

# PRE-PHARMACY PROGRAM

## Wright State University



### Pharmacy

Pharmacy is one of the fastest growing fields in the health professions. Pharmacists are health professionals that are committed to public service. Their job is to serve patients and other health professionals in assuring appropriate use of medications. Responsibilities include interpretation and review of prescription orders, medication record screening and review, and accurate dispensing of medication.

Some pharmacists may also purchase and sell hundreds of health-related items, or assist physicians in drug therapy decisions and purchase of all medicines used by the facility. Pharmacists also act as educators in the proper use of drugs for both the public and health practitioners. A pharmacist is trained to understand the physical and chemical properties of drugs and the way they behave in the human body.

### CORE PRE-REQUISITES

General Biology BIO 1120, 1150  
General Chemistry CHM 1210, 1220  
Organic Chemistry CHM 2110, 2120  
Microbiology BIO 3100/3110  
or M&I 2200  
Calculus MTH 2240 or 2300  
Statistics STT 2640 or 1600  
General Physics PHY 1110, 1120  
English ENG 1100, 2100

In addition, some schools will require:

Human A&P ANT 3100, 3120  
Biochemistry BMB 4210, 4230  
Economics EC 2000  
Communication COM 1040  
Psychology PSY 1010

*Some Pharmacy schools only require a minimum of 2 years of college level work while others require a baccalaureate degree before acceptance*

**Each pharmacy school has its own specific set of requirements. Students are strongly encouraged to work with the Pre-Health Advisor for additional information.**

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## Becoming a Pharmacist

To be a pharmacist, one must obtain either a Ph.D. or a PharmD to be certified to practice. There are currently 120 schools in the United States that grant the PharmD or Ph.D in pharmacy and seven of them are in the state of Ohio. A sound high school and college education in math and science is essential in preparing for the study of pharmacy. Also, good communication skills are important in the study and practice of pharmacy, and a broad general education in the social sciences and humanities is important preparation for anyone. The structure of the pharmacy programs vary from college to college, with some requiring one, two or three years of prepharmacy education, and others requiring a Bachelor's degree. Direct admit programs integrate the curriculum with all years of study in the professional college. It's important for students to work with the PreHealth Advisor in successfully completing the necessary requirements for each school.

## Why Choose Pharmacy?

- pharmacy is the third largest health profession in the U.S.
- pharmacists are considered to be the most accessible health professional in the U.S.
- currently, there are an estimated 7,000-10,000 unfilled pharmacy positions in the U.S.
- according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the mean annual wage of pharmacists in 2012 was \$116,670
- Employment surveys show that there is a projected growth of 14% pharmacists from 2012-2022

## Working Conditions

Pharmacists usually work in clean, well-lit and well-ventilated areas. Many pharmacists spend most of their workday on their feet. Many community and hospital pharmacies are open for extended

hours or around the clock, so pharmacists may work evenings, nights, weekends, or holidays. Consultant pharmacists may travel to nursing homes or other

facilities to monitor patient's drug therapy. About 1 out of 5 pharmacists worked part time in 2009. Most full-time pharmacists worked more than 50 hours a week.



## Career Options

Pharmacists provide care in a variety of settings. Most visible is the community pharmacist who practices in the local pharmacy, chain pharmacy, pharmacy department in a food or discount store, or professional health center. Other opportunities exist for pharmacists in hospitals, home health care, nursing homes and extended care facilities, neighborhood health centers and maintenance organizations. In all of these practice settings, pharmacists are responsible for direct patient care.

Pharmacists are also employed by pharmaceutical industries where they conduct research, develop and market products, maintain quality control and administer programs. In addition, pharmacists can be employed by colleges or schools, government (e.g., Dept of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration) and as patent lawyers or in pharmaceutical law.

## What is the PCAT?

The PCAT is required or highly recommended by most pharmacy schools. This national exam is administered four times a year (June, August, October, and January) and measures verbal and quantitative ability, reading comprehension, and biology and chemistry knowledge. Each pharmacy college designates an appropriate examination time(s) and students should visit with the PreHealth Advisor for additional knowledge of pharmacy school admissions policies.

## Pharmacy Schools in Ohio

The Ohio State University  
University of Cincinnati  
\*University of Toledo  
\*Ohio Northern  
\*University of Findlay  
Northeastern Ohio University  
Cedarville University

*\* direct admit programs*

*8.3 applications were received by colleges or schools of pharmacy for every one entering student enrolled*

*Average science GPA for the 2010 class was 3.34; overall GPA 3.45*

*Average composite PCAT score for accepted applicants was 72.6 percent*

## Wright State University

### College of Science & Mathematics

For additional information please visit our website:  
<http://www.wright.edu/cosm/premed>

Or contact the advisors:

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