

New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Pharmacy Technician - Core) (Level 4)

If you're employed as a trainee pharmacy technician in a community or hospital pharmacy, or would like to be, this is the qualification that you need in order to dispense medicines under the direct personal supervision of a pharmacist. It will also enable you to support the provision of safe, patient-centred healthcare.

Qualification code NZ1888

Level > 4

Credits > 75

Workload >

Allow 200 hours of study per course. Your workload may be higher around assessment due dates.

Study type >

Open.

Cost >

See the qualification page on the website.

Student loan >

You can get a student loan for this qualification if you meet the criteria. Visit studylink.govt.nz for more information.

Career Opportunities

Graduates of this certificate will be able to work in either a community or hospital pharmacy as a Pharmacy Technician. Opportunities in employment include progression to senior technician roles or to other health related roles and occupations.

How to apply

Go to the choose courses tab on the qualification page on our website. If you're enrolling in this qualification for the first time, select PHT003 Preparing to Dispense and click apply now. You'll be taken through our step-by-step enrolment process, which you can save and exit from at any time.



Qualification structure

This programme is made up of four courses that are to be completed in the order shown below. Check the qualification page on our website for course availability before applying to enrol. This programme can only be studied one course at a time in order to build on previous learning.

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
PHT003	Preparing to Dispense	20
PHT004	Dispensing Medicines	20
PHT005	Dispensing Administration and Compliance Packaging	15
PHT006	Getting the Best Use of Dispensed Medicines	20

What you will learn

When you achieve this qualification you will be able to:

- Work ethically and professionally within the Pharmacy Council Code of Ethics as relevant to Pharmacy Technicians
- Apply appropriate communication techniques to inform customers/patients on health related matters
- Apply all legislation and regulations as appropriate to Pharmacy Technicians
- Dispense and reconstitute medicines under the direct supervision of a pharmacist
- Provide advice and guidance on the use of dispensed medicines
- Apply knowledge of medicines as they relate to the treatment of a range of common health disorders

- Manage dispensary stock and inventory using appropriate environmental and storage requirements
- Perform calculations as appropriate to dispensing.

Entry requirements

To gain admission into the New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Pharmacy Technician - Core) (Level 4) you need to:

- be employed in a pharmacy while enrolled on this programme for a minimum of 20 hours per week
- have completed the New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Introduction to Pharmacy Practice) (Level 3), or an equivalent qualification, skills or experience in the health and wellbeing sectors

Verification of work-based tasks

During the online enrolment process you will need to provide the contact details of your intended Pharmacist Verifier. They will then be sent an online form to complete.

Study Pathways

This is an introductory qualification and will allow graduates to progress into the following Open Polytechnic programme:

- OP1889 New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Pharmacy Technician) (Level 5)

Computer and online access

This programme is delivered 100% online. To complete this programme you will need access to a laptop or desktop computer, reliable broadband internet connection and a data plan able to support online learning such as streaming of videos (including YouTube), downloading content, and writing and submitting online assessments. If you are unsure if your current computer or internet access allows you to complete your online learning with us, please contact us before applying to enrol.

Visit openpolytechnic.ac.nz/online to view our online learning and study tools.

English language requirements

International students must also have an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.0 with no band score lower than 6.0, or equivalent.

Domestic students for whom English or Māori is not their first language must also have an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.0 with no band score lower than 6.0, or equivalent.

International students and domestic students living overseas

You can study this programme part-time if you're an international student living in New Zealand. You will need to be in paid employment for a minimum of 20 hours per week with a valid work permit. The work permit must be valid for the duration of the study.

You cannot study this programme if you're an international student living overseas, or a New Zealand citizen living overseas. This is because the courses are based on New Zealand legislation, terminology and codes of practice. Also the programme includes some practical workplace tasks and assessments in a New Zealand pharmacy.

Learn more about studying as an international student openpolytechnic.ac.nz/study-with-us/distance-learning-with-us/international-students