Working in Pharmacy

Pharmacists are expert s on drugs and drug therapy. As such they are vital members of a health care team. Pharmacists package and dispense prescription medications; they are a source of health information; they offer advice on non-prescriptive drugs, preparations, and appliances; and they provide sickroom supplies. They must understand the action and interaction of drugs and are often called upon by health care providers for information about specific drugs or combinations.

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University of Colorado Health Sciences Center
School of Pharmacy
Student Services
Campus Box C-238
4200 East Ninth Avenue
Denver, CO 80262
(303) 315-6100
www.uchsc.edu/sop/index.htm

The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
1426 Prince Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 739-2330
www.aacp.org

Pharmacy College Application Service (PharmCAS)
www.pharmcas.org

Pharmacy College Admissions Test (PCAT)
www.pcatweb.info

CSU Pre-Pharmacy Club
www.casa.colostate.edu/advising/preprof/pharm/club.cfm

Human Health Pre-Professional Programs
www.casa.colostate.edu/advising/preprof/index.cfm
Typical Academic Prerequisites

- General Biology (2 semesters with labs) LIFE 102 and LIFE 103
- General Chemistry (2 semesters with labs) CHEM 111/112 and CHEM 113/114
- Organic Chemistry (2 semesters with labs) CHEM 341, 343 and 344
- General Physics (1 or 2 semesters w/labs) PH121 and PH122 OR PH 141 and PH 142
- Microbiology (1 semester with lab) MIP 300/302
- Biochemistry (1 semester) *CU BC 351
- Anatomy & Physiology (8 credits w/labs) BMS 300/BMS 302, & BMS 301
- English Composition (2 semesters) CO 150, CO 300/301
- Public Speaking (1 semester) SPCM 200
- Mathematics/Statistics (1 semester Calculus and/or Statistics) MATH 155 or MATH 160
- Humanities/Social Sciences (9 credits)*CU ERHS 307, STAT 301, or STAT 307
- Economics (1 semester) ECON 202 or 204
- General Education (22 credits)*CU

Recommended CSU Courses

- LIFE 102 and LIFE 103
- CHEM 111/112 and CHEM 113/114
- CHEM 341, 343 and 344
- PH121 and PH122 OR PH 141 and PH 142
- MIP 300/302
- BC 351
- BMS 300/BMS 302, & BMS 301
- CO 150, CO 300/301
- SPCM 200
- MATH 155 or MATH 160
- ERHS 307, STAT 301, or STAT 307
- ECON 202 or 204

Admissions Requirements

Admissions requirements are GENERAL and may differ from school to school. Please contact the individual schools to discuss specific admissions requirements.

- Minimum of 60-90 credits of college education
- Competitive cumulative GPA
- Competitive Pharmacy College Admissions Test (PCAT) score (not all Pharmacy schools require)
- Application submitted to each school or submitted to Pharmacy College Application Service (PharmCAS, depending on specific school)
- Letters of recommendation
- Interview

Professional Programs

According to the Occupational Outlook Handbook, in 2007 there were 92 accredited schools of pharmacy. Pharmacy programs grant the degree of Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.). The Pharm.D. is a 4-year program that requires at least two years of college study prior to admittance, although most (75.9%) applicants have at least three years prior to entering the program, and many (52.5%) have bachelor or advanced degrees.

For more information about specific pharmacy schools contact: www.aacp.org

Last updated 5/09—Information is subject to change.