



# A Closer Look at Pharmacy Professionals



## Pharmacist

### What do pharmacists do?

1. Drug delivery and medication safety
2. Patient education and advocacy
3. Monitoring drug therapy
4. Teaming with other health care providers
5. Research and clinical studies

### Pharmacists must:

- ✓ Be good at math and science (especially chemistry)
- ✓ Like to communicate with people
- ✓ Be detail-oriented

In Texas:

Avg. Salary: **\$83,026** and rising  
Starting Salary: **\$65,926**

### Career Options for Pharmacists:

- Medicaid Pharmacy Consultant
- Franchise Pharmacist
- Pharmacology Professor
- Pharmaceutical Sales Rep
- Food & Drug Administration
- Local Pharmacist



The **Doctor of Pharmacy degree (Pharm.D.)** is awarded after a minimum of **6 years** of postsecondary study: 4 years of pharmacy coursework and 2 years of pre-pharmacy courses. Acceptance to pharmacy school is **extremely competitive** and requires excellent grades, a variety of extracurricular activities, and an impressive interview.

## Pharmacy Technician

### What do pharmacy techs do?

1. Work under the supervision of a pharmacist
2. Prepare and label medicine
3. Maintain inventory
4. Fill bottles with correct quantity of medicine
5. Interact with customers

**Education programs for pharmacy techs range from an eight-month certificate program to a two-year associate degree. In Texas, pharmacy technicians must also pass the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board test.**

**Median salary is \$11.50 / hour.**

**Pharmacy Schools in Texas:  
(Doctorate)**

Texas Southern University  
[www.tsu.edu/academics/pharmacy/](http://www.tsu.edu/academics/pharmacy/)

Texas Tech University Health Science  
Center at Amarillo  
[www.ttuhs.edu/SOP/](http://www.ttuhs.edu/SOP/)

University of Houston  
[www.uh.edu/pharmacy/](http://www.uh.edu/pharmacy/)

University of Texas at Austin  
[www.utexas.edu/pharmacy](http://www.utexas.edu/pharmacy)

**New schools starting Fall 2006:**

Texas A&M Kingsville  
[www.tamuk/pharmacy](http://www.tamuk/pharmacy)

University of the Incarnate Word  
[www.uiw.edu/pharmacy/](http://www.uiw.edu/pharmacy/)

**Professional Associations:**

American Association of Colleges of  
Pharmacy  
(703) 836-8982  
[www.aacp.org](http://www.aacp.org)

American Society of Healthcare-System  
Pharmacists  
(301) 657-3000  
[www.ashp.org](http://www.ashp.org)

National Association of Chain Drug Stores  
(703) 549-3001  
[www.nacds.org](http://www.nacds.org)

American Pharmaceutical Association  
(202) 628-4410  
[www.aphanet.org](http://www.aphanet.org)

**Pharmacy Technician Programs in  
Texas:  
(Certificate/Associate)**

Amarillo College  
Angelina College  
El Paso County Community College District  
Houston Community College  
Lamar State College – Orange  
Northeast Campus – Tarrant County Junior  
College  
Northwest Vista College – Alamo  
Community College District  
Paris Junior College  
Richland College – Dallas County  
Community College District  
San Antonio College  
Temple College  
Trinity Valley Community College  
Tyler Junior College  
Weatherford College