

**City College of San Francisco . School of Health and Physical Education
John Adams Campus
1860 Hayes Street . San Francisco, CA 94117 . (415) 561-1900**



**FALL SEMESTER
AUGUST 2009**



PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

TIME: 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

In addition, up to 20 various hours weekly clinical practice in simulated community based pharmacies or healthcare institutions

The Pharmacy Technician Program is a 684 hour, two semester course (12 unit course per semester) consisting of didactic and practical experience in a simulated community pharmacy, homecare or hospital pharmacy.

In the classroom, students will learn the role and function of pharmacy technicians.

The practical experience is in a simulated retail, homecare, or hospital pharmacy. The students will perform the procedures and techniques that are assigned to pharmacy technicians.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

1. 18 years of age or older
2. An official high school transcript or G.E.D.
3. An individual orientation

Upon Acceptance:

4. A physical examination and proof of immunity for specified communicable diseases

PREFERRED OR COMPLETED COURSES/EXPERIENCE/PLACEMENT:

1. Recommended **minimum** placement into:
 - a) Minimum placement in English 96 or completion of English 93 or 94 or completion of ESL 82 or ESL 160
 - b) Completion of Math 840 or placement in Math 860
2. Successful completion of a course in Introduction to Computers
3. Documentation that student types 35 words per minute
4. Medical terminology knowledge
5. Anatomy 14 or equivalent knowledge of human anatomy

TUITION FEE: (subject to change without prior notice)

\$20.00 per semester unit for California residents

\$179.00 per semester unit for non-residents (plus \$20 per semester unit enrollment fee)

\$16.00 for Student Health Benefit Fee for ALL students

Students must pay for their own uniform, books and supplies (\$350/program)

FINANCIAL AID:

To receive information about financial aid, call a counselor at Phelan Campus (415) 239-3576 and request an appointment or contact, Financial Aid Counselor, Winnie Yiu, John Adams Campus, 1860 Hayes Street, Room 133B, (415) 561-1012.

It is the policy of the CCSF to provide all persons with equal employment and educational opportunities regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, marital status, age or handicap.

APPLICATION AND ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES WILL BE AVAILABLED IN FEBRUARY 2009

TOP FIVE QUESTIONS REGARDING CCSF PHARM TECH PROGRAM

1) How long is the program?

2 semesters

2) How much does the program cost?

\$20 per unit (24 units over Fall & Spring semesters) plus \$16 Student Health Fee.

\$350 for textbooks, supplies, white lab coat, name tag, etc. which are first semester expenses.

3) Which students successfully complete the Pharm Tech Program?

Several factors are involved when it comes to successfully completing the program. Essentially, the willingness to communicate & to work with ill patients is necessary. Factors include:

- 1) participating in evening lectures & lab sessions: Mon, Tues, & Wed nights x 36 wks
- 2) participating in practical training up to 20 hrs a week, Mon - Fri days (288hrs)
- 3) proficiency in math calculations (requiring college algebra) & metric system
- 4) work experience with patients or recent problem solving experience with customers & some work experience with computers (or course completion)
- 5) completing an application to the program, attending pharmacy orientation, & completing a successful interview with the pharm tech instructors (call 561-1900 for deadlines & application).

4) Who are some of your students?

The student population is quite diverse. CCSF attracts students who are going into a second career. These students may have 10-20 years of working in hospitals, banking, insurance, and in retail or may have had 5-15 years of health care experience as a pharmacist, nurse, or doctor in a country other than U.S. In the past classes, 50% of our students have a BS in biochemistry, biology, organic chemistry, etc. or a BA degree in business or an AA. Additionally, most of our students are bilingual.

On the other hand, CCSF also attracts high school students who graduate from high schools in the Bay Area with little work experience or no work experience. Some of these students though have volunteered services in a health care facility and have gained unpaid work experience in their field of interest and have a clear focus. Those students who have good follow-through skills do well.

5) What courses would you suggest taking to prepare for Pharm Tech studies?

If no health care experience, take medical terminology course (HIT 50A) at John Adams Campus & Anatomy (ANAT 14). If no computer experience, take a computer keyboard class. If typing is less than 35wpm, take keyboarding (SECY 201).

If you have not taken a college algebra course, take Math 860. Math 840 is an introductory algebra course; whereas, Math 860 is college level. Take the Math Placement exam at CCSF to help you determine where you are in your math skill area. If you qualify for calculus, then math should not be a concern.

A "C" in High School Algebra is a good predictor of difficulty in completing the Pharm Tech program. Also, those having no recent exposure to algebra in the last five years do poorly in the program. More than one "D or lower" grade in any science course also correlates with poor performance in the pharmacology portion of the Pharm Tech program and non-completion of the program.