

ONE FOCUS > YOUR SUCCESS

FRONT RANGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



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FIND A GREAT CAREER AS A PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

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PHARMACY TECHNICIAN IS A FAST-GROWING CAREER FIELD

Hundreds of good-paying jobs are waiting for trained applicants

The U.S. Department of Labor estimates a 32 percent increase in demand for pharmacy technicians over the next eight years while the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment predicts 200 openings per year in Colorado. And FRCC has an accredited Pharmacy Technician program. A certificate from Front Range Community College will help you get a great job with good pay.

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

Linda Calvert



Linda, the program director, is an example of a lifelong learner. Retired from AT&T where she was a process engineer and technical trainer, Linda studied to become a pharmacy technician. "Working as a pharmacy technician was fulfilling," she says. "I enjoyed helping people. I felt like I was making a difference." And now she is making

a difference by teaching others. "I love being here for my students," she says. Her philosophy of teaching: Be fun, be firm, and be fair. To expand, learning should be fun. With the health and safety of patients paramount, you have to be firm on knowing concepts and working the details. And for those times when "life happens," be fair and understanding in working with the students.

Pharmacy Technician Salaries

	Entry	Middle	Experienced
Statewide	\$24,428/yr	\$31,457/yr	\$34,823/yr
Denver-Aurora	\$25,032/yr	\$33,107/yr	\$36,172/yr
Boulder-Longmont	\$26,016/yr	\$32,412/yr	\$35,832/yr
Fort Collins-Loveland	\$27,125/yr	\$35,123/yr	\$36,979/yr

Occupational Employment Statistics Survey (2007) Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

If you have a certificate from Front Range Community College, you will have the training that qualifies you for good pay in a growing field. You also will learn the teamwork and customer-service skills today's job market demands.

Pharmacy technicians assist in the preparation of prescribed medications. Pharmacy technicians retrieve, count, pour, weigh, measure, and sometimes mix the medication. Some pharmacy technicians work in retail pharmacies. Others work in hospitals, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities, and still others may work for mail-order pharmacies. No matter the setting, pharmacy technicians do important, detail-oriented work – it's a matter of health and safety for the patient.

Do you want a career in health care but don't know where to start? Becoming a pharmacy technician might be right for you. Are you waiting for entry into some other health-care program, even a college of pharmacy? Pharmacy technician will give you some practical education that could apply to your field.

Get started fast

You will take three, five-week instruction modules one semester and then two five-week experiential modules in hospital and community settings in the second semester. You can start in either the fall or spring semester.

COME TO CAMPUS AND OBSERVE CLASSES



This is a quality program

Accreditation means quality, and FRCC's Pharmacy Technician Program has earned national accreditation from the American Society of Health System Pharmacists (ASHP). Yes, your training will set you apart.

STUDENT PROFILE

Brittany Richardson



Brittany had a general idea that a career in health care would be interesting, so she came to FRCC right from Arvada High School. "The tuition was wonderful," she says, "and the program is accredited. That was definitely a bonus. The classes are convenient in the evening so you can have a job during the day. Linda (Calvert, program director) is

great at placing you in internships, and she has a high employment-placement rate, too." That's for sure. Brittany had an internship at Avista Adventist Hospital in Louisville, and she was hired on staff after the first week of her internship. She loves the job and her career in a field with a future. "Job security is a wonderful thing," she says.

STUDENT PROFILE

Sammy Ihunwaeze



Sammy was in the third year of medical school in his native Nigeria when his name came up in the lottery for a visa to come to the United States. After establishing residency in Colorado, where he has extended family, he enrolled in the Pharmacy Technician program at FRCC. He has long wanted to combine medicine with pharmacy, and he continues to take

prerequisites for admission to a college of pharmacy. In the meantime, he earned his certificate from FRCC and has worked for more than two years for Pharmerica, a pharmacy that provides medications for patients in long-term-care facilities. "I absolutely do like the work," he says. "FRCC was a very great success for me. It was my first schooling in the United States. It was a new environment, and I was able to succeed. FRCC helped me to get where I am today."

Learn from the best instructors in the business

They've been on the job. And now they want to teach. They have stories to tell that help make their subjects real and exciting. You can expect to learn a lot and have a great time doing it in small classes where you get lots of hands-on training – in our pharmacy lab – and plenty of personal interaction.

But don't take our word for it. See for yourself. Come to campus to observe classes and talk with current students. Call Linda Calvert, program director, at 303-404-5393 to arrange a visit.

Before you start ...

The health and safety of patients and the community are so important that you need to meet these specific program requirements:

1. Possess a GED or high school diploma.
2. Demonstrate keyboarding skills of 25 words per minute or higher.
3. No previous conviction for a drug-related crime.
4. Submit a resumé and a letter of reference.
5. Complete a Criminal Background Check at your expense.
6. Complete a Pharmacy Technician health summary with documented immunization records before your clinical experiences.
7. Complete an interview with the program director.

STUDENT PROFILE

Chris Garcia



It didn't take Chris long to make a good impression. One of his FRCC clinical experiences was at Porter Hospital in Denver. Once he earned his certificate from FRCC, Porter Hospital hired him on staff – and he proceeded to earn Employee of the Month honors in his first month on the job. Chris wants to become a pharmacist, and he thought becoming

a pharmacy technician was the easiest path to explore the field. So upon graduation from Denver North in 2007, he entered FRCC's program. "All the studying of disease types and drug types really helped me," he says. Today, he is the narcotic technician at Porter. When his work day is over, he comes back to FRCC to take his prerequisites for admission to a school of pharmacy. "I really like the field," he says. "I still plan to become a pharmacist."

Course requirements for a certificate in Pharmacy Technician

REQUIRED COURSES	CREDITS
PHT 111 Orientation to Pharmacy	3
PHT 112 Pharmacy Law	2
PHT 113 Pharmacy Calculations and Terminology	1
PHT 114 Computer Skills for Pharmacy Technicians	1
PHT 115 Pharmacology of the GI, Renal, Reproductive, Immune, Dermatologic Systems	3
PHT 116 Institutional Pharmacy	3
PHT 117 Communication for Pharmacy Technicians	1
PHT 118 Pharmacology of the Nervous, Endocrine, Musculoskeletal Systems	3
PHT 119 Community Pharmacy	3
PHT 120 Medical Insurance Procedures	1
PHT 170 Pharmacy Clinical: Hospital	4
PHT 171 Pharmacy Clinical: Community	4
Total Credits Required for Certificate	29

GET STARTED!

Contact

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Go to www.frontrange.edu/pharmtech