Doctor of Pharmacy, PharmD

Admission

Individuals apply to the PharmD program using PharmCAS, the American Association of College of Pharmacy application service. Applicants also must submit a supplemental application, including the application fee, to the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy; see Doctor of Pharmacy on the University of Iowa Graduate Admissions website for more information.

By selecting the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy, students choose to be part of the legacy of leaders for which the College of Pharmacy has become well known. Iowa pharmacy shapes pharmacy practice nationally and internationally with evidence-based practice models and collaborative pharmacy care innovations.

As aspiring Doctor of Pharmacy students, the first two years are spent completing general education and prerequisite courses to prepare candidates for the PharmD degree. Just before they complete their required courses, they apply to the program itself, which is comprised of an additional four years of integrated courses, hands-on research involvement, and practical experiences.

Applicants must complete the college-level work listed under "Prerequisites for Admission" below. They also must have an overall cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.50 and must submit two letters of recommendation and a personal statement. Applicants considered for admission must have a personal interview; the college contacts applicants to arrange interview appointments.

Fulfillment of the admission requirements listed above does not ensure admission to the College of Pharmacy. The admissions committee considers applicants who meet these requirements and selects individuals who, in their judgment, are the best qualified for the study and practice of pharmacy.

Applicants who are accepted for admission are required to submit to a criminal background check and pay an admission acceptance fee. The fee is applied to tuition for the student’s first semester of enrollment in the college. The deposit is not refunded to applicants who do not enroll in the College of Pharmacy.

Entering health sciences students are required to have an annual tuberculin skin test (TST) and proof of immunization against mumps, measles and rubella (two MMRs), tetanus, diphtheria and varicella before classes begin. The usual regimen of three doses of Hepatitis B vaccine and a Hepatitis B titre must be completed by the second semester of the first year. All students are required to have hospitalization and health insurance.

Prerequisites for Admission

Applicants to the PharmD program must have completed the following college-level work with a C-minus or higher.

- Rhetoric: 4 s.h. (RHET:1030 Rhetoric) or 6 s.h. of transfer credit in English composition and rhetoric and 3 s.h. in speech.
- Biochemistry: 3 s.h. (BMB:3110 Biochemistry).
- General biology: 8 s.h. (BIOL:1411 Foundations of Biology and BIOL:1412 Diversity of Form and Function).
- General chemistry: 8 s.h. (CHEM:1110 Principles of Chemistry I and CHEM:1120 Principles of Chemistry II).
- Human anatomy: 3 s.h. (ACB:3110 Principles of Human Anatomy).
- Human physiology: 3 s.h. (HHP:3500 Human Physiology).
- Mathematics: 3-4 s.h. of a satisfactory differential and integral calculus course (MATH:1460 Calculus for the Biological Sciences).
- Physics: one year of high school physics or one semester of college-level physics with a lab (PHYS:1400 Basic Physics).
- Statistics: 3 s.h.
- General education electives: a minimum of 12 s.h.

Courses in moral reasoning or ethics, communications, computer science, and business, behavioral and social sciences, and the humanities are accepted. Courses in physical education skills, applied music, and studio art do not count toward the general education requirement.