

COMPARISON OF TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION EXAMS

	ExCPT Exam	PTCB Exam
Organization Name	ICPT (Institute for Certification of Pharmacy Technicians)	PTCB (Pharmacy Technician Certification Board)
Type of Organization	Private organization operated by pharmacists	Non-profit organization governed by 5 organizations: ASHP, APhA, NABP, Michigan Pharmacists Association, and Illinois Council of Health-System Pharmacists
Cost	\$95	\$129
Length of Test	2 hours, 110 multiple choice Qs	2 hours, 90 multiple choice Qs
Frequency of Testing	Continuous	Continuous beginning April 2009
Testing Sites in Alaska	Anchorage, Palmer, Cordova, Kodiak, Ketchikan	Anchorage
Results Available	Immediately upon exam completion	Within a few weeks of testing date; not clear if this may change when continuous testing begins
Testing Requirements	18 years old High school diploma or GED No drug-related felonies If have non-drug-related felony more than 7 years old ---may petition ICPT to take test	High school diploma or GED No drug related felonies No felonies of any kind in last 5 years
Exam Content	Technician Duties and Regulations – 25% Drugs – 23 % Dispensing Process – 52%	Assisting the Pharmacist – 66% Maintaining Medication and Inventory Control Systems – 22% Participating in Administration and Management of Pharmacy Practice – 12%
Waiting Period to Retake	4 weeks	90 days
Accredited by NCCA (National Commission for Certifying Agencies)	Yes	Yes
Endorsing Organizations	NCPA (Nat’l Community Pharmacists Assn.) NACDS (Nat’l Assn. Chain Drug Stores)	APhA and ASHP endorse the PTCB as the single standard for technician certification (recently published joint letter calling on profession to support a single standard) Closely associated with PES (Professional Exam Service)
Website	www.nationaltechexam.org	www.ptcb.org
Recertification Requirements	Every 2 years (with 90 day grace period) 20 hours CE required incl. 1 hour pharmacy law Cost: \$40 online or \$50 paper	Every 2 years (no grace period) 20 hours CE required incl. 2 hours pharmacy law Cost: \$40 online or \$50 paper
Reinstatement Requirements	Within 18 months of expiration date Cost: \$80	Within one year of expiration date Cost: \$80
Revocation	For false statements, cheating, conviction of a drug-related felony, revocation of registration/licensure by a state, documented violation of ICPT Code of Ethics	For false statements, cheating, conviction of a crime or felony of moral turpitude (incl. but not limited to drug-related crimes), documented gross negligence, intentional misconduct or deficiency in knowledge base
Number of Technicians Certified	2,500	310,000 +
States That Have Formally Approved the Test for Certification	CT,IA,IN,KA,MD,MA,MN,MT, NV,NH,NJ,NM,OR,RI,TN,UT,WA (17 states) Seeking approval in many other states	45 states