

Pharmacy

College of Pharmacy

Samuel M. Poloyac, PharmD, PhD, *Dean*
W. Renee Acosta, MS, *Senior Associate Dean*
Diane B. Ginsburg, PhD, *Associate Dean*
John H. Richburg, PhD, *Associate Dean*
Ashley N. Castleberry, PharmD, M.Ed, *Assistant Dean*
Carrie Cunningham, M.Ed, *Assistant Dean*
Rucha Bond, PharmD, EdD, *Assistant Dean*
Justin T. Samuel, PhD, *Assistant Dean*

Mission

The University offers a four year Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) as the sole entry-level, professional degree for the practice of pharmacy. Competitive admission to the program occurs after the completion of a series of required prepharmacy courses. This program offers a course of study in the biomedical, pharmaceutical, clinical, and social and behavioral sciences designed to provide the state and the nation with pharmacists who are scientifically educated and clinically competent to deliver a full spectrum of pharmaceutical services in all areas of practice. In meeting its teaching obligation, the college provides a curriculum and faculty that offer students an educational experience beyond training solely for the practice of pharmacy.

The profession of pharmacy has evolved from a role primarily in distribution of medication toward a patient-centered care model. The patient-centered care model is a process through which a pharmacist interacts with the patient and other health care professionals collaboratively in the collection, assessment, planning, implementation, and follow-up of a patient-specific therapeutic plan that will produce the desired therapeutic outcomes. To ensure that graduates have the necessary tools to practice in this complex, patient-centered environment, the pharmacy curriculum has evolved from traditional discipline-specific coursework to a discipline-integrated approach of disease state management and a case-based, team approach to the design of the patient-specific therapeutic plan that includes interprofessional collaborative practice.

The professional curriculum is designed to prepare pharmacy graduates to provide patient-centered pharmaceutical care in a contemporary interprofessional collaborative practice setting, whether a community pharmacy, an ambulatory clinic, a hospital, managed care, or a long-term care facility, as well as to work in the pharmaceutical industry. In addition, the curriculum aims to inculcate an understanding of the basic sciences sufficient to prepare the student for graduate study in the pharmaceutical sciences or post Pharm.D. residency training. These objectives are pursued through a balanced program of study in pharmaceuticals, medicinal chemistry, pharmacology, therapeutics, pharmacy administration, social and behavioral sciences, and the humanities, as well as a structured clinical and professional practice experiential program. The holder of a professional degree from The University of Texas at Austin has received an education and training as sophisticated as any available in the health professions.

The College of Pharmacy has conducted a joint Pharm.D. degree program with the UT Health San Antonio since 1974. Students who complete their P3 and P4 experiential courses at the Health Science Center are considered part of this program and receive a degree awarded jointly by the two institutions.

The college has educational affiliations with several other academic health institutions, health-systems, and pharmacy organizations through

its five Texas regional internship areas - Austin/Temple/Waco, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Houston/Galveston, the Rio Grande Valley, and San Antonio.

The college seeks to encourage the belief that education is ongoing and lifelong and that all levels of professional education must form a continuum with professional practice and patient care. To meet this objective, the college provides postgraduate educational programs and develops innovative programs of training through continuing education for the roles pharmacists may be called on to fill as a result of changes in the patterns of delivery of pharmaceutical services.

In addition to the Pharm.D. degree, the University offers the Master of Science in the Pharmaceutical Sciences, and the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) with a major in the Pharmaceutical Sciences. The College of Pharmacy also participates in interdisciplinary Ph.D. programs in Cellular and Molecular Biology and in Neuroscience. In collaboration with The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and The University of Texas at San Antonio, the College offers an interinstitutional Ph.D. program with a major in Translational Science. These programs are described in the [Graduate Catalog](#).

Financial Assistance Available through the College

Students entering the first year of the professional curriculum may be eligible for certain college-based scholarships, and information is provided to students regarding these scholarships upon matriculation. Students who have completed the first year of the professional curriculum are eligible to apply for all scholarships and loans offered through the College of Pharmacy. Eligibility and application information is available at <http://pharmacy.utexas.edu/students/financial-aid/> and in the Office of Student Affairs, Pharmacy Building 5.112.

Scholarship opportunities with the College of Pharmacy include Endowed Presidential Scholarships with a minimum of \$2,500, and other endowed scholarships with a minimum of \$1,500. Students must meet eligibility requirements, and in some cases additional criteria, to be awarded these scholarships. Additional college scholarships are funded by various pharmacy associations, individuals, employers, and organizations. These scholarships are awarded, as they become available, through The University of Texas College of Pharmacy at the direction of the college's Financial Aid Working Group.

Loan Funds

The Klinck Family Loan Funds

These loan funds were established by the Klinck family of McAllen, Texas, to assist students in need of financial assistance. Emergency short-term loans, for a maximum of \$500 are available and must be paid back the same semester the loan is taken out. Long-term loans of up to \$2,500 are available to pharmacy students who demonstrate financial need. Students may apply for more than one loan, but except in unusual circumstances the loans will total no more than \$5,000.

Other Loan Funds

Other loan funds may be available to pharmacy students. Information about these loans is available from the Office of Student Affairs, Pharmacy Building 5.112.

Student Services

Academic Advising

Academic advising is an ongoing activity of the Office of Student Affairs, Pharmacy Building 5.112. Because advising is not restricted to the time just before registration, all students are strongly encouraged to seek advice whenever they have questions about degree requirements, the

availability of course offerings each semester, and taking courses in proper sequence.

Advising for the University of Texas at Austin pre-pharmacy/ undergraduate students is provided by assigned academic advisors in their colleges and by the Health Professions Office in the College of Natural Sciences. University students interested in the profession of pharmacy should contact their office early in their college careers.

Pre-pharmacy students from outside the University should seek information from our [College of Pharmacy website](#), from their institutional academic advisors or Health Professions Office, and from an admissions representative from the College of Pharmacy.

Career Services

The College of Pharmacy provides career coaching to current and newly graduated students. The Director of Career Engagement in the Office of Student Affairs is available to support pharmacy students with job searches, career planning, workshops, campus recruiting, and interviews.

In addition, a systematic exploration of professional career options is conducted as part of the Foundations for Professional Development series of courses. Guest lecturers include successful pharmacists representing a variety of pharmacy practice models, other health care and regulatory settings, and careers in professional organizations, education, research, and the pharmaceutical industry.

Students and recent alumni may make an individual career coaching appointment through the 12Twenty@Texas platform or by emailing phrcareers@pharmacy.utexas.edu. Topics that can be addressed in individual coaching appointments include writing and tailoring application materials, job or internship searching support, networking, interview preparation, evaluating job offers, and more. Student organizations can request workshops about similar topics or request specific career and professional development topics.

The College of Pharmacy supports and organizes multiple recruitment and networking events throughout the academic year. Each year, the college hosts our annual career fair and residency showcase, which allows students to engage with potential employers and residency programs. Additionally, the college hosts two interview days, one for P4 students seeking full-time employment and the second for P1 students seeking summer internships. P4 Interview Day is held in October to help students completing their final year of Pharmacy School begin exploring employment options after graduation. P1 Internship Interview Day is typically held in January and geared towards first-year pharmacy students seeking to gain additional experiences outside of the classroom the summer after their first year. Both events are held virtually using 12Twenty@Texas and employers can offer as many 30-minute interview slots as they wish.

Current students may access career resources through the Pharmacy Intranet. Employers and alumni can find engagement opportunities on <https://pharmacy.utexas.edu/programs/career-engagement> or reach out to the Director of Career Engagement at phrcareers@pharmacy.utexas.edu. Students have access to additional career support from the Graduate Career and Life Design Office. This office offers additional programming and career advising for professional, graduate, and postdoctoral students.

The University makes no promise to secure employment for each graduate.

Requirements and Policy

Academic Standards

University regulations on academic warning and dismissal are given in the [General Information Catalog](#). In addition, the following academic standards are in effect in the College of Pharmacy.

Academic Progress

1. The student must earn a GPA of at least 2.00 on all courses undertaken at the University, whether passed or failed in order to graduate. The student must also earn a GPA of at least 2.00 on all required pharmacy courses undertaken, whether passed or failed.
2. The student must repeat a required pharmacy course in which they earn a grade of F. The student who earns a grade of D+, D, or D- in a required pharmacy course becomes subject to the policies on academic warning and dismissal described below.
3. The student must earn a grade of at least C- in each elective pharmacy course. If the student fails to earn a grade of at least C- in an elective pharmacy course, they may repeat the course or may take another elective course in its place, but only courses in which the student has earned a grade of at least C- may be counted toward the professional elective requirement.
4. The student may not repeat for credit a course in which they have earned a grade of at least C-, except under circumstances approved by the dean.
5. Pharmacy elective courses and laboratory problems courses can be taken on the letter-grade or pass/fail basis, unless otherwise stated in the Course Schedule. However, the student must complete the Professional Electives Course Requirement with approved elective courses taken for the letter grade basis.
6. The student must be in good academic standing with a GPA in required pharmacy courses of 2.75 or higher to hold student offices (elected, appointed, or committee chairmanship) or receive college stipends for travel to professional meetings or other college-sponsored events.

Academic Warning and Dismissal

A student is placed on academic warning in the College of Pharmacy if he or she receives a grade of D+, D, D-, or F in any required pharmacy course. If the grade received is an F, the student must repeat the course and may not progress to courses for which it is a prerequisite until he or she has earned a grade of at least C- in the failed course. If the initial grade received is a D+, D, or D-, the student may progress to courses for which the course is a prerequisite. The student may choose to repeat a course in which he or she received a D+, D, or D-, if the course does not conflict with other courses the student would normally take in the same semester; however, this choice affects the student's release from academic warning as described in the following section.

If the student receives more than two incompletes in required pharmacy courses, regardless of the grades ultimately awarded, he or she is subject to review by the Academic Performance Committee. The committee may choose to place the student on academic warning.

A student is subject to dismissal from the college if he or she receives more than one D+, D, D-, or F in required pharmacy courses in one semester. The student is also subject to dismissal if he or she receives an additional D+, D, D-, or F while on academic warning or conditional academic warning.

Students on academic warning are expected to focus on academic improvement and thus are not allowed to hold student offices (elected, appointed, or committee chairmanship) or receive college stipends for travel to professional meetings or other college-sponsored events.

Release from Academic Warning

After receiving a grade of *F*, the student must repeat the course and earn a grade of at least *C-*. If the failed course is a prerequisite for another course, the student must repeat the course and earn a grade of at least *C-* before taking the course for which the failed course is a prerequisite. In the semester in which he or she repeats the course, the student must complete a full academic load, including at least five hours in required pharmacy courses and/or other courses recommended by the academic advisor. A full academic load is defined for this purpose as 12 hours in a fall/spring semester and six hours in the summer. The new grade is averaged with the grade of *F* when the student's pharmacy grade point average is calculated. If the new grade is *C-* or better, the student is released from academic warning if and only if he or she has earned no further grades of *D+*, *D*, *D-*, or *F* while on academic warning or conditional academic warning. If the student does not earn a grade of at least *C-* upon repeating the course, he or she is subject to academic dismissal.

After receiving a grade of *D+*, *D*, or *D-*, the student chooses whether or not to repeat the course, if the course does not conflict with other courses the student would normally take in the same semester. He or she may progress to courses for which the course in question is a prerequisite. If the student chooses to repeat the course, he or she must earn a grade of at least *C-*. If the new grade is a *C-* or better, the student is released from academic warning only if he or she has earned no further grades of *D+*, *D*, *D-*, or *F* while on academic warning or conditional academic warning. If the student does not earn a grade of at least *C-* upon repeating the course, he or she is subject to academic dismissal. The new grade is averaged with the grade of *D+*, *D*, or *D-* when the student's pharmacy grade point average is calculated.

If the student chooses not to repeat the course, he or she remains on academic warning (or conditional academic warning, described below) through completion of the P4 advanced pharmacy practice experiential courses in the final semester. To take the P4 experiential courses, the student must have a grade point average of at least 2.00 in required pharmacy courses. If the student earns the symbol *CR* in each P4 advanced pharmacy practice course, he or she is released from warning and graduates in good academic standing with the college.

Conditional Academic Warning

If a student on academic warning receives no grade lower than *C-* in required pharmacy courses during the following semester in which he or she takes a full academic load, the student may be placed on conditional academic warning. This status allows the student to hold student office (elected, appointed or committee chairmanship) and to receive college stipends for travel to professional meetings or other college-sponsored events. The student remains on conditional academic warning until graduation and is subject to dismissal if he or she receives a second grade of *D+*, *D*, *D-*, or *F*.

Academic Progression in the Pharm.D. Program

If the student's academic progression results in a two-year delay of progression at any time, he or she is subject to review by the Academic Performance Committee. The committee may choose to allow the student to continue in the program, place the student on conditional warning, or dismiss the student from the program.

Comprehensive Milestone Exams and Academic Progression

During the third professional year, all students are required to complete a comprehensive P3 Milestone Exam. Students who successfully pass the exam will progress into the fourth, and final, professional year. Students who do not successfully pass the exam will be referred to the Academic Performance Committee for progression decisions and targeted remediation.

During the fourth professional year, all students are required to complete a capstone interprofessional education (IPE) simulation. Student must successfully participate in and complete all required activities to fulfill this requirement and be eligible for graduation. Students who do not successfully complete the capstone will be referred to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs for progression and remediation in accordance with college and university policies.

At the end of the fourth professional year, all students are required to complete a comprehensive P4 Milestone Exam. Students who successfully pass the exam will progress towards graduation provided all other degree requirements have been met. Students who do not successfully pass the exam will be referred to the Academic Performance Committee for progression decisions and targeted remediation.

Calculation of the Grade Point Average

1. The student's University grade point average includes all courses taken at the University for which a grade or symbol other than *Q*, *W*, *X*, or *CR* is recorded. If the student has repeated a course, including those courses for which he or she earned a grade of *D+*, *D*, *D-*, or *F*, all grades earned are included in the University grade point average.
2. The student's College of Pharmacy grade point average includes all required professional courses (excluding ALL elective courses) taken at the University for which a grade or symbol other than *Q*, *W*, *X*, or *CR* is recorded. When a student repeats a required pharmacy course, the second grade in the repeated course is averaged with the previous grade when the student's College of Pharmacy grade point average is calculated.

The Academic Performance Committee

The College of Pharmacy Academic Performance Committee monitors the academic progress of students in the professional program. The committee makes recommendations to the dean regarding students' academic progress and academic warning and dismissal. The committee also makes recommendations to assist students who may be in academic difficulty. Any student in academic difficulty may be asked to appear before the committee for guidance. The committee hears all student appeals regarding academic progress and academic warning and dismissal. The committee aids the Admissions Committee in the evaluation of students who wish to return to the college after having been dismissed.

Course Load and Sequence of Work

1. To progress to the final-year experiential courses, the student must have successfully completed all basic education requirements and all required and elective pharmacy courses except those in the internship year.
2. Because final-year experiential courses are offered on the pass/fail basis only, students must have attained both the University and the College of Pharmacy grade point average of at least 2.00 required for graduation before they begin the P4 advanced pharmacy practice experiential year.

3. If a conflict arises between University requirements and a student's employment, the student must resolve the conflict in favor of the University requirements.
4. A student who is not on academic warning must take at least 12 semester hours during any fall/spring semester, at least six hours of which must be for a letter grade (not pass/fail).
5. A student on academic warning must take at least 12 semester hours during any fall/spring semester or at least six semester hours during the summer semester in order to clear academic warning.
6. Students may not take courses for degree credit at another institution without prior approval from the dean of the College of Pharmacy.
7. All students seeking to reenter the College of Pharmacy after having been placed on academic dismissal must make formal application through the Admissions Committee. The application is processed through the Admissions Committee with recommendations from the Academic Performance Committee and the approval of the dean.

Applicability of Certain Courses

Physical Activity Courses

Physical activity (PED) courses are offered by the Department of Kinesiology and Health Education. They may not be counted toward a degree in the College of Pharmacy. However, they are counted among courses for which the student is enrolled, and the grades are included in the University grade point average.

ROTC Courses

Courses in air force science, military science, and naval science may be substituted for a total of nine semester hours of non-pharmacy electives by students who complete the 16 to 20 semester hours of required air force science, military science, or naval science coursework and accept a commission in one of the services. These courses may not be counted toward the professional elective requirement.

Correspondence and Extension Courses

Credit that a University student in residence earns simultaneously by correspondence or extension from the University or elsewhere or in residence at another school will not be counted toward a degree unless it is specifically approved in advance by the dean. No more than 30 percent of the semester hours required for any degree may be completed by correspondence, and no pharmacy courses taken by correspondence or extension may be counted toward a pharmacy degree.

Standards of Ethical Conduct

Pharmacy practitioners enjoy a special trust and authority based on the profession's commitment to a code of ethical behavior in its management of client affairs. The inculcation of a sense of responsible professional behavior is a critical component of professional education, and high standards of ethical conduct are expected of pharmacy students.

Toward that end, the faculty and students of the College of Pharmacy have pledged their support to the Policy Statement on Ethical Conduct and Scholastic Integrity and the Code of Ethics that implements this Policy Statement. Upon entering the College of Pharmacy, and each academic year thereafter, students are asked to recite and sign the following pledge:

"As a student of The University of Texas College of Pharmacy, I have reviewed and hereby pledge my full support to the Honor Code. I pledge to be honest myself, and in order that the spirit and integrity of the Honor Code may endure, I pledge that I will make known to the appropriate

authorities cases of dishonesty which I observe in the College of Pharmacy."

In addition, the following oath, which students will be asked to sign, is included at the end of all class examinations: "I have neither participated in nor witnessed any acts of academic dishonesty pertaining to this assignment." At the discretion of the instructor, the oath may also be included for other assignments such as quizzes, written reports, or papers.

Students are also required to adhere to the University's Student Honor Code which states "As a student at The University of Texas at Austin, I shall abide by the core values of the University and uphold academic integrity." The entire text of the Student Honor Code and the University's Code of Conduct can be found at <http://www.utexas.edu/about/mission-and-values>.

Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including failure of the course involved and dismissal from the college and/or the University. Since dishonesty harms the individual, fellow students, and the integrity of the University and the College of Pharmacy, policies on scholastic dishonesty are strictly enforced.

Attendance in Class and Laboratories

Students in the College of Pharmacy are expected to attend all scheduled class and laboratory sessions in courses for which they are registered. If attendance is a course requirement that can impact the student's grade, the criteria for assessing attendance and consequences for nonattendance must be specified in the syllabus.

Professional Liability Insurance

Professional liability insurance is required of all students each year of the professional pharmacy curriculum. Coverage in the amount of two million dollars for each claim and six million dollars in the aggregate per year is provided through the insurance policy. The annual premium is less than \$20.00 but is subject to change, and is payable by the student. The policy covers the period September 1 through August 31 and must be secured each year of the program through the University of Texas System.

Medical Clearance Requirements

In addition to the University's immunization requirements, students must meet additional immunization requirements for students in healthcare programs as articulated in Title 25 of the Texas Administrative Code, Rule 97.64, and as mandated by the practice sites in which students participate in practicum experiences.

Immunization requirements are subject to change. Every effort is made to notify students promptly of any changes. A current list of vaccination requirements can be found on the [College of Pharmacy's website](#).

Although not a College of Pharmacy requirement, students may be subject to other health clearance requirements mandated by health care facilities for practicum.

Student Health Insurance

Students must procure health insurance to cover treatment for injuries or illness, and must provide proof of insurance each year of the curriculum. This is especially important for the experiential components of the curriculum, spanning all four professional years, when students have frequent contact with patients in a number of different health care environments.

The Student Health Insurance Plan, operated under the auspices of University Health Services, offers optional low-cost insurance for students who are not covered by other programs. Information about this plan is available through University Health Services at <http://healthyhorns.utexas.edu/>.

Graduation

All students must fulfill the [general requirements](#) for graduation. In addition, students seeking the Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) must complete in residence 60 hours of the required professional curriculum, including the courses prescribed for the fourth professional year.

All University students must have a grade point average of at least 2.00 to graduate. In the College of Pharmacy, students must also have a grade point average of at least 2.00 in required professional courses to graduate.

A candidate must complete the prescribed curriculum and must meet all other requirements of the College of Pharmacy.

PharmD professional students are not required to submit a Graduation Application Form to graduate.

Accreditation

The College of Pharmacy has been a member of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy since 1927. The Doctor of Pharmacy degree program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE); ACPE does not accredit master's and Ph.D. degrees in pharmacy.

Admission

Admission to the University

For the College of Pharmacy's Pharm.D. program, admission and readmission are the responsibility of the dean of the College as delegated by the University's director of admissions. Students accepted to the Pharm.D. Program will be processed for admission to the University (if not already enrolled at The University of Texas at Austin).

Admission Policies of the College

Admission to the Professional Curriculum

Admission to the University in no way implies or guarantees admission to the professional curriculum. No student may begin the professional curriculum until he or she has been admitted to the professional curriculum in pharmacy by the dean, following recommendation by the Admissions Committee of the College of Pharmacy, according to the procedures outlined in this section regarding admission. All students must meet the admission requirements given in the catalog in effect at the time of application. If the number of eligible applicants to the professional curriculum exceeds the number that available facilities can accommodate, final selection is made by the college Admissions Committee and the dean.

The College of Pharmacy uses PharmCAS, the national Pharm.D. application system. All student applications must go through PharmCAS, and those accepted for enrollment in the college will be processed for direct admission to the University.

Students who are enrolled in a pharmacy program at another institution and who wish to transfer to the University should follow the normal Pharm.D. application process. Upon admission to the University and the professional curriculum, the student may request advanced standing in the pharmacy curriculum. Placement is contingent on availability of

space and on transcript evaluation to determine University equivalencies for the student's coursework.

As a condition of admission to the college, each student must sign a statement that he or she agrees to accept assignment to any one of the college's experiential (internship) regions throughout the state. Cooperative arrangements for pharmacy education exist with academic units and health care institutions in the following internship regions: Austin/Temple/Waco, Dallas/Fort Worth, Galveston/Houston, San Antonio, and the Rio Grande Valley. Experiential regions may be added or deleted at any time based on the availability of resources.

Students assigned to San Antonio must spend the last two years of the professional program in that region. Students assigned to the other regions spend only the final year of the program (the fourth professional experiential year) in their assigned region.

Students are assigned to experiential regions through a computer-generated random assignment system that takes students' ranked preferences into account. Since most students relocate to experiential regions outside the Austin area, region assignment occurs during the latter part of the first professional year to allow students adequate time to make personal and financial arrangements. There are no exceptions to the region assignment process. If a student fails to agree to accept assignment to any region, he or she will not be admitted to the college.

Admission to the First Professional Year

Admission to the professional curriculum is competitive. The application process is conducted via the national Pharm.D. admissions program, PharmCAS, as specified on the [PharmCAS website](#) and linked via the [College of Pharmacy](#).

Basic Admission Criteria

1. Scholarship, as indicated by grade point average, particularly in math and science courses. Math and science coursework, or relevant math or science work experience, should have occurred in the past seven years.
2. Essay as specified in the PharmCAS application process.
3. Letters of recommendation submitted via PharmCAS from people who know the applicant well professionally, especially pharmacist employers.
4. Transcripts of all academic work submitted via PharmCAS.
5. A résumé submitted via PharmCAS that provides details about the applicant's professional, organizational, volunteer, and service experience.

Additional Personal Factors

The information specified below is submitted either via PharmCAS or through the college's supplemental application.

1. Pharmacy and other related work experience
2. Organizational, service, and volunteer activities that demonstrate community involvement and leadership potential
3. Teaching, tutoring, and mentoring experience
4. Research experience
5. Honors and awards
6. Interview. Applicants are screened for interviews based on academic record, direct work experience in the profession, special life circumstances, and any other compelling factors. If the applicant is invited for an interview, then other factors are considered; these include but are not limited to the following:
 - a. Knowledge of and motivation for pharmacy as a career
 - b. Lifelong learning strategies
 - c. Critical thinking skills

- d. Communication skills
 - e. Compassion and commitment to care
 - f. Respect toward others
 - g. Organizational efficiency
 - h. Integrity and ethical reasoning
 - i. Relationship-building skills
 - j. Leadership skills
 - k. Teamwork
7. Special life circumstances; these include but are not limited to the following:
- a. Single parent
 - b. Socioeconomic status of family
 - c. First generation attending college
 - d. Overcoming adversity
 - e. Resident of an underserved area of the state or an area of Texas with a health professions shortage
 - f. Race and ethnicity
 - g. Cultural background

Because the University is a public institution, preference is given to applicants who are legal residents of Texas and to applicants from states without colleges of pharmacy. Applicants are strongly encouraged to examine the admission statistics published by the college on its [admissions website](#).

Application Deadlines

The deadline to apply for admission to the college is specified on the [PharmCAS website](#) and linked via the [College of Pharmacy](#).

Admission Requirements

While not required for acceptance or matriculation, applicants are encouraged to also complete a biochemistry and a communications or speech course.

1. The applicant must have completed at least 69 semester hours in total, and must have completed the following 45 hours in prerequisite courses prior to enrolling in the professional pharmacy curriculum:
 - a. Six hours of biology, including cellular and molecular biology, and structure and function of organisms
 - b. Eight hours of general chemistry with laboratory
 - c. Three hours of freshman-level rhetoric and writing
 - d. Three hours of humanities
 - e. Three hours of calculus
 - f. Three hours of statistics
 - g. Eight hours of organic chemistry with laboratory
 - h. Four hours of microbiology with laboratory
 - i. Four hours of physics with laboratory
 - j. Three hours of anatomy, physiology, or anatomy/physiology
 - k. The remaining 24 hours should be from [Core Curriculum](#).
2. The applicant must remove all deficiencies in high school units by the means prescribed in the *General Information Catalog* before seeking admission to the professional curriculum.

Admission Procedures

1. All applications for the Pharm.D. program will be handled through the national Pharm.D. admissions system, PharmCAS. Students must adhere to the deadlines for admission specified. The PharmCAS application process will include a supplementary application to the college (with a nonrefundable supplementary application fee) necessary to acquire additional academic information for University

admission. Candidates will be notified if additional information is required.

2. Selected applicants will be asked to appear for a personal interview. The personal interview will follow a multiple-mini interview (MMI) format.
3. The applicant is considered on the basis of overall academic performance, with emphasis on grades in the required Pharm.D. prerequisite courses. In accordance with University policy, courses in which the applicant earned a grade of *D+*, *D*, *D-*, or *F* at another institution are not transferable and may not be used to fulfill any degree requirements. However, courses in which the student earned a grade of *D+*, *D*, or *D-* are considered when the student's admissibility to the professional curriculum is determined.
4. Applicants who have been offered admission to the University and to the Pharm.D. program will be asked to pay a nonrefundable enrollment deposit to the University. If the student does enroll in the program that fall, the deposit will be applied to the semester's tuition bill.
5. All students accepted for admission in the Pharm.D. program will be processed for admission to The University of Texas using the information in the PharmCAS application. Additional materials for University admission may be required:
 - a. A high school transcript, if the applicant's foreign language requirement was completed in high school. Official transcripts must be sent to the University's [Office of Admissions](#).
 - b. Scores on the Texas Higher Education Assessment (THEA) test (or an appropriate assessment test), if and only if the student is required by state law to take this test.
 - c. Credit earned by examination. These reports should be sent directly to the Testing and Evaluation Services—[Student Testing Services](#) at the University. This would be done if and only if the student had not previously claimed credit showing on the transcript.
 - d. Official transcripts for all colleges/universities attended.
6. An applicant who has been admitted to the University and to the professional curriculum but fails to enroll in either, and who wishes to enter the professional curriculum in a subsequent fall semester, must reapply both to the University and to the College of Pharmacy and must meet all requirements in force at the time of reapplication.
7. An applicant who has been admitted to and enrolls in the professional curriculum but subsequently withdraws, and who wishes to reenter in a subsequent fall semester, must apply for readmission to the professional curriculum and must meet all requirements in force at the time of reapplication. A student who has been out of the University for a semester or more must also apply for readmission to the University.

Technical Standards

"Technical standards" are the observational, communication, sensory/motor, and intellectual skills, the behavioral and social attributes, and the ethical values required for the completion of the professional curriculum and for the practice of pharmacy. These standards are described on the [College of Pharmacy's website](#). Each applicant must attest that they have read and understand the technical standards. Any applicant who believes he or she may have difficulty meeting them should contact the college's director of admission.

Registration

The *General Information Catalog* gives information about registration, adding and dropping courses, transfer from one division of the University to another, and auditing a course. The [Course Schedule](#) published before registration each semester, includes registration instructions, advising locations, and the times, places, and instructors of classes. The *Course*

Schedule and General Information are published on the [Office of the Registrar's website](#).

Each semester the academic advisor for the college provides registration guidance that is specific to the College of Pharmacy.

Registration as a Student-Intern

Upon matriculation to the first professional year, each student must register as a student-intern with the Texas State Board of Pharmacy. This is accomplished through completion of the Pharmacist-Intern Student Application. Each student must be registered as a student-intern in order to complete the academic requirements for the degree.

Additional information regarding intern registration and pharmacist licensure is given in the section [Legal Requirements for Professional Practice](#) (p. 7). Requirements and regulations are subject to change by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy. Every attempt is made to inform students of changes as they occur.

Legal Requirements for Professional Practice

Upon matriculation to the first professional year in the College of Pharmacy, each student-intern must apply to become an intern trainee with the [Texas State Board of Pharmacy](#). Each student must be registered as a student-intern, in order to acquire, through pharmacy courses, the internship hours necessary for licensure upon graduation as a pharmacist in Texas.

Students should be aware that the process of registration as an intern includes a criminal history and fingerprint check. The existence of a criminal record may preclude the student from registration as an intern, completion of experiential courses in the curriculum, and/or from subsequent licensure as a pharmacist in Texas. However, the Texas State Board of Pharmacy may grant limited internship status under certain conditions to those with prior convictions. It is possible that health care facilities in which students are placed for experiential coursework may mandate an additional background check and/or drug screen. Students assigned to these facilities must comply with all such requirements. If a student cannot be placed in practice facilities because of prior convictions that appear on any background check, or because of a positive drug screen, his or her graduation may not be possible or may be significantly delayed.

Students registered as student-interns will earn internship hours toward licensure through the professional sequence pharmacy courses. Internship hours gained outside the College of Pharmacy curriculum may not replace any portion of the experiential program required for graduation.

Students are required to inform the Office of Student Affairs of any change in status that may affect intern registration or the ability to be placed in practice (experiential) sites.

Graduates of the College of Pharmacy are eligible to apply to the Texas State Board of Pharmacy for licensure as pharmacists. Licensure exams may be taken shortly after graduation. Postgraduate internship experience is not currently required for Texas licensure but may be required for licensure in other states.

Additional information about requirements for pharmacy licensure in Texas is available from the [Texas State Board of Pharmacy](#).

Intern registration and pharmacist licensure requirements are subject to change by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy. Students and graduates

must meet current requirements, even if they differ from those described above.

Honors

University-wide honors are described in the *General Information Catalog*. In addition, the College of Pharmacy encourages academic excellence through Rho Chi, the national pharmaceutical honor society, described in [Student Organizations](#), and through the Pharmacy Honors Program.

University Honors

The designation University Honors, awarded at the end of each fall/spring semester, gives official recognition and commendation to students whose grades for the semester indicate distinguished academic accomplishment. Both the quality and the quantity of work done are considered. Criteria for University Honors are given in the *General Information Catalog*.

Graduation with University Honors

Students who, upon graduation, have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement are eligible to graduate with University Honors. Criteria for graduation with University Honors are given in the *General Information Catalog*.

Pharmacy Honors Program

Criteria for Admission

Students who plan to seek special honors in pharmacy should apply to the chair of the Honors Program Committee; they should apply before December 1st of the second professional year with August 1st prior to the third professional year as the final application deadline. Students interested in the Pharmacy Honors Program are strongly encouraged to enroll in PHM X81R Research Opportunities in the Pharmaceutical Sciences in the spring semester of their first professional year. The criteria for admission to the program are:

1. admission to the professional curriculum;
2. a grade point average of at least 3.00 in all required professional coursework completed at the time of application to the program;
3. a letter of support from Honors Program research mentor;
4. completion of a PHM 187R research rotation and
5. approval of the Honors Program Committee.

Requirements for Completion

The Honors Program allows a student to learn about the research method and conduct a research project under the supervision of one or more faculty members over a series of four sequential courses. Each course contains a different written component. These are a research proposal (PHM 290H), a research report (PHM 291H), a research project (PHM 292H) and a Research Honors thesis (PHM 293H). Requirements for the completion of the Honors Program are:

1. a grade point average of at least 3.00 in all required professional courses;
2. completion of PHM 187R;
3. completion of PHM 290H, PHM 291H, PHM 292H, and PHM 293H;
4. presentation of research results (poster) at a research symposium or college event;
5. approval of the Honors thesis by the Honors Program Committee and
6. completion of the regular curriculum for the degree.

The statement "Research Honors in Pharmacy" appears on the transcript of each graduate certified to have completed the honors program.