According to the 2019 Idaho Career Information System—

- **Pharmacy Technicians** make a median wage of $16.62 an hour in the Boise area. “Certified technicians may earn more. Job opportunity will be good, especially for technicians who have formal training.”

- **Pharmacists** credentials include a degree in Pharmacy from an accredited school, 1,500 hour supervised internship, and passage of the Board of Pharmacy exam. Some employers require a certification (record of work-related credentials.)

**Employment Facts**

**OTHER HEALTH SCIENCES PROGRAMS:**

- Certified Nursing Assistant
- EMT

**Career & Technical Education**

**HEALTH SCIENCES Pathway:**
Pharmacy Technician

Updated 1/2019
The **Health Sciences Pathway** offers a Pharmacy Technician Program through the CTE Center-Renaissance Campus. The program was opened in School Year 2011-12 is a joint venture with Idaho State University (ISU) - Meridian Health Science Center located in the same building. The partnership enhances the program by providing access to a state-of-the-art compounding pharmacy laboratory where students practice lab skills under the supervision and instruction of an ISU Adjunct Pharmacy Professor.

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The **Health Professions**—This is a prerequisite class to get into the pharmacy program classes. Students take this class at their home high school. In this class students learn basic sports medicine skills and about the health care industry. This course also counts as a required health education credit for graduation and is taught at the Health P-2 level.

**Medical Terminology for Health Professions**—This course is required to advance to the Pharmacy Technician course. Students learn to spell, define, pronounce and use medical terminology. Other highly recommended classes are:

- Chemistry
- Algebra II

**Pharmacy Technician**—This course is the heart of the program and is designed to prepare students for beginning employment as a Pharmacy Technician. Topics include: pharmaceutical terminology, drug identification, measurement techniques, record keeping, business operations, prescription preparation, logistics and dispensing operations and applicable standards and regulations. In order for students to participate in a second semester externship at a local pharmacy, they must complete first semester with a grade of “B” or higher. Students must pass a background check to take the class and provide reliable transportation to clinical sites. *(Be sure and review the “Fees” topic in the current Course Description Handbook.)*

**Certifications:** Students prepare for the National Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam which they can take after earning a high school diploma or GED.

Learn more about ...  
CTE Magnet Programs at:  
[www.westada.org/CTE](http://www.westada.org/CTE)

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