (Booster required every 10 years)
 - Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR): 2 vaccines or positive titer

- Varicella (Chickenpox) Titer – **Required**
- Tuberculin Skin testing
- Hepatitis B Vaccination Series (**Titer is required**)

10. Criminal Background check for arrest and convictions or drug-related charges.

11. Illegal or illicit drug abuse or misuse screening.

PROGRAM COSTS:

Tuition:

Fall, Spring, & Semesters

*Full-time students (12 or more credit hours) are charged as follows:

-Richland & Lexington County residents/semester	\$1572.00
-Fairfield County Residents/semester	\$1572.00
-Residents of other South Carolina counties per semester	\$1968.00
-Non-residents of South Carolina per semester	\$4716.00

*Part-time students (fewer than 12 credit hours) are charged as follows:

-Richland & Lexington County residents per credit hour	\$ 125.00
-Fairfield County residents per credit hour	\$ 125.00
-Residents of other South Carolina counties per credit hour	\$ 156.00
-Non-residents of South Carolina per credit hour	\$ 375.00

*These are current rates at the time of this document printing. The most current tuition information is available online at www.midlandstech.edu/finance/tuition.htm

There are a wide variety of tuition assistance programs available at the college. Contact the Student Financial Services for more information at 803-738-7792.

Non-instructional support services Student Fee \$50.00 per semester	\$ 100.00
First time student enrollment fee	\$ 25.00
Pharmacy textbooks	\$ 400.00
General Education Textbooks (Bio, AHS, Math, Chem, Eng, CPT, Psy)	\$ 875.00
Arm Patch	\$ 10.00
Lab Jacket	\$ 35.00+
Malpractice Insurance	\$ 6.00
Criminal Background Check	\$ 65.00
Technology Lapel Pin	\$ 40.00 - \$164.0

Semester Courses:

Fall Semester

BIO 112 Anatomy & Physiology (3-4cr)
(3 hours class & 3 hours lab per week)
AHS 102 Medical Terminology (3 cr)
MAT 102 Intermed. Algebra (3 cr)

CHM 105 Gen, Org & Biochem (4 cr)
(3 hours class & 3 hours lab per week)

Semester Course Prerequisites:

Fall Semester

RDG 100 & ENG 100 (Introduction to Composition)

RDG 100 & ENG 100 with minimum grade of "C"
MAT 101 (Beginning Algebra)
Compass Scores: ALG 60-75, or
Asset Scores: NUM 40+, EALG 48
RDG 100 (Critical Reading) & MAT 101 or MAT
155 (Contemporary Mathematics)

Midlands Technical College Courses BIO 210 and BIO 211: If both of these courses are completed, will qualify as an acceptable substitution credit for either BIO 110 or BIO 112.

Anatomy & Physiology; Medical Terminology; Intermediate Algebra; and General, Organic, and Biochemistry courses taken at another community college or university will be evaluated for course substitution transfer credit and must be approved by the Program Director.

PHM 101 Introduction to Pharmacy (3 cr) Acceptance into program

PHM 113 Pharmacy Math (3cr) Acceptance into program

Spring Semester

Spring Semester

Eng 101 English Composition 1 (3 cr)

ENG 100, RDG 100

Compass Scores: Rdg 80-99, WSAMP 30

Asset Scores: Rdg 40+, WSAMP 30

CPT 170 Micro-Computer Applications (3 cr)

RDG 100 & MAT 100 (Introductory College Math)

PHM 109 Applied Pharmacy Practice (2cr)

PHM 101; PHM 113

PHM 111 Applied Pharmacy Practice Lab (2 cr)
(6 hours of lab per week)

PHM 101; PHM 113

Corequisite: PHM 109

PHM 114 Therapeutic Agents I (3 cr)

AHS 102; BIO 110 or 112; PHM 101

PHM 152 Pharm Tech Practicum 1 (2cr)

PHM 101/113

(PHM 152 on-site clinical experience is 6hrs/week)

Summer Semester

Summer Semester

PSY 201 General Psychology (3 cr)

RDG 100 & ENG 032 or 035 (Developmental English)

PHM 118 Community Pharmacy Seminar (1cr)

PHM 101; PHM 113; PHM 152

PHM 109 is a corequisite

PHM 124 Therapeutic Agents II (3 cr)

PHM 114

PHM 164 Pharmacy Tech Practicum II (4 cr)

PHM 152

PHM 173 Pharmacy Tech Practicum III (3 cr)

PHM 152

(PHM 164 & 173 on-site clinical experience is 31.5 hrs/week)

[LECTURE = 525 HRS; LABORATORY = 180 HOURS; SEMINAR = 45 HOURS; EXPERIENTIAL = 405 HOURS]. TOTAL CONTACT HOURS = 1155.

Clinical experience will be arranged within community retail pharmacies and institutional pharmacies (hospitals, infusion centers, etc) in a student's home community which **WILL NOT** be the same as the student's current pharmacy employment site (if in fact the student is employed) or at any facility within the same retail pharmacy chain.

During Summer semester clinicals (PHM 164 & PHM 173), if a student is currently working at least 20 hours per week in a pharmacy setting, that student will receive credit for 16.5 hours of clinical per week and will therefore be required to complete only 15 hours per week for clinical rotation. However, documentation from your supervising pharmacist will be required during that time.

To be eligible for graduation, Pharmacy Technician students in the diploma curriculum, during the summer semester will be required to take and pass Midland Technical College Pharmacy Technician Department's **competency-based exit exam**. The exam will consist of three (3) parts:

- I. Pharmacy Practice
- II. Pharmacy Math/Calculations
- III. Pharmacology

The exit exam may be taken a maximum of two times. If the student fails any section, he or she can repeat just the section (s) that was not successfully passed.

Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) Exam:

As a part of the requirements of the South Carolina Board of Pharmacy, to become a state certified pharmacy technician, a candidate must pass the national PTCB examination. Therefore, in keeping with this provision, students are strongly encouraged to take the examination. The PTCB exam consists of three (3) parts:

- I. Assisting the Pharmacist in Serving Patients (66%)
- II. Maintaining Medication and Inventory Control Systems (22%)
- III. Participating in the Administration of and Management of Pharmacy Practice (12%)

For additional information regarding the exam, visit the PTCB website at <http://www.ptcb.org>

The Pharmacy Technician Diploma Program at Midlands Technical College in its entirety is offered as distance education to communities throughout the state as a cooperative effort between technical colleges in South Carolina. Host colleges serve as a monitor for ongoing activities such as correspondence, testing, handouts, equipment operation, etc. Midlands Technical College provides classroom instruction by satellite broadcast transmission to the following host colleges: Aiken Technical College; Central Carolina Technical College; Florence-Darlington Technical College; and Northeastern Technical College. Midlands Technical College provides all classroom training materials, schedules, tests, and other needs. All general education coursework may be taken at the host college or other community colleges and accepted as transfer credit if the coursework is evaluated as equivalent to the courses at Midlands. Midlands Technical College provides instruction in all pharmacy technician coursework. Laboratory instruction for Columbia students and distant learning host college students is conducted in the laboratory facility located on the Columbia Airport Campus of Midlands Technical College.

If you need additional information, please contact Candice Geiger, Director, Pharmacy Technician Program, Midlands Technical College, PO Box 2408, Columbia, SC 29202. Phone: 803-822-3572

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