Pharmacy Paraprofessional Series

Classes in the Series

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Series Concept

According to the Code of Iowa, pharmaceutical medications can be prepared by a trained pharmacy technician under the supervision of a professional Pharmacist. This series provides a technical class requiring certification and an assistant class limited to clerical and some technical support tasks. The Pharmacy Assistant class is not a trainee class, and is not expected to evolve into Pharmacy Technician.

Class Distinctions

Pharmacy Assistant

This class provides clerical and limited technical support in assisting a professional Pharmacist. Tasks include preparing non-complex compounds and medications, labeling and distribution; maintaining pharmaceutical equipment and supplies; greeting callers and visitors, answering questions and relaying messages.

Pharmacy Technician

The Pharmacy Technician works closely with a professional Pharmacist in purchasing, preparing and packaging medications for customer use and consumption. Tasks also include monitoring and inspecting drug supplies; entering into the computer and maintaining patient records; and preparing reports to notify health professionals of medications, physician instructions and prescribed dosages. This class requires certification as a Pharmacy Technician by the National Pharmacy Technician Certification Board.

Effective date: 11/98 GRC