



The Medication Learning Company
Update. Inform. Educate.™

TRC Pharmacy Technicians University Launches First Online Solution to Prepare Pharmacies for 2020 Certification Requirements

Learning solution meets all Board of Pharmacy requirements for all 50 states

STOCKTON, Calif. — July 19, 2016 — By 2020, the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) will require completion of an American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)/ Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) accredited education program for national certification of pharmacy technician candidates in the United States. This requires pharmacies to ensure all technicians have access to training programs that meet these new standards. TRC, the authors of *Pharmacist's Letter*, created [Pharmacy Technicians University](#) to improve pharmacy quality of care while fulfilling the ASHP/ACPE standard, and meet state board of pharmacy requirements for every state plus Washington, D.C.

“The work pharmacy technicians perform allows pharmacists to spend more time delivering patient-facing medication therapy,” said Wes Crews, Chief Executive Officer of TRC. “Certified technicians make a material contribution to increasing the efficient operation of the pharmacy while also playing a vital role regarding quality and patient safety. The establishment of a single standard

regarding training and certification of pharmacy technicians will greatly impact quality measures for safety and patient satisfaction. TRC Pharmacy Technicians University is the first and only nationwide platform that supports distance learning for both didactic learning and lab simulation training and meets the new ASHP/ACPE standards. We already are working with forward thinking organizations to leverage TRC’s flexible, scalable, and customizable platform to create an affordable training program for their employees.”

“The establishment of a single standard regarding training and certification of pharmacy technicians will greatly impact quality measures for safety and patient satisfaction.”

According to the CDC, on average more than 80% of Americans take at least one prescription per day and 29% take five or more. In 2012, it was estimated that more than 117 million Americans were managing one or more chronic conditions likely requiring some kind of medication therapy. This demand for prescription drugs is keeping pharmacies and pharmacists busy, with the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimating a faster than average growth for pharmacy and pharmacy technician jobs between 2010 and 2020. The changes outlined by the PTCB, which

impact accredited education requirements and changes in acceptable continuing education (CE) programs for recertification, are designed to meet the shifting needs of the healthcare system as pharmacies become increasingly important to achieving positive patient outcomes.

Online distance learning programs, such as TRC Pharmacy Technicians University, provide pharmacies and pharmacy technician candidates with the requisite elements to provide well-rounded training for pharmacy technicians. Pharmacy Technicians University provides curricula to support technician training needs in a variety of environments, including retailers, hospitals, and independent pharmacies. Customers can choose from over 160 hours of didactic training courses and over 200 hours of lab simulation courses for both retail and institutional settings. The Pharmacy Technicians University platform also handles scheduling, tracking, and reporting on multiple experiential training sites and rotations.

“TRC Pharmacy Technicians University provides Walmart & Sam’s Club Pharmacy associates an opportunity to participate in a high-quality, comprehensive pharmacy technician training program and serves as a pathway to additional career development opportunities,” said Tim Koch, R.Ph., Senior Director of Pharmacy Practice Compliance at Walmart. “In addition to providing an ASHP/ACPE accredited training program which meets the upcoming industry requirements, Walmart & Sam’s Club Pharmacies invest in our associates by providing all of our pharmacy technicians with access to free continuing education program subscriptions. Through the use of TRC Pharmacy Technicians University we are able to ensure that all pharmacy technicians meet or exceed their state’s training and certification requirements. TRC Pharmacy Technicians University was the only platform that would enable us to provide our pharmacy leadership with an end-to-end solution to track and evaluate student progress, to connect students with preceptors, and to retain attestations for experiential training.”

About TRC (Therapeutic Research Center)

TRC is the leading provider of digital medication learning that updates, informs, and educates healthcare providers across the continuum of care. In addition to its highly regarded *Pharmacist’s Letter*, *Prescriber’s Letter*, and *Natural Medicines*, TRC also provides online resources that expand on their trusted recommendations such as drug comparison charts, patient education handouts, FAQs, and tutorials. They deliver a complete continuing education program, online competency and compliance program, a CE & Training Organizer, and an enterprise learning management portal. TRC also provides a variety of education and advisory services to help technicians including *Pharmacy Technician’s Letter* and *Pharmacy Technicians University*, the only online interactive training and certification courses to support the 2020 requirement. Close to 500,000 healthcare professionals rely on TRC’s advisory and education service to give them the concise, unbiased, timely information that they need to help improve medication use, prevent medication errors, and improve overall patient care, quality, and outcomes.

Contact

TRC (Therapeutic Research Center)

Daryl Joslin, 209-472-2240, daryl.joslin@trchealthcare.com