



Technician Update (March 2019)

Important Reminders from the Licensing Department

Active Registration Required

All individuals performing the duties of a pharmacy technician must have an Active registration prior to performing such duties. An application in Pending, Submitted, or In Review status does not allow the individual to perform the duties of a pharmacy technician. Applicants will receive a Certificate of Issuance notice and an Active status when their registration is reviewed and activated.

Incomplete Applications

Applicants for a registration as a pharmacy technician (Trainee, Registered, or Certified) should ensure they are completing the correct application and submitting all proper documentation – attestation forms, backgrounds checks, etc. Failure to complete the correct application and submit proper documentation leads to significant delays in the processing of the application.

Background Check Requirements

Beginning April 6, 2019, all applicants for a registration as a pharmacy technician must have BCI and FBI background check results sent directly to the Board within twelve (12) months prior to their application submission date. Background check results from employers will no longer be accepted. [Please review the technician criminal records check guidance document for more information.](#)

At the WebCheck provider, applicants should use the following codes:

- Pharmacy Technician Trainee – ORC 4729.92
- Registered or Certified Pharmacy Technician – ORC 4729.90

Certified Pharmacy Technician Rule Updated – Effective March 1, 2019

The Board recently made updates to rule 4729:3-3-04, which governs the practice of certified pharmacy technicians. [Click here to view changes to the rule.](#)

Approved Technician Training Programs – New Requirements Effective April 6, 2019

Effective April 6, 2019, those applying to be registered or certified pharmacy technicians must complete a training program that meets the following requirements:

For Employer Based Training Programs

An employer based training program that meets the requirements set forth in [rule 4729:3-3-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code.](#)

For Non-Employer Based Training Programs

Non-employer based training programs will have to meet one of the following requirements for a graduate of that training program to become a registered or certified pharmacy technician in Ohio:

- Be accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists/Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education. **NOTE: The Board recently authorized ASHP/ACPE training programs that are in candidate status.** More information about this requirement can be accessed [here.](#)
- A program of training for pharmaceutical technicians conducted by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, the Indian Health Service of the United States Department of Health and Human Services or the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

- A pharmacy technician training program approved by the State Board of Pharmacy that is offered by an Ohio public high school as part of a career-technical education program approved by the Ohio Department of Education pursuant to section 3317.161 of the Revised Code. Approved programs are posted [here](#) on the [technician licensing webpage](#). Applications to be an approved program can be accessed here: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/TechHS.

All training programs are strongly encouraged to review the following updated FAQs:

Approved Pharmacy Technician Training Programs: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/techtraining.

Pharmacy Technician Registration Overview: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/techFAQ

Board Resolution: Approval of ASHP Technician Training Programs in Candidate Status

On March 4, 2019, the Board approved a resolution approving technician training programs that have candidate or accreditation status with American Society of Health-System Pharmacists/Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education.

All programs in candidate status must be notified of accreditation status no later than eighteen months from the time the program receives its initial notification of candidate status.

All programs in candidate status must notify all current and potential participants that the program is in candidate status.

[A complete copy of the resolution can be accessed here.](#)

Reminder: Registered Technician Continuing Education Requirements

All registered pharmacy technicians are required to complete a total of ten contact hours (1.0 CEUs) of continuing pharmacy education during the 24 months preceding the expiration date of the technician's registration (i.e. 24 months prior to the March 31st renewal deadline). [More information on this requirement can be accessed here.](#)

Extension of Technician Trainee Registrations

Individuals registered as trainees receive a one (1) year registration. Pursuant to [rule 4729:3-2-01](#) of the Administrative Code, a pharmacy technician trainee registration cannot be renewed but an extension may be granted by the Board.

On January 8, 2019, the Board approved a six (6) month extension of a trainee's registration for the following conditions:

- Medical leave/absence.
- Initial employment or change in employment four (4) months prior to the expiration of a trainee's registration.
- Failure to pass an employer-based training program examination.
- Failure to obtain a pharmacy technician certification from an organization that has been recognized by the board.

To request an extension of a trainee registration, the trainee must complete and submit the Trainee Extension Request Form available [here](#). Completed forms should be submitted at least 14 days in advance of the registration's expiration date to ensure a review can be completed.

If a trainee fails to register as a registered or certified technician or does not request an extension of a trainee registration, the registration will expire and the technician trainee will not be authorized to practice in the state of Ohio.
