



Please contact the following numbers for counselor's office hours:  
(915) 831-4636, (915) 831-4036, (915) 831-4155

2018-2019 Catalog  
SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS PROGRAM INFORMATION GUIDE  
FOR  
PHARMACY TECHNOLOGY  
ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE (AAS-PHRA)  
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION (C2-PHRC)

### PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Program Coordinator: Dr. Nader Rassaei  
Office Location: RG Campus, RM B-308A

Phone #: 915-831-4490  
E-mail: [nrassaei@epcc.edu](mailto:nrassaei@epcc.edu)

Dean: Dr. Paula Mitchell, Health Career & Technical Education, Math and Science  
Office Location: RG Campus, RM A-240

Phone #: 915-831-4030  
Email: [pmitch8@epcc.edu](mailto:pmitch8@epcc.edu)

Program Counselor: Martha Brown  
Office Location: RG Counseling Dept., 103 Montana Ave., 3rd. floor

Phone #: 915-831-4020  
E-mail: [mgonz225@epcc.edu](mailto:mgonz225@epcc.edu)

### GUIDED PATHWAYS PROGRAM



Guided Pathways provides additional information regarding salary projections, employment opportunities, licensure requirements and Educational milestones. WEB LINK: [www.epcc.edu/Catalog/Schedules](http://www.epcc.edu/Catalog/Schedules), select: Degrees and Certificates, go to: Category: Health Sciences, select: Pharmacy Technology, click on: AAS-PHRA and C2 PHRC Program Map Full Time, or AAS-PHRA and C2 PHRC Program Map Part Time.

To qualify for Specialized Admissions, applicants/students must satisfy all of the following: General Requirements, minimum set TSI scores, Mandatory courses, and Pre-Program Specifics. Once all requirements are completed, ranking points are derived from the most recent TSI scores and most recent G.P.A of ranking courses. Applicants who complete all ranking courses may be more competitive for admission into their program of choice.

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for Specialized Admissions must satisfy minimum criteria in order to be eligible for ranking. The following is required of all applicants:

- Submit all previous college/university official transcripts (transliteration of all foreign coursework required) prior to ranking
- Must have a High School Diploma or GED.
- Submit official transcripts to:  
El Paso Community College Admissions Office  
P.O. Box 20500, El Paso, Texas 79998
- Must be fully accepted by EPCC as an academic credit student
- Have successfully completed the TSI Assessment Test.
- Attend a Health Careers Orientation Session or complete it online at: <http://www.epcc.edu/HCO/Pages/default.aspx>
- Submit Specialized Admissions Application form and pay \$ 10.00 fee.
- All academic and specialized courses listed on the degree plan must be completed with a "C" or better.
- EPCC Cumulative GPA of 2.0 is required.
- "Effective Fall 2011, and based on new federal regulations, students are not allowed to repeat previously passed courses more than once." Students should meet with a counselor to determine how a repeat course (s) may impact his/her academic, prerequisite, specialized

admissions or transferability of courses. It is the student's responsibility to check with the Office of Student Financial Services to inquire how a repeat course (s) may impact their financial aid or veteran's assistance.

## TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI) ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Texas State Legislature mandates that institutions assess all entering undergraduate students for readiness to enroll into college-level course work in the academic areas of Essay, Reading, Math, and Writing Assessment Tests, and to provide individualized developmental education programs to those students not demonstrating this readiness. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) requires the reporting of developmental progression and outcome of all students engaged in developmental education. Refer to EPCC Catalog or see your counselor for more information.

## TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI) COURSE PLACEMENT

Minimum TSI Assessment scores for Pharmacy Technology Program:

Math (PTSM), 350    ▯ Reading (PTSR), 351    ▯ Writing (PTSW), 350    ▯ Essay (PTSE), 4

- Official TSI Assessment scores are valid for five (5) years and only the most recent test score will be the one used for qualifying and ranking.
- Official TSI Assessment scores must contain all four (4) subject areas (Essay, Reading, Math, and Writing).
- Posting of TSI Assessment scores will take between 24 to 48 hours. TSI Assessment Test must be completed at least 48 hours prior to ranking date.

**NOTE: Minimum required testing scores for TSI Assessment and/or Program Specific Criteria may be adjusted if a secondary ranking is necessary to fulfill enrollment requirements.**

### MANDATORY COURSES: (0) COURSES

▲ This program does not identify mandatory courses.

### RANKING COURSES: (0) COURSES

▲ This program does not identify ranking courses.

## PRE-PROGRAM SPECIFIC CRITERIA

▲ Program Orientation

**[\\*\\*NOTE: This is a mandatory requirement for ranking: Contact Dr. Nader Rassaei at: 915-831-4490 for appointment](#)**

Check 2018-2019 El Paso Community College Catalog for Prerequisite

**PHRA AAS DEGREE PROGRAM COURSES**

**FIRST YEAR**

First Semester

PHRA 1215 Pharmacy Terminology  
PHRA 1306 Computerized Drug Delivery Systems  
PHRA 1309 Pharmaceutical Mathematics I  
PHRA 1413 Community Pharmacy Practices  
PHRA 1541 Pharmacy Drug Therapy and Treatment

Second Semester

PHRA 1243 Pharmacy Technician Certification Review  
PHRA 1261 Clinical-Pharmacy Technician/Assistant I  
PHRA 1304 Pharmacotherapy and Disease Process  
PHRA 1345 Compounding Sterile Preparations  
PHRA 1347 Pharmaceutical Mathematics II  
PHRA 2160 Clinical-Pharmacy Technician/Assistant II  
PHRA 2161 Clinical-Pharmacy Technician/Assistant III

**SECOND YEAR**

First Semester

BIOL 1306 General Biology-Science Majors I  
BIOL 1106 General Biology-Science Majors Laboratory I  
CHEM 1311 General Chemistry I  
CHEM 1111 General Chemistry Laboratory I  
ENGL 1301 Expository English Composition  
PHIL 2306 Ethics

Second Semester

BIOL 1307 General Biology-Science Majors II  
BIOL 1107 General Biology-Science Majors Laboratory II  
CHEM 1312 General Chemistry II  
CHEM 1112 General Chemistry Laboratory II  
PSYC 2301 Introduction to Psychology  
SPCH 1315 Fundamentals of Effective Speech

**C2- PHRC CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

**FIRST YEAR**

First Semester

PHRA 1215 Pharmacy Terminology  
PHRA 1306 Computerized Drug Delivery Systems  
PHRA 1309 Pharmaceutical Mathematics I  
PHRA 1413 Community Pharmacy Practices  
PHRA 1541 Pharmacy Drug Therapy and Treatment

Second Semester

PHRA 1243 Pharmacy Technician Certification Review  
PHRA 1261 Clinical-Pharmacy Technician/Assistant I  
PHRA 1304 Pharmacotherapy and Disease Process  
PHRA 1345 Compounding Sterile Preparations  
PHRA 1347 Pharmaceutical Mathematics II  
PHRA 2160 Clinical-Pharmacy Technician/Assistant II  
PHRA 2161 Clinical-Pharmacy Technician/Assistant III

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Official Ranking Dates: June 7, 2018 and November 6, 2018

- Program Begins – Fall and Spring Semesters
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- Maximum Students Admitted: 12 Students
- Community Wide Orientation online at: <http://www.epcc.edu/cwo/>
- HIPAA online at: <http://www.epcc.edu/hipaa/Pages/default.aspx>
- Health Careers Orientation online at: <http://www.epcc.edu/HCO/pages/default.aspx>
- Online additional program-specific and career information: <http://www.epcc.edu/healthprogram>
- Students who completed articulated or dual credit courses in health in high school should bring this to the attention of the counselor. College credit may still be available.
- PHRA website: <http://www.epcc.edu/InstructionalPrograms/Pages/PharmacyTechnology.aspx>

## POST-SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS

Students are responsible for the following requirements AFTER accepting a seat in the program.

- **Registration with Texas State Board of Pharmacy (TSBP) as Technician Trainee.** (Students are required to register with Texas State Board of Pharmacy prior to clinical training). (Website): HYPERLINK <http://www.pharmacy.texas.gov/techtrainee.asp>  
As part of the registration process, Technician Trainees must pass a criminal background check. (can take 3 or more months to complete).
- **Must file a degree plan** with designated Health Counselor.
- **Background Check** must be completed by each student prior to enrollment in clinical courses. The student will not be able to go to the clinical areas/health care facilities until cleared. For further information, please ask a Health Counselor or call the Program Coordinator. Website: <http://www.elpasoex.com>. You will receive a letter from the Dean, Health Career & Technical Education, Math & Science division after the background check is reviewed. **\*\*\*NOTE: A background check must be repeated at student's expense if the student is not enrolled in a health-related program for one or more semesters.\*\*\***

Background checks are done prior to acceptance into most health programs or courses. Students are responsible for the costs. Currently, the approved vendor for El Paso Community College is American Databank. Only background checks from American Databank are accepted. ([www.elpasoex.com](http://www.elpasoex.com)). There are two Levels of background checks: **Level I** applies to all students and includes: (1) Social Security Number Verification, (2) Criminal Search 7 years minimum or up to 5 criminal searches), (3) Violent Sexual Offender and Predator Registry Search, (4) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) List of Excluded Individuals/Entities, (5) GSA List of Parties Excluded from Federal Programs (6) U.S. Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), List of Specially Designated Nationals (SDN), and (7) State Exclusion List. **Level II** is for students already licensed or certified in any area. Level II requires all of the Level 1 elements plus (1) License Verification, (2) Certification Verification, and (3) Employment Verification, including reason for separation and eligibility for re-hire.

A positive criminal history will require proof of the official case disposition for clearance. Generally, disqualifying criminal offenses include but are not limited to (1) any felony conviction within the last 10 years or two or more misdemeanors in crimes against persons or families such as homicide, kidnapping, rape, sexual assault, assault, battery, aggravated robbery, theft, any misdemeanor or felony conviction involving abuse, neglect, or exploitation against a child, vulnerable adult, or disabled individual, and felonies or 2 misdemeanors involving manufacture, importation, delivery, or possession of controlled substances, including felony conviction of DWI or two misdemeanor DWI convictions. Deferred adjudication for any felony is also a disqualifying event for enrolling into this Health Program.

Please note that many professional licensure or certification agencies may have additional requirements. You should reference the requirements for each agency.

- **Current CPR Certification at a Professional Level.** Must be American Heart Association (AHA) CPR/BLS (only Health Provider training accepted). Military Training Network (AHA recognized) cards will be accepted. Hybrid AHA courses with live skills demonstration will be accepted. This must remain current throughout the course of the program (Certification may not be older than one year to end of semester).
- **Community Wide Orientation** (Renewable every year). (online at: <http://www.epcc.edu/cwo/>).
- **First Aid Certification** (8-hour course from National Safety Council Course **ONLY**).
- **HIPAA Training** (Renewable every year). (online at: <http://www.epcc.edu/hipaa/Pages/default.aspx>).
- **Immunizations and Titers** – The following must be completed.
  - **POSITIVE TITER required for Hepatitis B vaccination series of 3 and Titer** (can take 4-6 months to complete). If a student has started the Hepatitis B series by ranking deadline (**June 7 and Nov. 6**), he/she may be cleared for ranking or registration with the understanding that the series must be completed in a timely manner prior to starting clinical courses. Documentation of starting the series must be on file.
  - **Tuberculosis (TB) Screening required annually.** **\*\*NOTE: It is highly recommended to complete any and all TB skin testing prior to receiving the MMR and/or Varicella vaccines. MMR or Varicella vaccines could cause a false negative TB skin test result**
    1. **Individuals who previously tested negative, have never tested, or aren't sure if previously tested.**
      - a. Initial 2 Step TB Skin Test-Effective January 1, 2018 for all students/faculty new to health programs.
        - I. Initial TB skin test (TST) administered and read 48-72 hours later.
        - II. If initial TST negative, 2<sup>nd</sup> TST must be administered no sooner than 7 days and no later than 21 days after administration of the initial TST.
        - III. If initial TST is positive, DO NOT ADMINISTER 2<sup>nd</sup> TST. Individual needs Chest X-ray and annual TB Assessment/Clearance (or equivalent document) from Health Care Provider.
      2. **TB Skin Test Positive (previously).** Requires completed Annual TB Assessment/Clearance form.
    - **POSITIVE TITER required for each 2 doses - Measles, Mumps and Rubella Vaccinations (MMR) (completed) and Titer.**
    - **POSITIVE TITER required for each 2 doses- Varicella Vaccination and Titer (completed).**
    - **Tetanus/Diphtheria and Pertussis (TDAP) (completed) (expires after 10 years)**
    - **Influenza is required** (or completed declination form) (**NOTE: If declined, will have to wear a mask in clinical**) (done annually).

- **Meningitis or Booster** - (Effective January 1, 2012, a Bacterial Meningitis Vaccination is required for all entering students under the age of 22. The term "entering students" includes new students to EPCC, transfer students, and returning students. Students must provide proof of an initial meningitis immunization or booster to Admissions and Registration Department at any campus. The meningitis immunization must be administered at least 10 days before the start of the semester and must have been administered within the last five years). Visit Admission and Registration EPCC web page for additional information. (<http://www.epcc.edu/Registration/Pages/default.aspx>).

**NOTE: After vaccination is administered, you must wait 4-6 weeks for immunity to show up on the TITER.**

- **Physical Exam** (current) completed by a Physician, Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant licensed in the United States (No older than two years). (<http://www.epcc.edu/InstructionalPrograms/Documents/Report%20of%20Health%20Evaluation.pdf>).
- **Physical Technical Standards form** (completed). (<http://www.epcc.edu/InstructionalPrograms/Documents/Physical%20Form.pdf>).
- **Professional Practice Insurance** (Liability Insurance) is required for all clinical and selected laboratory courses. This is paid upon enrollment. Proof of payment (your registration receipt) must be provided to the instructor.
- **Substance Abuse Screening** will be required for each student enrolling in health career programs with clinical components. For further information, please ask a Health Counselor or call the Program Coordinator. \*\*\***NOTE: Substance abuse screening may not be completed more than three (3) months prior to the first clinical education course.**\*\*\* Website: <http://www.elpasoex.com>.
- **Uniforms** must be purchased at student's own expense. Detailed information will be provided by the Program Coordinator.
- **Transportation:** Students are responsible for their own transportation to off-campus clinical/learning sites.
- **Textbooks and other course materials** must be purchased at student's expense in accordance with course syllabi.

**PROGRAM SPECIFIC MATERIAL SHOULD BE TURNED IN AS SOON AS COMPLETED TO: Dr. Nader Rassaei/PHRA Program Coordinator, RG Campus, room B-308A -Telephone # (915) 831-4490.**

***Disclaimer:** If an applicant to the Pharmacy Technician program has previously been convicted of a felony but the felony has been expunged, then the applicant is considered not to have been convicted of a felony. The Pharmacy Certification Board (PTCB) does not allow anyone to take the National Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam if they have been convicted of a felony that occurred within the last five (5) years, and/or if the conviction was drug or pharmacy-related. The Texas State Board of Pharmacy will conduct a criminal history investigation through DPS prior to a certified pharmacy technician becoming registered.*

*The Applicant will be requested to provide information about arrests (even those not resulting in conviction), deferred adjudications, probation and convictions.*

## OTHER INFORMATION

- CPR and First Aid Courses are available through the EPCC Continuing Education Division. Please see the current Continuing Education Course Schedule or call 915-831-4116 for more information.
- Immunizations, physical examinations, and other health care services are available through the El Paso Community College Rio Grande Border Health Clinic located at the Rio Grande Campus.
- Call 915- 831-4016 for appointments for the nursing clinic (immunizations and physical examinations).
- Call 915-831-4017 for appointments for the dental, medical sonography, or physical therapy clinics.

Pharmacy Technology Program at EPCC is accredited by Pharmacy Technician Accreditation Council (PTAC)



This document is for informational purposes only and is not to be construed as a binding offer or contract between the College and the student. This document was revised September 2017, and is subject to change without prior notice. This document is intended to be used with the College Catalog, which provides complete information on courses as well as College regulations and procedures.

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