

# MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH MEDICINES

Most pharmacists employ pharmacy technicians to assist them with the dispensing of prescription medicines. Pharmacy technicians always work under the supervision of a pharmacist. By law only pharmacists and pharmacy technicians can dispense prescription medicines in a pharmacy. Pharmacy technicians work in community pharmacies and pharmacy departments in hospitals. They are also employed in other pharmaceutical companies and pharmaceutical wholesalers.

## WHAT DOES A PHARMACY TECHNICIAN DO?

Entering prescription details  
in the computer

Assisting the pharmacist  
in the preparation of  
prescriptions.

Maintaining the dispensary,  
including fixtures and fittings,  
packaging and dispensing  
equipment.

Preparing labels and  
dispensing the medicine

Preparing invoices, receipts,  
letters, memos and  
general filing, answering  
the pharmacy phone and  
receiving and sending  
electronic communications.

Checking stock levels of  
medicines and preparing and  
placing orders for new stock.

Processing of prescriptions  
and patient records, including  
preparing prescription  
batches for payment.



## Employability

Graduates of this programme will have the knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours required to work in a range of dispensary related roles including those in community, hospital, industrial, and educational settings in pharmacy.

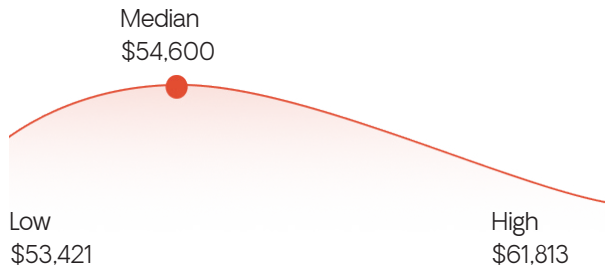
The opportunity to gain work as a pharmacy technician is high because:

- an ageing population which means an increased demand for health care of all types
- turnover is high as pharmacy technicians often move into careers in community health or in sales for drug companies
- pharmacy technicians are taking on some tasks that used to be performed by pharmacists.<sup>1</sup>

## How much does a Pharmacy technician make in New Zealand?

**\$54,600** / Annual

The average pharmacy technician salary in New Zealand is \$54,600 per year or \$28 per hour. Entry-level positions start at \$53,421 per year, while most experienced workers make up to \$61,813 per year.<sup>2</sup>



1. According to the Census, 2,418 pharmacy technicians worked in New Zealand in 2018  
2. Information Resource: <https://www.wintec.ac.nz/future-you/explore/jobs/health/pharmacy-technician>

## Top 5 reasons why thousands of students like you chose NZMA

“NZMA offers far more than education: They give hope. Inspiration, and motivation.”

“At NZMA our time in New Zealand was made unforgettable and we enjoyed the quality Education and support from this NZQA Catagory 1 provider”

“As international students, we have a range of courses to choose from, which are all taught by industry-experienced tutors.”

“ Whether you know what you want to study, or have no idea, they'll help you with the tools and support you need to start your journey.”

“We have smaller classes, which gives us more one-on-one time with our tutor – and more chance to get to know our classmates. And we found the tutors can adapt the way they teach to suit our learning style.”

### Benifits of studying Pharmacy with NZMA



Job Interview  
Guaranteed\*



Internship throughout  
the programme



Industry Networking  
Established



Career Navigator  
Service

\* After you have been with us for 13 weeks of study you will get a guaranteed interview with Chemist Warehouse, New Zealand's fastest growing pharmacy, for part-time job opportunities.





“I actually started my study with another college before, but the pharmacy I was employed with also had Pharmacist Interns, so it was hard to get support. I decided to study full-time with NZMA, which also meant I would qualify much faster. NZMA teach ‘best practice’ so I learned the right way to do things – and the reasons why we do things this way. I also really enjoyed learning in-depth about medicines. I have been working at Parkside Pharmacy in Auckland, as a senior technician since I graduated a year ago.”

——Christine Dejando, NZMA Pharmacy Technician Graduate

# PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

Award: New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Introduction to Pharmacy Practice) (Level 3)

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

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

## Overview

The Pharmacy industry is dynamic, exciting and there are many job opportunities for qualified Pharmacy Technicians. Pharmacists play a key role in helping patients feel better and get well as fast as possible.

Our Pharmacy Technician course gives you practical learning on campus and will teach you all the key skills and pharmaceutical knowledge you need to start your career.

During this course you will learn everything you need to know to become a Pharmacy Technician. You’ll learn how to provide accurate health advice to customers and your community.

After you have been with us for 13 weeks of study you will get a guaranteed interview with one of our industry partnerships, Chemist Warehouse – New Zealand’s fastest growing pharmacy, for part-time job opportunities.

## What You Will Learn

INTRODUCTION TO PHARMACY PRACTICE (LEVEL 3)	CERTIFICATE IN PHARMACY TECHNICIAN (LEVEL 5)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Professionalism, ethics, and effective communication</li><li>Legislation in retail pharmacy workplace</li><li>Retail pharmacy customer care and advice</li><li>First Aid</li><li>Retail operations: support, calculations, and technology</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pharmacy law dispensing processes: legislation, codes and standards which govern pharmacy practice</li><li>Dispensing techniques: accurately prepare and dispense prescriptions</li><li>Different forms of compliance packaging</li><li>Pharmacy health: routes of administration and the formulations of medicines</li><li>Anatomy and physiology</li><li>Recognize how the different body systems work and their disorders</li><li>Professionalism and support: communication skills appropriate to pharmacy</li></ul>



# Course Information

Programme name	INTRODUCTION TO PHARMACY PRACTICE (LEVEL 3)	CERTIFICATE IN PHARMACY TECHNICIAN (LEVEL 5)
Delivery Mode	On Campus	On Campus
Level	Certificate - Level 3	Certificate - Level 5
Intake	May, July	February, July, October
Tuition fees	\$5,400 NZD	\$22,600 NZD
Course Related Costs	\$220	\$780 NZD
Duration	13 weeks	47 weeks
Internship	90 hours at a pharmacy provider	320 hours at a pharmacy provider
Campus	Auckland, Hamilton, Christchurch	Auckland, Hamilton, Christchurch
Entry Requirement - age	Must be at least 18	Must be at least 18
Entry Requirement - Academic	NCEA Level 2 or be able to demonstrate equivalent skills and knowledge.	An appropriate year 12-13 academic achievement or hold a complementary tertiary qualification, or be able to demonstrate equivalent skills and knowledge.
Entry Requirement - English	IELTS 5.0 (General or Academic) with no band lower than 5.5 or equivalences approved by NZQA	IELTS 6.0 (Academic) with no band lower than 5.5 or equivalences approved by NZQA
Entry Requirement - Other	Interview will be required	Interview will be required
Further study options	New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Pharmacy Technician)(Level 5)	Graduates will also be able to undertake further study to complete the New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Specialist Technician) (Level 6)



Find out more at  
**nzma.ac.nz**