BriteEducation School of Technology
ABMA Education Recognised Centre No. 2851
2nd Floor, Chiyedza House, Corner of First Street and Kwame Nkrumah Avenue, Harare

Pharmacy Assistance

Harare, Zimbabwe · 1 year · Weekday, Weekend, Evening, Online

The Pharmacy Assistance programme prepares students for the full range of duties carried out in a community, retail or institutional pharmacy, working under the supervision of a pharmacist. The curriculum covers both the technical and the clerical side of the work: interpreting and dispensing prescriptions, preparing and packaging medicines, managing stock and the pharmaceutical supply chain, serving patients, and keeping the records the law requires. Students carry out practical work in a simulated dispensary on the campus, where they fill sample prescriptions, compound preparations and use the software found in the trade. This is followed by a period of supervised placement in a working pharmacy. On completion, students are prepared for employment in a retail or institutional pharmacy, or for self-employment in the pharmaceutical sector. Graduates also find work in pharmaceutical wholesale and distribution, in the medicines stores of hospitals, clinics and mission health facilities, and in the supply chain functions of health programmes. The programme further prepares the student to establish a business in pharmaceutical retail or distribution, subject to the licensing requirements that govern the sector.

Qualifications and exams

EXAMINING BODY — **PTCB**

PTCB Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam (PTCE)

The Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (USA) awards the Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT) credential. The programme covers the PTCE knowledge areas: medications, federal requirements, patient safety and quality assurance, and order entry and processing.

ALTERNATIVE EXAM — **NHA**

NHA Exam for the Certification of Pharmacy Technicians (ExCPT)

The National Healthcareer Association's route to the same CPhT credential.

Admissions confirms exam eligibility and registration with each student before the exam.

- Occupational standard: Pharmacy Assistant, Level 3 IC. Eight unit standards of 20 credits each, every element written as observable performance criteria (course outline, Annex A).
- Benchmarked against the Joint FIP/WHO Guidelines on Good Pharmacy Practice (WHO TRS 961, Annex 8) and the FIP Global Competency Framework for the pharmacy workforce (course outline, Annex B).
- Dispensing is taught under the Medicines and Allied Substances Control Act [Chapter 15:03], the Dangerous Drugs Act [Chapter 15:02] and the Zimbabwe Essential Medicines List (EDLIZ).

Certification exams: PTCB CPhT (PTCE) · NHA CPhT (ExCPT)

Curriculum: two semesters, then a pharmacy placement

Taught by practising local pharmacists, with practical work in a simulated dispensary on campus and a voluntary placement in a working pharmacy. Each semester is 4 months.

Stage	Modules	Practical work
Semester 1 Months 1–4	1. Pharmaceutical Calculations 2. Pharmacy Practice, Good Dispensing Practice, Law and Ethics 3. Safety, Health, Environment and Quality Maintenance 4. Pharmaceutical Communication and Computer Applications	• Filling sample prescriptions in the simulated dispensary • First aid and basic life support (CPR) **Semester examinations**
Semester 2 Months 5–8	1. Pharmaceutical Dosage Forms and Pharmacology 2. Pharmaceutical Supply Chain and Stock Control 3. Entrepreneurial Skills Development 4. Pharmacy Management Software	• Stock control and pharmacy software practice • PTCB exam preparation **Semester examinations; PTCB PTCE preparation**
Placement Final months	1. Voluntary placement in a community, retail or hospital pharmacy, under a pharmacist's supervision	• Skills checklist and attendance log signed by the pharmacy **PTCB PTCE (or NHA ExCPT)**

Fees

Programme	Duration	Tuition
Certificate in Pharmacy Assistance	1 year (2 semesters + pharmacy placement)	$400 per semester

> Flexible payment plans available. Exam fees: Exam fees are paid separately and will be announced.

Entry requirements

5 O Levels including English, Mathematics and a Science, or a related qualification. Mature applicants with pharmacy experience are welcome.

Study modes

Weekday, evening, weekend or live online, on campus in Harare or from anywhere.

Careers

- Pharmacy Assistant
- Dispensary Assistant
- Hospital Pharmacy Assistant
- Clinic Dispensary Assistant
- Compounding Pharmacy Assistant
- Pharmacy Stock Controller
- Pharmaceutical Warehouse Assistant
- Medical Logistics Assistant
- Pharmaceutical Procurement Assistant
- Cold Chain and Stores Assistant

Questions students ask

How long does it take to study the pharmacy assistant course at BriteEducation?
Certificate in Pharmacy Assistance: 1 year (2 semesters + pharmacy placement).

Can I study the pharmacy assistant course part-time or online?
Yes. Classes run on weekday, weekend, evening or online schedules, so you can study while working or from outside Harare through live online classes.

Which exam does the Pharmacy Assistance course prepare me for?

The Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam (PTCE) of the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) in the United States, which awards the Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT) credential. The NHA ExCPT is an alternative route to the same credential. Admissions confirms exam eligibility and registration with each student.

How long is the Pharmacy Assistance course?
One year: two 4-month semesters taught by practising local pharmacists, followed by a voluntary placement in a working pharmacy. Tuition is $400 per semester, plus a $10 registration fee; exam fees are paid separately.

Apply for the 2027 intake: school.britelink.io/apply · WhatsApp +263 71 213 6444 · team@britelink.io