



Pharm.D.
Doctor of Pharmacy

What is Pharmacy?

- “ Pharmacy is a doctoral health profession in which licensed professionals provide information about medications to patients and health care professionals. As ‘medication experts,’ pharmacists are concerned with safeguarding the public’s health in matters relating to medication distribution and use and disease state management.
- “ Pharmacists play a vital role in improving patient care through the medicine and information they provide.

A Career in Pharmacy

There are 275,000 pharmacists in the U.S. The industries employing the largest number of pharmacists in 2010 were pharmacies and drug stores (43%), hospitals (23%) and grocery/retail stores (18%); about 80% worked full-time¹.

There is high demand for pharmacists in a variety of occupational settings, including:

- “ [Academic Pharmacy](#)
- “ [Consultant Pharmacy](#)
- “ [Federal Pharmacy – Public Health](#)
- “ [Informatics \(pdf\)](#)
- “ [Pharmaceutical Sciences/Industry \(pdf\)](#)

¹ BLS.gov/OOH/Healthcare/Pharmacists.htm#tab-3

The Ideal Candidate for a Pharm. D.



Reasons to Become a Pharmacist

1. You'll help people get well.
2. You'll work directly with patients.
3. There are a wide variety of career opportunities.
4. There is an increased demand for pharmacists.
5. You'll be an important member of the healthcare team.
6. You'll have job mobility, stability and flexibility.
7. You will be part of major innovations in drug therapy.
8. You'll work with state-of-the-art technology.
9. You can help defend against bioterrorism.
10. You'd like to be a highly respected member of your community.

Pharm.D. Prerequisites

	<u>Jefferson</u>	<u>UCSF</u>	<u>Purdue</u>	<u>Maryland</u>	<u>New England</u>	<u>Northeastern</u>	<u>Rutgers</u>
Bio w lab	1 yr	1 sem w lab, 1 add'l	1 yr	1 sem	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr
Gen Chem w lab	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr
Orgo w lab	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr
Biochem	1 sem		1 sem			1 sem	
Phys w lab	1 yr	1 yr	1 sem	1 yr	1 sem	1 sem	1 yr
Anat/Physio w lab	1 yr	1 sem Physio	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr
Microbio	1 sem w lab		1 sem w lab	1 sem w lab			
Math	Calc I, Calc II	Calc I, Calc II	Calc I, Calc II	Calc I, Stats	Calc I, Stats	Calc I	Calc I, Stats
English	1 sem	1 yr	1 sem	1 sem	1 yr	1 sem	1 yr
Others?			Econ, Immuno	Econ, Speech	Psych, Speech, Global Awareness	Psych	Econ, Psych/Soc

*Check individual school websites for most up to date prereqs!

Sample Pharm.D. Curriculum

at Purdue University College of Pharmacy

First Semester (16-17 credits)	Second Semester (17-18 credits)	Third Semester (15-19 credits)
Professional Program Laboratory I	Professional Program Laboratory II	Professional Program Laboratory III
Pharmacy Skills & Patient Counseling	Pharmacy Skills & Patient Counseling	Community Pharmacy - IPPE
Principles of Pathophysiology & Drug Action	Integrated Pharmacotherapy I	Integrated Pharmacotherapy II
Introduction to Patient Centered Care	Public Health Pharmacy	Principles of Pharmacokinetics
Dosage Forms I	Dosage Forms II	Principles of Drug Information & Literature Evaluation
Introduction to Pharmacy Law & Ethics	Health Care Systems	Immunization Certification
Principles of Diagnosis Labs & Monitoring	Electives	Electives
Pharmaceutical Calculations		
Biochemistry II		
Fourth Semester (14-18 credits)	Fifth Semester (15-19 credits)	Sixth Semester (14-18 credits)
Professional Program Laboratory IV	Professional Program Laboratory V	Professional Program Laboratory VI
Community Pharmacy – IPPE	Institutional Pharmacy – IPPE	Institutional Pharmacy - IPPE
Integrated Pharmacotherapy III	Integrated Pharmacotherapy V	Integrated Pharmacotherapy V
Principles of Pharmacogenomics	Biotech/Advanced Parenteral Dosage Forms	Introduction to APPE
Population Health Management	Patient Safety & Informatics	Practice Management & Marketing
Electives	Health Policy Applications	Pharmacy Law
	Electives	Electives
Seventh & Eighth Semester (40 credits)		
Advanced Practice Experience		
4 weeks hospital operations, 4 weeks community pharmacy operations, 8 weeks ambulatory rotations, 8 weeks inpatient rotations		
16 weeks general electives (4 of which must be additional patient care rotations)		

additional course details: Pharmacy.Purdue.edu/Future-Students/Programs/Pharm-D/Curriculum

Getting to Know the PCAT

- “ The Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT) measures general academic ability and scientific knowledge necessary for the commencement of pharmaceutical education.
- “ The PCAT consists of approximately 240 multiple-choice items, and two writing topics.
- “ Candidates are given approximately four hours to complete the test.
- “ The six content areas measured by the PCAT include: verbal ability, biology, reading comprehension, quantitative ability, chemistry and a written essay.
- “ More than 75% of all pharmacy programs require applicants to submit scores from the PCAT. Use the [PSAR](#) handbook to determine if the schools you're interested in are among them.

Finding Your Pharmacy School

- “ You should carefully choose a pharmacy degree program based upon factors that are important to your own learning needs. You may wish to consider program content, [geographic location](#), faculty, facilities, experiential training opportunities, class size, student demographics, extra-curricular opportunities and cost in your decision to apply to any program at any institution.
- “ [The Pharmacy School Admission Requirements \(PSAR\)®](#): The Pharmacy School Admission Requirements is designed to provide the most up-to-date information about each pharmacy school, including specifics about admission requirements, selection factors and educational costs for students entering pharmacy school.
- “ [PharmCAS PharmD School Directory](#): An interactive search/compare tool that allows you to create a list of schools that best fits your needs. Use designated filters to create a list of schools that suits your needs. See at a glance: the accreditation status, residency requirements, supplemental requirements, and more. Click each individual school to get a detailed overview, provided by [PharmCAS](#).

For More Information

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Student Resources:

AACP.org/Resources/Student

US News Profile of Pharmacy: Money.USnews.com/Careers/Best-Jobs/Pharmacist

Pharmacy School Admissions Requirements (PSAR) Publication:

AACP.org/Resources/Student/PharmacyforYou/Admissions/AdmissionRequirements/pages/default.aspx

Bureau of Labor Statistics Career Info: BLS.gov/OOH/Healthcare/Pharmacists.htm

Pharmacy Application: PharmCAS.org

Pharmacy College Admission Test: PCATweb.info

Pharmacists' Roles on the Healthcare Team are Expanding:

AACP.org/News/Media/documents/2014NPWSPressReleaseFinal.pdf