



Pre-Health Profession Program

Pharmacist (PharmD) Professional Program Admissions

A pharmacist is a highly trained, licensed medical professional who works with physicians to oversee the safe and effective use of medication in patient care and treatment. Most pharmacists practice as community or hospital pharmacists, while many others choose a specialized practice focus such as academics, consultant, oncology, industry, home health and nuclear pharmacy, among many others. Some pharmacists may also practice pharmaceutical compounding where they create a unique pharmaceutical product to meet a patient's special medication need. Pharmacists also counsel patients with diagnosed or undiagnosed health issues, provide medication management education/assistance and pharmaceutical information, provide over-the-counter medication information, monitor special disease states (e.g. diabetes, kidney disease), administer immunizations and refer patients to other health professional.

Pharmacists trained in the United States must obtain a professional (graduate level) degree (PharmD – Doctor of Pharmacy) from an accredited School/College of Pharmacy and pass a state licensure exam prior to practicing. Some pharmacy programs require students to have completed an undergraduate degree before beginning their professional pharmacy education, while many other programs require two year minimum of a Pre-Pharmacy-focused curriculum followed by two to four years of graduate level training. Pharmacists are also required to complete varying hours of continuing medical education (CME) in order to maintain their license to practice (e.g. Kentucky: 15 CME hours annually).

Admission requirements or recommendations to most PharmD programs include the following:

- Bachelors degree from an accredited College/University (some but not all; many programs required only two years completed pre-Pharm pre-requisite coursework prior to admission)

- Appropriate pre-requisite coursework

- GPA 2.5 min (~3.4 average GPA of accepted students; GPA range 2.7-4.0)

- Satisfactory PCAT scores (Pharmacy College Admission Test)

- College academic transcripts

- Health care-related experience (recommended)

- Undergraduate research experience (recommended)

- Recommendations.

Application to most but not all PharmD programs occurs through the centralized application service *PharmCAS* – Pharmacy Centralized Application Service. Schools not participating in PharmCAS will have application information on their admission information web page. Please be sure to consult the specific application requirements for each school to which you are applying.



Pre-Health Profession Program

Pre-Pharmacy (PharmD) Admission Course Prerequisites

<i>Requirement</i>	<i>Recommended BC Courses</i>
Inorganic Chemistry (+ lab) (2 terms)	CHM 131: Accelerated General Chemistry CHM 311: Quantitative Analysis
Organic Chemistry (+ lab) (2 terms)	CHM 221: Organic Chemistry I CHM 222: Organic Chemistry II
General Biology (+lab) (1 term)	BIO 110: Modern Biology
Anatomy & Physiology(+ lab) (2 terms)	BIO 101 & 102: Anatomy & Physiology I/II
Microbiology (+lab) (1term)	BIO 222: Microbiology
Physics (+ lab) (1 term)	PHY 217: General Physics* or PHY 315: Intro Physics I with Calculus
Mathematics (1 term)	MAT 135: Calculus
Statistics (1 term)	ECO 250: Applied Statistics
Economics (1 term)	ECO101: Macroeconomics or ECO 102: Microeconomics
English/Composition (2 terms)	Satisfied by BC General Education Courses GSTR 110 & GSTR 210
Social/Behavioral Sciences (2 terms)	e.g. Psychology, Sociology, Political Science
Speech Communication (1 term)	COM 100: Intro to Communication

*Some programs required two terms if taking algebra-based Physics (PHY217 & 218.).

Suggested Courses (required by <30% of PharmD Programs)

Biochemistry (1 term)	CHM 340: Biochemistry I (biomolecules) CHM 440: Biochemistry II (pathways)
-----------------------	---



The following courses are some that you might want to consider adding to your academic preparation for pharmacy school.

<i>Subject/Course</i>	<i>BC Courses Options</i>
Biology	BIO 441: Cell & Molecular Biology BIO 330: Genetics BIO 331: Developmental Biology BIO 306: Histology & Histotechnique
Chemistry	CHM 452: Advanced Organic Chemistry
Neuroscience	BIO 325: Neurobiology PSY 212: Behavioral Neuropsychology
Nutrition	CFS 221: Fundamentals of Nutrition
Health	HLT 210: Health in Appalachia HLT 215: Significant Issues in Health
Communication	COM 206: Interpersonal Communication COM 207: Intercultural Communication COM 311: Communication & Gender
Philosophy	PHI 214: Approaches to Ethics PHI 250: Minds, Brains and Machines
Psychology	PSY 209: Social Psychology PSY 211: Abnormal Psychology PSY 231: Social Gerontology
Child/Family Studies	CFS 130: Lifespan Human Development CFS 207: Family Relations
Health	HLT 111: Human Sexuality HLT 210: Health in Appalachia HLT 215: Significant Issues in Health
Women & Gender	WSG 236: Women & Health

For a summary of specific program pre-requisites for PharmD Education Graduate Programs, please go to the



Professional Society Information and Links

American Association of Colleges in Pharmacy (AACCP)

www.accp.org

Pharmacy College Application Service (PharmCAS)

www.pharmcas.org

PharmCAS Fee Waiver

www.pharmcas.org/preparing-to-apply/what-youll-need-to-apply/application-payment/

Pharmacy College Admission Test

<http://pcatweb.info/>