NORTH SEATTLE COLLEGE
One of the Seattle Colleges

Pharmacy Technician Associate of Applied Science Degree –399A
Requirements Effective Fall 2012
Program Planning Sheet

Program Description: The Pharmacy Technician Associate of Applied Science degree provides a more liberalized education than the certificate. Many employers view the degree as a sign of increased competence and readiness for career or salary advancement. The program is approved by the Washington State Board of Pharmacy to train students to work in various pharmacy settings. Students learn basic pharmacy skills (reading prescriptions, order entry, IV medication prep, etc.). The program is accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP).

Prerequisites: Many classes have prerequisites. Prerequisites are those classes that prove eligibility for entry-level classes by testing or by having satisfied prior course work. Course work earned at other institutions must be unofficially evaluated or approved by a program advisor before registering.

Pharmacy Technician Certificate Prerequisites:

- College transcript showing successful completion of ENGL 097/098 with final placement into ENGL&101 or COMPASS placement into ENGL& 101 within last two years of application date.
- College transcript showing successful completion of MATH 097 Elementary Algebra or equivalent or COMPASS placement into MATH 098 Intermediate Algebra within one year of application date.
- College classes must be taken within the last five years of application date.
- High School Diploma or GED.
- Must be 18 years of age
- Additional Information/Requirements:
  - National Background check
  - Immunizations are required to be placed in externship
  - Active Washington State Pharmacy Assistant license which students will apply for in their first quarter.

Note: Advanced placement testing, work experience, and transfer of credits may result in course waivers, credit transfer, and advanced placement.

To complete the program a 2.0 grade or higher is required in all courses.

Program Requirements		
Course Number	**General Education/Related Instruction Requirements (41 credits)**	**Credit Hours**
BUS 236	Interpersonal Communications for the Workplace	5
Communication Elective	Five credits must be chosen from an approved list of Communication Elective courses	5
Computation Elective	Five credits must be chosen from an approved list of Computation Elective courses	5
Natural World Elective	Five credits must be chosen from an approved list of Natural World Elective courses	5
General Electives	Sixteen credits of 100-level and above college courses	16
US Culture or Global Studies Elective	Five credits must be chosen from an approved list of US Culture/Global Studies Elective courses	5
Course Number	**Certificate Requirements (49 credits)**	**Credit Hours**
AHI 100	Introduction to Medical Vocabulary*	3
PHA 112	Pharmacy Law	2
PHA 115	Orientation to Pharmacy Practice	2
PHA 116	HIV/AIDS and HIPAA	1
PHA 120	Pharmacy Calculations*	3

PHA 130	Over the Counter Drugs	2
PHA 140	Sterile Products/Aseptic Techniques I*	2
PHA 141	Sterile Products/Aseptic Techniques II*	2
PHA 145	Pharmacy Ethics*	1
PHA 146	Communications in Pharmacy Practice*	2
PHA 150	Pharmacology I	3
PHA 151	Pharmacology II	3
PHA 160	Pharmacy Technology I*	3
PHA 161	Pharmacy Technology II*	2
PHA 170	Pharmacy Records Management*	4
PHA 190	Pharmacy Technician Externship	13
PHA 191	Jobs Skills and National Exam Prep	1
	Total Credits: 90 (excluding pre-requisites)	

Notes: * Courses marked with one asterisk (*) contain significant program related topics in the areas of communication, computation, human relations and leadership. **PHA 190: The Pharmacy Technician externship is usually split over a two-quarter time frame. A minimum of 13 credits, approximately 432 externship hours, must be completed satisfactorily for certification.

Program Outcomes:

- Demonstrate the ability to accurately interpret the information on a new prescription, request any missing information, and enter it.
- Demonstrate familiarity with brand and generic drug names, appearance, manufacturer, dosage forms(s), and route of administration for at least the top 100 drugs.
- Demonstrate the ability to process a medication order completely, accurately, and efficiently (interpretation, drug product selection, computer warnings, packaging, and labeling, filling a prescription in an outpatient setting, and preparing IV medication using aseptic technique).
- Demonstrate accuracy and timeliness in mathematical computation of ingredient amounts, doses, infusion rates, or any relevant calculation encountered in an Outpatient and Inpatient setting.
- Demonstrate familiarity with third party insurance and perform necessary functions for reimbursement.
- Demonstrate knowledge in durable medical equipment to adequately communicate with patients about them.
- Demonstrate knowledge of pharmacy law and apply to the prescription filling process.
- Display acceptable communication skills during interactions with patients, coworkers and other health care professionals.
- Display a professional attitude about the practice of pharmacy and the ability to problem-solve.
- Demonstrate fundamental knowledge of medical terminology and basic rules of vocabulary building.

What Skills do I need to be successful in this field? http://www.onetonline.org

- Receive prescription or refill requests and verify that information is complete and accurate.
- Measure, mix, count out, labels, dispense, and record dosages of medications.
- Answer telephones, responding to questions or requests.
- Maintain proper drug storage and security conditions for drugs,
- Assist customers by locating items, or referring them to the pharmacist for medical information.
- Handle insurance billing, purchasing, inventory, record keeping and use of databases and medical software.
- Fill automatic unit dose machines.

What are some potential job titles?

- Pharmacy Technician
- Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT)

Wages, employment trends and pathways http://www.onetonline.org

- Wages in Washington State range from $14.52/hour (entry level) to $24.53/hour (additional experience). The national median is $14.23/hour.
- Pharmacy Technicians work in retail pharmacies, grocery and department stores, mass retailers, hospital pharmacies, medical clinics, mail order, home infusions and insurance companies.
- Pathways include Pharmacist, RN, Laboratory Technician

Course Sequence: This program of study is outlined by quarter, and courses should be taken in the indicated sequence. However, it should not be concluded that students will always proceed through their program of study exactly as prescribed here. The number of quarters listed here is minimal. Not all courses are offered every quarter. Individual student experiences, educational and training background, and personal schedules and demands all may affect the time it takes to finish this program. The program must be completed in 12 months.

1st quarter: AHI 100, PHA 112, PHA 115, PHA 116, PHA 120, PHA 170

2nd quarter: PHA 130, PHA 140, PHA 145, PHA 146, PHA 150, PHA 160, PHA 190, PHA 191

3rd quarter: PHA 141, PHA 151, PHA 161, PHA 190

Any quarter: BUS 236, electives

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Website: https://northseattle.edu/certificates/pharmacy-technician

For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who have completed these program, and other important information, please visit our website at https://northseattle.edu/about-north/gainful-employment-information.