

Pharmacy Application Guide

2010 - 2011

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University of Pittsburgh PharmD Candidate 2013
RxPrep President

TABLE OF CONTENTS

University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy	3
Duquesne University Mylan School of Pharmaceutical Sciences	6
Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM)	7
Temple University School of Pharmacy	8
Wilkes University School of Pharmacy	9
West Virginia University School of Pharmacy	10
Helpful Websites for the Application Process	11
PharmCAS Information	12
PCAT Information	20
Interviews	23
Getting In	25

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

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CONDITIONAL STUDENTS:

Freshman Applicants

All students should first submit an application to the University of Pittsburgh, Office of Admissions and Financial Aid. The School of Pharmacy does not admit freshmen directly to the professional program. However, the School offers conditional acceptance to a limited number of high school seniors who enroll at one of the University of Pittsburgh campuses. Students who rank in the upper 10% of their graduating class and score 1300 or higher on the SAT I (Math and Critical Reading sections), with a minimum of 680 in the Math section, and specify Pharmacy on the application will be offered the conditional acceptance. Based on availability of seats, applicants that specify pharmacy on their application, are in the top 10% of their graduating class, and score at least a 1250 on the SAT 1 (Math and Critical Reading sections), will be considered for conditional admission. Since only one half of the spaces in the pharmacy class will be allocated for this type of admission, the number of offers will be limited.

Students who receive the conditional admission are expected to perform well in their preprofessional courses regardless of SAT I scores. In order to secure a place in the PharmD Program, students must earn:

- a letter grade of a C or better in all preprofessional courses with no repeat of preprofessional courses
- a 3.25 or greater overall GPA in preprofessional courses
- a 3.25 or greater GPA in the required Math and Science courses

To exercise the conditional admission, all applicants, must:

- interview as a part of the PharmD application process
- take the Pharmacy College Admissions Test (PCAT)
- complete the PharmCAS application by deadline
- complete the Supplemental Application by deadline

Students who meet these performance criteria will be admitted into the PharmD Program. It is also recommended that you apply to other pharmacy schools as well if you are not certain you will meet the criteria.

NOTE: University of Pittsburgh students awarded a conditional admission out of high school and will be applying to the professional School of Pharmacy for fall 2011 will be required to take the Pharmacy College Admissions Test (PCAT).

OPEN ADMISSION: NON-CONDITIONAL STUDENTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AND TRANSFER STUDENTS

All other students applying to the program compete for seats in the class. The following are the requirements to be considered for the School of Pharmacy's professional program:

- Completion of the preprofessional requirements
- Grade point average of at least a 3.0
- Completion of the [PharmCAS](#) Application, transcripts and fee submitted by December 1, 2010
- Completion of the School of Pharmacy [Supplemental](#) Application and fee by January 7, 2011
- Submission of the [PCAT](#) scores to PharmCAS (code 104) by December 1, 2010

- Selected applicants will be required to participate in the interview process
- Interviews are by invitation only

APPLICATION PROCESS:

1. Completion of the PharmCAS Application, transcripts and fee submitted by **December 1, 2010**
2. Completion of the School of Pharmacy Supplemental Application and fee by **January 7, 2011**
****To prevent any complications, it is recommended that you submit your application EARLY – i.e. November 1st.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

1. *Minimum Eligibility Requirements:* GPA requirements, academic prerequisites, computer literacy. See <http://www.pharmacy.pitt.edu/programs/PharmD/application/step1.html> for more information.
2. *The Application:* PharmCAS application (including transcripts) and Supplemental application. See <http://www.pharmacy.pitt.edu/programs/pharmd/application/step2.html> for more information.
3. *After Applying:* Check with PharmCAS and confirm receipt from the Pharmacy School. Interviews are required and are by invitation only. Interviews will take place beginning in January of 2011. See <http://www.pharmacy.pitt.edu/programs/pharmd/application/after.html> for more information.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL COURSES REQUIRED:

All prerequisites must be satisfied under the guidelines set forth by the Academic Prerequisite Record (part of the online application). All prerequisite **mathematics and science** subjects must be completed **no later than the spring term of the year of admission**. All other preprofessional courses should be completed no later than **the summer term of the year of admission**. All required courses must be taken for a letter grade. Pass/fail, online, distance learning, CLEP, and foreign courses are not accepted. Grades lower than a letter grade of a C are non-transferable from institutions other than the University of Pittsburgh.

Use the **worksheet** located at the hyperlink below to help you determine whether or not you have completed the pre-professional requirements. <http://www.pharmacy.pitt.edu/programs/PharmD/TransferCredits.pdf>.

Overview of Academic Prerequisites

8 credits Biology	Must include: 1 year of lecture and lab
8 credits General Chemistry	Must include: 1 year of lecture and lab
8 credits Organic Chemistry	Must include: 1 year of lecture and lab
3-4 credits Calculus	Must be: 1 course in calculus covering the derivative and integral of functions of a single variable
3-4 credits Statistics	Must be: 1 course in descriptive and inferential statistics
6 credits English	Must be: 2 courses in college composition—technical, professional, science, creative (not acceptable - poetry, journalism, literature and ESL)
3 credits Economics	Must be: 1 course in microeconomics, introduction to economics, or macroeconomics
3 credits Psychology	Must be: 1 course in general psychology
18 credits of Electives in the Humanities and the Social Sciences (Technical, professional, math, and science-related courses are not eligible to meet Electives in the Humanities and Social Sciences requirements.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humanities: (6 credits) 2 courses from different departments: African Studies, Classics, Communication, English, History of Art & Architecture, Foreign Language, Music, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Studio Arts, Theater Arts • Social Sciences: (6 credits) 2 courses from different departments: Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History, Political Science, Sociology • Other Electives: (6 credits) 2 courses from the departments listed under the Humanities and Social Sciences, Psychology, and History and Philosophy of Science (University of Pittsburgh only)

Courses that are not listed under the specific departments cannot be used as electives. And no course substitutions are accepted.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS/ DEADLINES:

****FOR MORE INFORMATION, REFER TO THE ADMISSIONS CALENDAR:**

[HTTP://WIKIS.PHARMACY.PITT.EDU/GROUPS/PHARMDHANDBOOK/WIKI/C921D/ADMISSIONS_CALENDAR.HTML](http://wikis.pharmacy.pitt.edu/groups/pharmdhandbook/wiki/c921d/admissions_calendar.html)

PharmCAS: Application must be electronically submitted on or before midnight Eastern Standard Time on the night of **December 1, 2010**. NOTE: It is highly recommended that you submit your application by November 1. It takes approximately 3 - 4 weeks for PharmCAS to verify applications once e-submitted and transcripts are received. Official transcripts must be received by PharmCAS by December 1, 2010 as well. It is recommended to request that transcripts be submitted to PharmCAS in September or October.

Supplemental Application Fee: \$65.00 due by **January 7, 2011**. Supplemental Application (available online at the Pitt pharmacy website) must be e-submitted to the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy by Friday, January 4, 2008. You may e-submit the Supplemental application anytime after Organic Chemistry I and/or fall grades are recorded on the Academic Prerequisite Form and before January 4. (If you have completed all of your required courses, you may e-submit the supplemental application anytime before January 4, 2008.) Should include: (1) copies of all AP credits, (2) Academic Prerequisite Form (3) \$65.00 application fee.

PCAT: Required scores due by **December 1, 2010**. PharmCAS code: 104. Recommended exam dates: June 19, 2010, August 21, 2010, or October 16, 2010. Applications are not complete until PCAT scores are received. Only completed applications are eligible for review and an interview. NOTE: Scores from the January 22, 2011 PCAT test will not be received until after interviews.

Letters of Recommendation: Three letters submitted to PharmCAS by **December 1, 2010**. Two letters must be from faculty professors and one can be from any source besides a relative. *Teaching Assistants and Teaching Fellows are not acceptable as a professor, but can be utilized for the third recommendation

Interviews: Required, only completed applications will be considered for interviews. Interviews will be offered beginning in January by invitation only.

COMMON QUESTIONS:

How many people do you accept each year? Each year, the School of Pharmacy accepts 108 students from a pool of about 800-1200 applicants. Competition depends on the size of the applicant pool for a particular year.

Do you give preference to applicants from Pennsylvania colleges? Preference is not given to PA students.

Do you have rolling admissions? No. There is a discrete admission cycle that ends in the spring.

What is the minimum grade point average required for admission? Admission is competitive and is based on all aspects of the application in addition to your grade point average. This includes your science grades, PCAT scores, curriculum, recommendations, and essays. Competition varies from year to year depending upon the size and strength of the applicant pool. Although we do have minimum grade point average requirement of a 3.0, this is quite low compared to the average GPA (currently 3.67) of applicants usually offered admission.

Is a bachelor's degree required for admission? No, only the pre-pharmacy requirements are required. However a degree can make an applicant more competitive for admission.

Do I have to take the PCAT or GRE? The PCAT is required; however, the GRE is not. Our program is at an undergraduate level for the first two years, and a graduate level for the last two years.

Do you accept credits from other institutions? Yes, the university accepts courses from any USA accredited institution as long as a letter grade of a C or better has been obtained. They do not accept pass/fail, online, distance learning or CLEP credits.

Do you accept applications for fall and spring terms? No, the application process is for fall admissions only.

**For any other questions, refer to the FAQ page at:

<http://www.pharmacy.pitt.edu/programs/PharmD/FAQ/default.lasso>

Any other question about the University of Pittsburgh Doctor of Pharmacy program may be answered here:
<http://www.pharmacy.pitt.edu/programs/PharmD/default.html>

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY – MYLAN SCHOOL OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

Scott Copley
Director of Recruitment & Admission
304 Bayer Learning Center
600 Forbes Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15282

Phone: 412-396-6393
Email: pharmadmission@duq.edu
Website: <http://www.duq.edu/pharmacy/>

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS:

- Minimum GPA: 3.5
- Minimum PCAT score: 425
- No grades below “C”
- Science and Math courses are accepted from 4-year colleges and universities, regional campuses of 4-year colleges and universities are also acceptable
- Completed prerequisites, or the completion of all prerequisites by Fall 2010, from an accredited U.S. college or university
- Accepted applicants will be required to have a background check conducted by [Certified Background](#) prior to matriculating to the Mylan School of Pharmacy.

*Successful completion of a competitive School of Pharmacy-based application process that will consider factors such as, but not limited to: cumulative QPA, scores attained on the Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT), community service projects and an interview.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL COURSES REQUIRED: 68 CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED

Science/Math Prerequisites must come from accredited 4-year U.S. colleges/universities:

General Biology I & lab, 4 cr.
General Biology II & lab, 4 cr.
General Chemistry I & lab, 4 cr.
General Chemistry II & lab, 4 cr.
Organic Chemistry I & lab, 4 cr.
Organic Chemistry II & lab, 4 cr.
General Physics & lab, 4 cr.
Calculus I, 4 cr.
Biostatistics, 3 cr.

Other prerequisites may be completed at accredited 2-year or 4 year U.S. colleges/universities:

English Composition and Literature, 3 cr.
English Literature, 3 cr.
Theology, 3 cr.
Philosophy, 3 cr.
Ethics, 3 cr.
Economics, 3 cr.
Information Literacy (computer class) 3 cr.
Psychology, 3 cr.
Faith and Reason, 3 cr.
Global Diversity, 3 cr.
Creative Arts, 3 cr.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS/ DEADLINES:

Duquesne does not require a supplemental application or letters or recommendation for transfer students planning to enter the Doctor of Pharmacy program.

PCAT: Required. It is recommended that applicants take the October test or earlier.

Interview: Selected applications will be invited to interview in February and March 2011. Acceptance letters are mailed 4-5 weeks after the interview.

More information about duquesne university's school of pharmacy can be found here:
<http://www.duq.edu/pharmacy/>

LAKE ERIE COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE (LECOM)

Office of Admissions
LECOM School of Pharmacy Erie Campus
1858 West Grandview Boulevard
Erie, Pennsylvania 16509

E-mail: pharmacy@lecom.edu
Website: www.lecom.edu
814-866-6641

APPLICATION PROCESS:

1. PharmCAS application, letters of reference and all official transcripts must be received by **March 1, 2011**.
2. Applicants being considered for admission will be invited for an on-site interview on a rolling basis between October and May.
3. Acceptance letters will be mailed October 2010 through May 2011.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL COURSES REQUIRED:

Applicant must complete 60 semester hours of pre-professional course requirements from a regionally accredited college or university prior to matriculation by the end of the Spring 2008 semester. *LECOM School of Pharmacy will not accept advanced placement credit for prerequisite courses.* Applicant must earn a minimum of a 2.7 grade point average on a 4.0 scale, with no required course grade lower than C.

English	6 semester hours
Biology with Laboratory	8 semester hours
General Chemistry with Laboratory	8 semester hours
Organic Chemistry with Laboratory	8 semester hours
Physics	3 semester hours
Calculus	3 semester hours
Statistics	3 semester hours
Economics	3 semester hours
Psychology or Sociology	3 semester hours
General Education Electives	15 semester hours

General Education Electives should be taken in subject areas other than the above prerequisites, such as humanities and social sciences. All of the prerequisite course requirements must be taken at an accredited college/university in the United States by the Spring semester prior to matriculation into the LECOM School of Pharmacy. The applicant needs to complete all pharmacy prerequisites with a minimum grade of C (70%) in each course by the end of the spring semester prior to matriculation. LECOM School of Pharmacy will not accept CLEP credits for prerequisite courses. Advanced placement credits will be accepted for pre-requisite coursework with a score of 4 or higher. International baccalaureate credits will be accepted for pre-requisite coursework with a score of 5 or higher. If you apply to both the Bradenton and Erie campuses, you may only deposit at one campus if accepted. Once you have deposited at one campus, your application will be withdrawn from the other campus.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS/ DEADLINES:

PCAT: Required; applicants may submit PCAT scores from exams taken within three years prior to the date of matriculation. The applicant must arrange for Harcourt Assessment to send the PCAT scores directly to PharmCAS (select PCAT code 104) by **March 1, 2011**.

Letters of Recommendation: Two letters of recommendation submitted to PharmCAS by **March 1, 2011**. One recommendation required from a Science Professor and one conditionally required from a Pharmacist. This institution does not accept evaluations from the following: Friends, Family Members, or Co-Workers.

More information on LECOM School of Pharmacy can be found here:
http://lecom.edu/school_pharmacy.php

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

Office of Admissions
3307 North Broad Street
Room 141
Philadelphia, PA 19132

E-mail: joan.hankins@temple.edu
Website: <http://www.temple.edu/pharmacy>
215 - 707-4900

APPLICATION PROCESS:

1. Complete PharmCAS application including letters of recommendation and have all official transcripts sent to PharmCAS by **February 1, 2011**.
2. The Supplemental Application can be downloaded at and received by **February 1, 2011**. It is available at the following website:
http://www.temple.edu/pharmacy/admissions/documents/supplemental_2011.pdf
*It should be printed, filled out and mailed to the Office of Admissions. Submit completed application with a \$50 application fee.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL COURSES REQUIRED:

All students are required to complete a minimum of **4 semesters** of college prior to matriculation. This typically consists of 63 credits. Applicants must successfully complete ALL course prerequisites by the end of the Summer 2011 term.

Biology I and II with Laboratory	8 semester hours
General Chemistry I and II with Laboratory	8 semester hours
Organic Chemistry I and II with Laboratory	8 semester hours
Physics I and II (Calculus based) with Laboratory	8 semester hours
Calculus I and II	8 semester hours
Macroeconomics	3 semester hours
English Composition	3 semester hours
<i>ELECTIVES FROM AREAS BELOW</i>	<i>21 total semester hours</i>
The Arts	3 semester hours
American Culture	3 semester hours
Studies in Race	3 semester hours
Intellectual Heritage I and II	6 semester hours
International Studies I and II OR Foreign Language I and II	6 semester hours

- Holders of a degree (BA/BS, MA/MS, Ph.D.) may be exempt from completing up to 9 elective credits. Temple University degree holders are exempt from the CORE.
- Please contact the Office of Admissions at (215) 707-4900 for questions regarding course requirements.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS/ DEADLINES:

Supplemental Application Fee: \$50.00 due by **February 1, 2011**.

PCAT: Required; applicants may submit PCAT scores from exams after January 2008. The applicant must arrange for PCAT scores to be sent directly to PharmCAS (select PCAT code 104) by **February 1, 2011**.

Letters of Recommendation: Two (2) letters of reference should be completed on the Letters of Reference form included in your PharmCAS application and submitted to PharmCAS by the institutional deadline of **February 1, 2011**. This institution does not accept recommendations from: Friends, Family Members, Co-Workers.

Interview: Applicants being considered for admission will be invited for an on-site interview in February or March. Acceptance letters are mailed 4-6 weeks after the interview date.

More information on Temple School of Pharmacy can be found here: <http://www.temple.edu/pharmacy/>

WILKES UNIVERSITY: NESBITT SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

Stark Learning Center
Phone: 570-408-4280

Fax: 570-408-7828
Email: pharm@wilkes.edu

APPLICATION PROCESS:

**** Wilkes University does not use the PharmCAS Application system****

1. Visit <http://www.wilkes.edu/pages/459.asp> for information on filling out their application.
2. The document contains an application that must be submitted with 3 letters of recommendation (one must be from a pharmacist and two from teachers), official transcript(s), and official PCAT score. Wilkes recommends that you take the PCAT in October or sooner. There is NO application fee.
3. The School of Pharmacy Application deadline is **February 1, 2011**. Application materials received after February 1, 2011 will not be considered.
4. If you are qualified, you will be invited for an on-campus personal interview, which will include a critical thinking test and writing assessment.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL COURSES REQUIRED:

Minimum eligibility is overall GPA and prerequisite GPA of 2.0 or better at any accredited college or university, and successful (2.0 or above) completion of all pharmacy prerequisites by the end of the Spring 2008 term.

General Biology with Labs	Two semesters (8 credits)
General Chemistry with labs	Two semesters (8 credits)
Organic Chemistry with labs	Two semesters (8 credits)
General Physics with lab	One semester (4 credits)
Calculus	One semester (4 credits)
Statistics	One semester (3 credits)
Microeconomics	One semester (3 credits)
Oral Communications	One semester (3 credits)

SUMMARY OF WHAT TO SUBMIT:

- The Completed Application Form
 - Three (3) Letters of Recommendation – one must be from a pharmacist.
 - Official Transcripts from every college or university attended
 - PCAT score
- There is no application fee.
- Contact the Pharmacy Transfer Coordinator (570-408-4298) to compare pre-requisites.
- Decisions will be mailed approximately 2 weeks after interviews, usually by mid-May.

The application and it's instructions can be found here:
<http://www.wilkes.edu/Include/pharmacy/Pharmapply.doc>

**** Mail application materials to:**

School of Pharmacy
Wilkes University
84 West South Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

More information on Wilkes School of Pharmacy can be found here:
<http://www.wilkes.edu/pharm/>

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

Ms. Jennifer Clutter
West Virginia University
School of Pharmacy
Office of Student Services
PO Box 9500
Morgantown, WV 26506-9500

Phone: 304-293-1552
Fax: 304-293-5483

Email: sopadmit@lists.hsc.wvu.edu

APPLICATION PROCESS:

1. PharmCAS application, letters of reference, and all official transcripts must be received by **December 1, 2010**.
2. Supplemental application must be submitted by **within 10 days of letter from the university** requesting completion of the application. Supplemental applications will be sent only to those applicants who have been selected by the Admissions Committee. There is a \$50 fee.
3. Interview is offered to select applicants only and take place between January and March. Acceptance letters will be mailed in June.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS/ DEADLINES:

PCAT: Required. PharmCAS code: 104

Letters of Recommendation: Three (3) letters of reference should be completed on the Letters of Reference form included in your PharmCAS application and submitted to PharmCAS by the institutional deadline of **December 1, 2010**. It is required that two of the three letters be of an academic nature representing at least two difference sciences (i.e, biology, chemistry, physics, math, microbiology). One of the three letters may be from a non-science faculty member, advisor, supervisor, pharmacist or other health care professional.

Interviews: Applicants deemed eligible by the Committee on Admissions will be scheduled for a personal interview. Interviews are held January through March. Content areas for interviews are listed below:

- Career planning: Types of pharmacy careers investigated, Pharmacist work settings/ duties
- Academics: Coursework, Learning abilities, Performance
- Personal: Strengths and Weaknesses
- Contemporary issues: Pharmacy related, Non-pharmacy related
- Community Service Activities: What activities participated in, Why important, What gained from experiences
- Leadership Activities: What positions held/activities participated in, Why important, What gained from experiences

**Interviewers will receive a letter from the University within 4-6 weeks of the interview either declaring provisional acceptance (completion of pre-requisites), deferred action (decision will be made after all applications and spring term grades are submitted), or rejection.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL COURSES REQUIRED:

We require **65 semester credit hours** of college be completed prior to matriculation. Applicants must successfully complete ALL course prerequisites by the end of the Spring 2011 term.

English Composition	6 semester hours
General Chemistry	8 semester hours
Organic Chemistry	8 semester hours
General Biology	8 semester hours
General Microbiology	3-4 semester hours
Introduction to Calculus	3-4 semester hours
Physics	8 semester hours

Principles of Microeconomics	3 semester hours
Introduction to Statistics	3 semester hours
Humanities and Fine Arts (G.E.C. electives)	12 semester hours
Social and Behavioral Sciences (G.E.C. electives)	6 semester hours

****Other clarifying information:** Elective courses must meet the University General Education Curriculum (GEC) requirements. More can be found in the WVU Undergraduate Catalog at <http://coursecatalog.wvu.edu/>.

More information on WVU's School of Pharmacy can be found at: <http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/sop/>

HELPFUL WEBSITES FOR THE APPLICATION PROCESS

<http://www.pharmcas.org/>: Web-based application

<http://www.pharmacy.pitt.edu/programs/PharmD/application/default.html>: University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy

<http://www.lecom.edu/pharm/application/>: LECOM

http://www.temple.edu/pharmacy/pharm_d.htm: University of Temple School of Pharmacy

<http://www.wilkes.edu/pages/1011.asp>: Wilkes University School of Pharmacy

<http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/sop/students/ProspectiveStudentsInfo/requirements.html>: West Virginia University School of Pharmacy

PHARMCAS APPLICATION

****REFER TO [HTTP://WWW.PHARMCAS.ORG/INDEX.HTM](http://www.pharmacas.org/index.htm) FOR ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PHARMCAS APPLICATION!**

PHARMCAS CALENDER FOR 2010-2011

Preparing for the pharmacy admissions process requires some advanced planning and preparation. This timeline provides information on important milestones and deadlines.

June 4, 2010: PharmCAS Web Application launches

August 1, 2010:

1. PharmCAS begins to release application data to PharmCAS schools
2. Create your PharmCAS web application account early in the application cycle
3. Use the [PharmCAS Transcript Request form](#) to arrange for your summer 2010 and all other transcripts to be sent to PharmCAS as soon as they are available. Also request to receive student-issued copies of your transcripts to be sent directly to you so you can complete your application.
4. Submit the correct PharmCAS application fee by the deadline.
5. Send letters of reference, foreign transcript evaluation reports, and test scores (PCAT, TOEFL, and TSE) scores to PharmCAS by the application deadline, if required by your designated pharmacy schools.
6. Attempt to register for any missing pharmacy school course prerequisites during the fall 2007 term. Schools may or may not consider applicants who have not completed all course prerequisites by the end of the fall term. Visit the PharmCAS school pages for information.

September 3, 2010: Early Decision (ED) deadline for applicants. To qualify, PharmCAS must receive your application, transcripts, and fee by the deadline. Pharmacy school may also require ED applicants to submit a supplemental application directly to the school by the September 2 deadline.

October 22, 2010: Deadline for Early Decision schools to report admissions decisions to ED candidates

November 1, 2010: 1st Regular institutional application deadline. Date your application, fee, letters of reference (if required) and transcripts are due in the PharmCAS office. Pharmacy schools below may also require you to submit a supplemental application and other materials directly to the school by the deadline.

California – San Diego, University of
California – San Francisco, University of
North Carolina, University of
Oklahoma, University of
Loma Linda University
Mississippi, University of

Pacific, University of
Pacific University Oregon School of Pharmacy
Southern California, University of
Western University of the Health Sciences
Wisconsin-Madison, University of

December 1, 2010: 2nd Regular institutional application deadline. Date your application, fee, letters of reference (if required) and transcripts are due in the PharmCAS office. Pharmacy schools below may also require you to submit a supplemental application and other materials directly to the school by the deadline.

Cincinnati, University of
Colorado, University of
Drake University
Howard University
Incarnate Word, University of the
Iowa, University of
Michigan, University of
Nebraska, University
Ohio State University, The
Oregon State University

Pittsburgh, University of
Purdue University
Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville
University of the Sciences in Philadelphia
Utah, University of
Washington State University
Wayne State University
West Virginia University
Wyoming, University of

December 2010: Use the [PharmCAS Transcript Request Form](#) to arrange for PharmCAS to receive any updated fall 2010 transcripts as soon as they are available.

December 15, 2010: PharmCAS [Academic Update \(AU\) window](#) opens. PharmCAS will contact you via email once you are eligible to begin entering newly completed and planned course work. AU is only for applicants who

previously submitted an application, became “complete,” and then had an application mailed to one or more pharmacy destinations.

January 5, 2011: 3rd Regular institutional application deadline. Date your application, fee, and transcripts are due in the PharmCAS office. Pharmacy schools below may also require you to submit a supplemental application and other materials directly to the school by the deadline.

- | | |
|---|---|
| California Northstate College of Pharmacy | New Mexico, University of |
| Connecticut, University of | Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Pharmacy (NEOU COP) |
| Kentucky, University of | Nova Southeastern University |
| Long Island University | Touro College |
| Maryland, University of | Washington, University of |
| Midwestern University-Chicago | |
| Midwestern University-Glendale | |

February 1, 2011: 4th Regular institutional application deadline. Date your application, fee, letters of reference (if required) and transcripts are due in the PharmCAS office. Pharmacy schools below may also require you to submit a supplemental application and other materials directly to the school by the deadline.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Buffalo, University at | Sciences – Worcester |
| Butler University | Mercer University |
| Charleston, University of | Minnesota, University of |
| Chicago State University | New England, University of |
| College of Notre Dame of Maryland | Palm Beach Atlantic University |
| East Tennessee State University | Presbyterian College |
| Florida, University of | St. John Fisher College |
| Hawaii at Hilo, University of | St. Louis College of Pharmacy |
| Illinois-Chicago, University of | Samford University |
| Lipscomb University | Shenandoah University |
| Maryland-Eastern Shore, University of | South University |
| Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences – Boston | Temple University |
| Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences – Manchester | Tennessee, University of |
| Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences – Manchester | Touro University – California |
| Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences – Worcester | Wingate University |

February 15, 2011: Academic Update closes for all applicants

March 1, 2011: 5th Regular institutional application deadline. Date your application, fee, letters of reference (if required) and transcripts are due in the PharmCAS office. Pharmacy schools below may also require you to submit a supplemental application and other materials directly to the school by the deadline.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences – Albany, NY | Harding University |
| Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences – Colchester, VT | Husson University |
| Appalachian College of Pharmacy | LECOM Bradenton School of Pharmacy |
| Auburn University | LECOM Erie School of Pharmacy |
| Belmont University | Louisiana at Monroe, University of |
| Campbell University | Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) |
| Concordia University | Regis University |
| Creighton University | Saint Joseph College |
| D’Youville College | Thomas Jefferson University |
| | Union University |
| | Virginia Commonwealth University |

DEADLINES BY INSTITUTION (USING PHARMCAS):

Arrayed by institution name, this table displays the deadline for receipt of online application and supporting official transcripts at PharmCAS. If the transcript deadline date below is followed by an asterisk, the school has provided additional information about this requirement on its PharmCAS School Page.

INSTITUTION NAME	PharmCAS APPLICATION AND TRANSCRIPT DEADLINE
Albany College of Pharmacy – Albany, NY	March 1, 2011
Albany College of Pharmacy – Colchester, VT	March 1, 2011
Appalachia College of Pharmacy	March 1, 2011
Auburn University	March 1, 2011

Belmont University	March 1, 2011
Buffalo – SUNY, University at	February 1, 2011
Butler University	February 1, 2011
California Northstate	January 5, 2011
California – San Diego, University of	November 1, 2010
California – San Francisco, University of	November 1, 2010
Campbell University	February 1, 2011
Charleston, University of	February 1, 2011
Chicago State University	February 1, 2011
Cincinnati, University of	December 1, 2010
Colorado Denver Health Science Center, University of	December 1, 2010
Concordia University	March 1, 2011
Connecticut, University of	January 5, 2011
Creighton University	March 1, 2011
Drake University	December 1, 2010
D'Youville College	March 1, 2011
East Tennessee State University	February 1, 2011
Ferris State University	December 1, 2010
Florida, University of	February 1, 2011
Harding University	March 1, 2011
Hawaii, University of at Hilo	February 1, 2011
Howard University	December 1, 2010
Husson University	March 1, 2011
Illinois – Chicago, University of	February 1, 2010
Incarnate Word, University of the	December 1, 2010
Iowa, University of	December 1, 2010
Kentucky, University of	January 5, 2011
LECOM Bradenton School of Pharmacy	March 1, 2011
LECOM Erie School of Pharmacy	March 1, 2011
Lipscomb University	February 1, 2011
Loma Linda University	November 1, 2010
Long Island University	January 5, 2011
Louisiana at Monroe, University of	March 1, 2011
Maryland, University of	January 5, 2011

Maryland Eastern Shore, University of	February 1, 2011
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences – Boston	February 1, 2011
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences – Manchester, NH	February 1, 2011
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences – Worcester	February 1, 2011
Mercer University	February 1, 2011
Michigan, University of	December 1, 2010
Midwestern University – Chicago	January 5, 2011
Midwestern University – Glendale	January 5, 2011
Minnesota, University of	February 1, 2011
Mississippi, University of	November 1, 2010
Nebraska, University of	December 1, 2010
New England, University of	February 1, 2011
New Mexico, University of	January 5, 2011
Notre Dame of Maryland, College of	February 1, 2011
North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy, University of	November 1, 2010
Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Pharmacy (NEOUCOP)	January 5, 2011
Nova Southeastern University	January 5, 2011
The Ohio State University	December 1, 2010
Oklahoma, University of	November 1, 2010
Oregon State University	December 1, 2010
Pacific, University of the	November 1, 2010
Pacific University of Oregon	November 1, 2010
Palm Beach Atlantic University	February 1, 2011
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM)	March 1, 2011
Pittsburgh, University of	December 1, 2010
Presbyterian College	February 1, 2011
Purdue University	December 1, 2010
Regis University	March 1, 2011
Roosevelt University	March 1, 2011
Rosalind Franklin University	March 1, 2011
Saint Joseph College	March 1, 2011
Samford University	February 1, 2011

Shenandoah University	February 1, 2011
South University – Savannah, GA	February 1, 2011
South University – Columbia, SC	February 1, 2011
Southern California, University of	November 1, 2010
Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville	December 1, 2010
St. John Fisher College	February 1, 2011
St. Louis College of Pharmacy	February 1, 2011
Temple University	February 1, 2011
Tennessee, University of	February 1, 2011
Thomas Jefferson University	March 1, 2011
Touro College (NY)	January 5, 2011
Touro University (CA)	February 1, 2011
Union University	March 1, 2011
University of the Sciences in Philadelphia	December 1, 2010
Utah, University of	December 1, 2010
Virginia Commonwealth University	March 1, 2011
Washington State University	December 1, 2010
Washington, University of	January 5, 2011
Wayne State University	December 1, 2010
West Virginia University	December 1, 2010
Western New England College	February 1, 2010
Western University of the Health Sciences	November 1, 2010
Wingate University	February 1, 2011
Wisconsin-Madison, University of	November 1, 2010
Wyoming, University of	December 1, 2010

SUPPLEMENTAL REQUIREMENTS BY INSTITUTION:

Arrayed by institution name, the table displays individual school supplemental requirements and deadlines. Required supplemental credentials and/or fees are to be submitted to **that institution directly, NOT to PharmCAS**. When an asterisk (*) is displayed, please visit the individual [School Page](#) for clarification.

INSTITUTION NAME	SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION DEADLINE	POSTMARKED OR RECEIVED BY DEADLINE	AMOUNT OF FEE
Albany College of Pharmacy – Albany, NY	March 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$100.00
Albany College of Pharmacy – Colchester, VT	March 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$100.00
Appalachian College of Pharmacy	March 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$100.00

Auburn University	March 1, 2011	Received	\$50.00
Belmont University	March 1, 2011	Received	\$50.00
Buffalo, University of	March 1, 2011	Received	\$50.00
Butler University	Not required		Not required
California Northstate	February 5, 2011	Received	\$75.00
California – San Diego	November 1, 2010	Received	\$60.00
California – San Francisco	November 1, 2010	Postmarked	\$60.00/\$80.00
Campbell University	March 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$25.00
Charleston, University of	February 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$50.00
Chicago State University	March 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$50.00
Cincinnati, University of	December 1, 2010	Postmarked	\$50.00
Colorado Denver, University of	December 1, 2010	Postmarked	\$50.00
Concordia University	March 1, 2011	Received	\$50.00
Connecticut, University of	Not required		Not required
Creighton University	March 1, 2011	Received	\$60.00
Drake University	December 1, 2010	Postmarked	\$70.00
Duquesne University	Not required		Not required
D'Youville College	Not required		Not required
East Tennessee State University	Required if invited for interview		
Ferris State University	Not required		Not required
Florida, University of	February 1, 2011	E-submitted by 11:59pm on February 1, 2011	\$30.00
Harding University	March 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$50.00
Hawaii – Hilo, University of	Upon submission of PharmCAS application	Postmarked	\$50.00
Howard University	Required only if invited for interview		\$45.00
Husson University	Not required		Not required
Illinois, University at Chicago	February 11, 2011	Received	\$40/50.00*
Incarnate Word, University of the	December 1, 2010	Postmarked	\$50
Iowa, University of	December 1, 2010	Postmarked	\$100.00
Kentucky, University of	January 5, 2011	Received	\$75.00
LECOM Bradenton School of Pharmacy	Not required		Not required
LECOM Erie School of Pharmacy	Not required		Not required
Lipscomb University	February 1, 2011	Received	\$50.00
Loma Linda University	30 days after receiving the	Received	\$75.00

	invitation email		
Long Island University	January 5, 2011	Postmarked	\$30.00 paper/\$0 online
Louisiana at Monroe, University of	March 2, 2011	Postmarked	\$50.00
Maryland, University of	September 3, 2010 for ED; January 5, 2011 for Regular	Postmarked	\$45.00
Maryland Eastern Shore, University of	February 1, 2010	Postmarked	\$25.00
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences – Boston	February 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$0 before 12/1/10; \$40 after 12/1/10
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences – Manchester, NH	February 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$0 before 12/1/10; \$40 after 12/1/10
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences – Worcester	February 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$0 before 12/1/10; \$40 after 12/1/10
Mercer University	February 1, 2011	Received	\$25.00
Mississippi, University of	January 12, 2011	Received	\$75.00
Michigan, University of	December 1, 2010	Received	\$50.00
Midwestern University – Chicago	March 1, 2011	Received	\$50.00
Midwestern University – Glendale	February 15, 2011	Online must be submitted by 2/15/11	\$50.00
Minnesota, University of	March 1, 2011	Received	\$75.00
Nebraska, University of	December 1, 2010	Postmarked	\$45.00
New England, University of	Not Required		Not Required
New Mexico, University of	January 5, 2011	Postmarked	\$50.00
North Carolina Eschelmann School of Pharmacy	November 1, 2010	Postmarked	\$77.00
Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Pharmacy (NEOUCOP)	January 5, 2011	Postmarked	\$50.00
Notre Dame of Maryland	March 2, 2011	Received	\$55.00
Nova Southeastern University	March 25, 2011	Postmarked	\$50.00
The Ohio State University	Within 3 weeks of invitation to complete the application	Postmarked	\$40.00
Oklahoma, University of	November 1, 2010	Received	\$65.00
Oregon State University	December 1, 2010	Received	\$50.00*
Pacific, University of the	November 1, 2010	Postmarked	\$60.00
Pacific University Oregon	December 1, 2010	Postmarked	\$50.00
Palm Beach Atlantic University	February 1, 2011	Received	\$80.00
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM)	April 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$50.00*
Pittsburgh, University of	January 7, 2011	Received	\$65.00*
Presbyterian College	January 5, 2011	Received	\$60.00

Purdue University	December 1, 2010	Postmarked	\$55.00*
Regis University	March 1, 2011	Received	Not required
Roosevelt University	March 1, 2011	Received	\$150.00
Rosalind Franklin University	March 15, 2011	Postmarked	\$50.00
Saint Joseph College	March 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$125.00
Samford University	February 1, 2011	Received	\$50.00
Shenandoah University	Fee only		\$30.00
South University – Savannah, GA	February 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$50.00
South University – Columbia, SC	February 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$50.00
Southern California, University of	November 1, 2010	Received	\$85.00
Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville	December 1, 2010	Received	\$40/\$50*
St. John Fisher College	March 1, 2011	Received	\$30.00
St. Louis College of Pharmacy	Not required		Not required
Temple University	February 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$50.00
Tennessee, University of	Two weeks after receipt of acceptance letter	Two weeks after receipt of acceptance letter	\$75.00*
Thomas Jefferson University	Active as long as seats remain available	Postmarked	\$25.00
Touro College – New York	January 12, 2011	Received	\$50.00
Touro University – California	April 1, 2011	Received	\$50.00
Union University	March 1, 2011	Received	\$50.00
University of the Sciences in Philadelphia	Not Required		Not Required
Utah, University of	December 1, 2010	Received	\$55
Virginia Commonwealth University	For invited interview candidates		Not required
Washington, University of	January 5, 2011	Postmarked	\$45.00
Washington State University	Within 2 weeks of receipt of the PharmCAS application*	Postmarked	\$50.00*
Wayne State University	Not required		Not required
West Virginia University	10 business days after it has been issued	Postmarked	\$50.00
Western New England College	Not Required		Not Required
Western University	November 1, 2010	Postmarked	\$65.00
Wingate University	February 1, 2011	Postmarked	\$25.00
Wisconsin, University of	November 1, 2010	Received	\$56
Wyoming, University of	Not required		Not required

PHARMACY COLLEGE ADMISSION TEST (PCAT)

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PCAT CAN BE FOUND IN THE 2010-2011 PCAT CANDIDATE INFORMATION BOOKLET, WHICH CAN BE FOUND HERE: [HTTP://WWW.PEARSONASSESSMENTS.COM/HAI/IMAGES/DOTCOM/PCATWEB.INFO/PCAT_CIB.PDF](http://www.pearsonassessments.com/hai/images/dotcom/pcatweb.info/PCAT_CIB.pdf)

ABOUT THE PCAT:

The PCAT consists of 240 multiple-choice items and two Writing topics. You will have approximately four hours to complete the test (plus administrative time for instructions and time for a short rest break about halfway through the test). The PCAT is divided into separate sections, or subtests, each of which is timed separately. During the time allowed for each subtest, you will be permitted to work only on that section. You will not be allowed to go back to earlier subtests or on to later ones. The following table lists the contents and the time allowed for each of the seven subtests in the order that they appear on the PCAT. The listed percentages of item types and content areas included in each multiple-choice subtest are approximate and may vary slightly from test form to test form:

PCAT Subtests

1. Writing (30 Minutes) 1 Writing Topic

Conventions of Language

Problem Solving

2. Verbal Ability (30 Minutes) 48 Items

Analogies 60%

Sentence Completion 40%

3. Biology (30 Minutes) 48 Items

General Biology 60%

Microbiology 20%

Anatomy & Physiology 20%

4. Chemistry (30 Minutes) 48 Items

General Chemistry 60%

Organic Chemistry 40%

Rest Break

5. Writing (30 Minutes) 1 Writing Topic

Conventions of Language

Problem Solving

6. Reading Comprehension (50 Minutes) 6 Passages & 48 Items

Comprehension 30%

Analysis 40%

Evaluation 30%

7. Quantitative Ability (40 Minutes) 48 Items

Basic Math 15%

Algebra 20%

Probability & Statistics 20%

Precalculus 22%

Calculus 22%

** Of the 48 items in each of the 5 multiple choice subtests, 40 items count towards your score and eight are experimental items embedded within each subtest. One of the two writing subtests is also experimental..

There are six content areas measured by the PCAT in seven separate subtests:

- The **Verbal Ability** subtest measures general, non-scientific word knowledge and usage using analogies and sentence completion. There are 48 questions in this section.
- The **Biology** subtest measures knowledge of the principles and concepts of basic biology, including general biology, microbiology, and human anatomy and physiology. There are 48 questions in this section.
- The **Chemistry** subtest measures knowledge of principles and concepts of inorganic and elementary organic chemistry. There are 48 questions in this section.
- The **Reading Comprehension** section measures ability to comprehend, analyze, and evaluate reading passages on science-related topics. There are 6 passages and 48 questions in this section.

- The **Quantitative Ability** subtest measures skills in mathematical processes and the ability to reason through and understand quantitative concepts and relationships, including applications of basic math, algebra, probability and statistics, precalculus, and calculus. There are 48 questions in this section.

Two **Writing** subtests measure the effective use of language conventions and the ability to suggest the solution to a problem in written essays. There is one essay topic in each of two sections that requires you to write a problem-solving essay.

The form of the PCAT that you take will contain experimental multiple-choice items that are embedded within the first five subtests, and one of the two writing subtests will be experimental. The experimental items and essay topic are being tested for future use on PCAT test forms and will **not** affect your score. However, because you will not know which items and essay topic are experimental and which count toward your score, it is very important that you do your best on all the items and sections of the test.

REGISTRATION AND TEST DATES:

- May 7, 2010: PCAT regular registration deadline for the **June 19, 2010** (1st) exam
- July 9, 2010: PCAT regular registration deadline for the **August 21, 2010** (2nd) exam
- September 3, 2010: PCAT regular registration deadline for the **October 16, 2010** (3rd) exam
- December 10, 2010: PCAT regular registration deadline for the **January 22, 2011** (4th) exam

** A majority of Pharmacy Schools recommend that candidates take the June, August or October test in order to assure ample time for the school to receive results for consideration.

FEES:

\$150.00 for online or paper registration

** The Registration Fee covers one personal Score Report sent to you and Official Transcripts sent to up to three colleges of pharmacy or other organizations that you specify when you register.

TEST CENTERS IN PENNSYLVANIA:

670 Temple University -- Philadelphia
 674 Duquesne University -- Pittsburgh
 686 University of Pittsburgh -- Pittsburgh
 678 University of Scranton-- Scranton
 680 Penn State University -- University Park
 675 Wilkes University -- Wilkes-Barre

**Testing centers in other states can be found here: http://www.pearsonassessments.com/NR/rdonlyres/AEF6160A-8FC1-48E5-85EB-38772AE6A24/0/PCAT_Testing_Centers.pdf

TEST TAKING STRATEGIES:

- Familiarize yourself with the test by reviewing the test content descriptions and sample items and with the Practice Tests available at the PCAT website. Harcourt Assessment does not endorse or recommend any other commercially available test preparation materials, which may or may not reflect the current contents of the PCAT.
- Be prepared physically and mentally. Get a good night's sleep the night before your test, eat what you consider a normal meal the morning of the test, and dress comfortably for the test. Because most of the test involves knowledge, skills, and abilities accumulated over time, cramming probably will not help much.
- The heating or air conditioning systems may not be under the control of the Test Center staff, so dress in a manner that will allow you to adapt to different room temperatures.
- Allow plenty of time to get to your Test Center.

- Answer as many multiple-choice items as time allows. Your scores are based on the number of items you answer correctly. Points are not deducted for incorrect responses. If you are not sure which answer choice is correct for an item, eliminate as many incorrect options as you can first. If you have doubts about an answer to an item, change your answer only if you have a valid reason.
- Do not dwell on items that are unfamiliar or difficult, since all the multiple-choice items count the same. In each of the five multiple-choice subtests, first answer items about which you are confident, and then return to answer the more difficult items, if time permits.
- Work quickly but carefully and check regularly to make sure you are marking your answers in the correct place on the Answer Booklet.
- For the Writing sections, take a few moments to first plan your essay on the planning page provided, and allow yourself time to proofread your essay carefully when finished.

HELPFUL WEBSITES:

<http://tpc-etesting.com/pcat/>: Harcourt Assessment PCAT website - registration, requesting transcripts, practice tests

<http://www.kaptest.com/pharmacy>: Kaplan Test Preparation & Admission information

<http://www.test-preparation.net/pcat.htm>: Compare Test Preparation – information on different PCAT preparation methods including costs and quality.

http://www.testprepreview.com/pcat_practice.htm: Free PCAT practice test

<http://www.studyguidezone.com/pcatatest.htm>: Study Guide Zone provides a free downloadable/ printable study guide for the PCAT

INTERVIEWS

SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS:

1. What other careers have you investigated?
2. Why did you choose Pharmacy?
3. Describe the places a pharmacist works.
4. Describe the duties of a pharmacist.
5. Which aspects of pharmacy are attractive to you?
6. Which aspects of pharmacy are unattractive to you?
7. Elaborate on a course you took or an instructor you have had that has helped to shape your career decisions
8. Describe how you learn best.
9. Do you think your grade accurately reflect you ability?
10. What are your strengths?
11. What are your weaknesses?
12. What is your most admirable trait?
13. What is a major non-pharmacy issue in the world today?
14. What is a major pharmacy issue in the world today?
15. What type of human services activities have you been involved in?
16. What did you learn from these experiences?
17. What leadership roles have you been chosen for or taken upon yourself?
18. What did you learn from these experiences?
19. What are your short-term goals?
20. What are your long-term goals?
21. What jobs have you held and how have they affected you?
22. What kind of careers have you investigated and why did you choose on Pharmacy?
23. Of the various functions that you have seen pharmacists perform, or that you are knowledgeable about, could you talk to me about some of those in different settings that you have observed?
24. What is it about pharmacy that is most attractive or appealing to you and why?
25. We have all had experiences where we have had a class that we got a bad grade in or maybe not a strong grade as we wanted but we learned an incredible amount of information. Also, we may have had a course where we got a good grade but did not learn a whole lot. First, if you could tell me about a course where you did have a high grade but you didn't necessarily learn a lot. Also, where is one where you did not get the grade you wanted, but you learned a lot?
26. Do you think that your grades are necessarily a reflection of how you might do in pharmacy school?
27. We all perceive or see that there are major issues in society. What issue do you think is a major issue facing society, not pharmacy related, and why do you see that as being a major issue today?
28. How would you as a pharmacist in society today contribute to countering drug abuse today? What kinds of thing would you do?
29. Could you tell me what kinds of community or personally related activities that you have been involved in, perhaps volunteer work, or something else that you may have participated in?

HELPFUL WEBSITE:

<http://www.studentdoctor.net/>: This website allows you to explore individual schools and student feedback from their experiences regarding interviews at individual schools. Students share information regarding number of interviewers, most difficult question, and other information regarding the interview.

- Go to website homepage
- On left side is a listing of website contents. Find Pharmacy and click on Interview Feedback
- On the Interview Feedback Page, click on Browse Feedback
- This page will allow you to search for an interview by school. Not all schools will have interview feedback; however, it is worth a try to check.

TOP TEN TIPS TO PREPARE FOR A PHARMACY SCHOOL INTERVIEW (BY PHARMACY TIMES)

1. Arrive on time and wear business dress.
2. Be enthusiastic about pharmacy and also be friendly.
3. Answer all questions honestly, saying "I don't know" when that's the case.
4. Know a few of the issues concerning contemporary pharmacy, such as:
 - The impact of managed care on pharmacy practice
 - The movement toward and obstacles concerning patient counseling
 - Will pharmacy practice on the Internet continue to grow?
5. Be aware of some news stories concerning pharmacy and/or health care.
6. Be able to explain what got you interested in pharmacy and be specific. As an example, many candidates say that they want to become a pharmacist to "help people". The follow-up question will be: "There's many ways to help people. Why have you chosen pharmacy to accomplish this?"
7. Use professional language. Avoid inserting slang such as "like" "ya know," and "whatever."
8. Be able to discuss a few different career paths for pharmacists.
9. Be able to explain why you have chosen to interview at this particular pharmacy school.
10. Have some good hard questions when they ask for them-and they will. Examples:
 - What is your student to faculty ratio and how does it compare with national averages?
 - What is your pass rate on the pharmacy boards and, again, how does it compare with national and state averages?
 - What student services are provided through the pharmacy school?
 - What elective tracks have been developed for specialization in particular pharmacy careers?
 - How are student assigned to their experiential practice sites? What is the first year attrition rate and has it been increasing or decreasing in the recent past?

GETTING IN: 7 SURE-FIRE STEPS YOU MUST KNOW

WWW.SCHOLARWARE.COM

Step 1-Get as good of grades as possible. When you have a good GPA in your science classes you don't have to make excuses! Your college grades stay with you for quite some time. If you are not making B's and A's, increase your study hours, cut back your work, or cut back your play time. Unfortunately, "working full-time" doesn't make a great excuse for poor grades. In your heart you may think different, but you must make the "first cut" or you will already have tremendous obstacles to overcome. Use student loans to supplement your living expenses and cost of education. Try and spend money wisely. There are plenty of students that borrowed a little more and got a little better grades and got in! You don't need a 4.0 to get in. Trust us on this one. But to improve your chances, keep your science grades at a B or better. One C is not going to kill you. But several C's could hurt you significantly. Most importantly, earn the best grades possible, especially in sciences and math.

Step 2-Apply to pharmacy schools EARLY! We cannot stress this enough. Find out exactly when the pharmacy school starts accepting applications. Call ahead and get your application packet before hand. Fill out most of it. Write your personal statement (if required) and have an English professor read it. Have a friend read it or even a pharmacist you know read it. Come back to your personal statement after a couple weeks and tune it up. Find out if the schools you are interested in REQUIRE the PCAT (not all schools require it.) If possible, send in your application without your PCAT score if you have not taken the PCAT. Do not delay the processing of your application because you don't have a PCAT score. Schools interested in you will respond with a follow-up letter stating they would like your PCAT and letters of recommendation to "complete" your application. The advantage to this is that you get your application PROCESSED in the first few batches of applications. Then take the PCAT (if necessary) and get the score report out to the schools. Plan on the score report taking a few weeks to get there. If you apply late, you will MISS the first couple rounds of interviews. Schools usually start interviewing early. That means that your application must be to the school (and complete usually) before that time! It is okay to have a semester of "in progress" classes. Be careful not to apply academically too early. You want to apply when you have most or all of the "core science" prerequisites completed. The "suggested" course work can be in progress. This time is usually the summer between your sophomore and P1 year.

Side note: The University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy requires that all science and math prerequisite courses be completed by the end of the Spring semester (by the end of April) and other courses must be completed before the P1 semester begins in the fall.

Some schools do rolling admissions and accept the top students as they apply and interview. The University of Pittsburgh will begin interviews in December for conditionally accepted pre-pharmacy students who have completed requirements and other students will be interviewed in January and February as soon as we have their fall grades and supplemental application. The initial acceptance letters will be sent after the interview process is complete.

Step 3-Get some solid letters of recommendation (if necessary). Yes you may have to use a "committee" letter, but make sure your other letters are personal e.g. speak about specific accomplishments and character. Even a committee letter can do this if you "get to know" the people on the committee. There is nothing wrong with submitting three letters plus a committee letter. Don't have the committee letter be your only letter. The admission officers read these letters! It is one of their ways to find out more about you. Make sure your letters speak good things about you. Get those individuals that would write you a good letter to write the letter. Don't have anyone "questionable" write the letter. If you don't have a choice at your school, GET TO KNOW the people who write the letter. It is perfectly acceptable to meet these people several different times to "visit" so they can get to know you better. Be yourself and be genuine!

Step 4-Study for the PCAT! The PCAT is an important test and required for many pharmacy schools. This test should not be underestimated. If you got mostly A's in your core sciences, you will do well on the PCAT (unless you cheated in college!) Since you got A's, you will likely need to review a little to refresh your memory...especially the chemistry, organic chemistry and Quantitative Reasoning. If you got mostly B's in your core sciences, you will want to spend a fair amount of time brushing up on the material. If you got C's you will really need to work hard and study. You will need to take time off and dedicate 100 percent for a month or two to study the material. No matter what your grades, you should consider the study plan we have detailed in a document entitled "Preparing for the PCAT" and obtain our PCAT sample test software. The CD-ROM will estimate where you are before you take the real thing.

Step 5-Build a relationship with the pharmacy school(s) of choice. This is one of the most important steps of all. We cannot stress enough how important it is that the people know that you are interested in their school and recognize your application" when they see it. Call the school and speak with the admissions dean. Tell them you are sincerely considering applying to "their school" and like to come and "tour" the school. Set an appointment (they usually like this). Look around on your own. Ask if you can observe a day. A lot of schools actually a list of who visits and spends time there. You want to be on that list. Meet a pharmacy student and become a casual friend. He/she will help you find opportunities to get "better known" at the school. Ask when the pharmacy school's open house is and start a relationship then. Doing this shows your true interest and initiative. Don't forget to dress appropriately. For any visit, the minimum is dress slacks and a button down shirt (forget the tie until the interview!) Ladies, a casual skirt and blouse or slacks will do. Don't wear sandals. You want to look "business casual" not "casual" and not business. Every encounter counts.

Side note: We do keep notes on students who visit Student Services and talk to Marcia Borrelli, Roberta Gosney or Dr. Corey about applying to Pitt's Pharmacy School.

Step 6-Get some pharmacy experience. Get to know the profession you are interested in. For example, just because you "don't know a pharmacist" doesn't mean you can't get to know a one. Someone you know has a friend who is a pharmacist. Take advantage of that. In fact, most pharmacists are willing to share their profession with you. The pharmacist will likely spend an hour or two after hours telling you about their profession. What a great experience you will have watching and learning. In fact, take a small notebook and before you leave at the close of the afternoon, ask questions of the pharmacist. You will get the experience the admissions people are looking for. And think of the neat things you can talk about in your interviews (besides your grades!)

Step 7-Prepare for your interviews. The main purpose of the school interviews is for the school to get to know you better and for you to get to know the school better. The interviews and visit is NOT TO REVIEW your grades. If your interviews are all about grades, then you have not set yourself apart from the others in your group. It is very important that the school understands your commitment to completing the program (paying your tuition the whole time). An empty seat in a year costs the school a lot of money and one less well-trained/educated pharmacist! Be genuine and sincere. If you don't have interpersonal skills, you better start developing them. A pharmacist should have good interpersonal skills and you must be able to carry on a mature, interesting and fun conversation with your interviewer. Practice interviewing with your parents or even a neighbor. Yes, be able to answer why you want to be a pharmacist. Think of your interview as a conversation about you, who you are and why you think you will be a great pharmacist. An interviewer can often sense sincerity, so don't try and fake it.

Side Note: Keep in mind that some interviews may be open while others may be closed, meaning some interviews may have your file, while some may not. I suggest, if you are unsure whether the interview is open or closed, assume it is a closed interview and try to convey as much information to the interviewer as possible, without assuming they know anything about you. It is important to be enthusiastic; however, make sure that your enthusiasm isn't conveyed as aggressiveness.

GOOD LUCK GETTING IN!

Please feel free to contact RxPREP President Sarah Rindfuss at sorc+rxprep@pitt.edu or slr38@pitt.edu with any questions or concerns about the application process that you may have!!