

# Pharm.D. Application Guide

2019

A Prescription for  
Inspiration



Welcome to the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy, your prescription for inspiration! This informative guide will provide you with information you need to prepare your journey to our Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) program. Located near historic Bricktown Oklahoma City, OUCOP is part of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, a comprehensive academic health center with access to a variety of clinics, hospitals, research facilities, and pharmacies. Please schedule a visit with us soon!

The University of Oklahoma  
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### Why Pharmacy?

**An exciting career choice:** Pharmacy combines science, health care, computer technology, business, math and counseling. Often, jobs in the sciences involve limited interaction with the public, but pharmacy offers a rare balance of independence and interaction with patients, which can be very appealing if you're a "people person." I

**Room to grow:** There is a need for pharmacists in a wide variety of work settings: community pharmacies, hospitals, long-term care facilities, the pharmaceutical industry, mail order pharmacy centers, managed care organizations, and government agencies (Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs, Public Health Service). What's more, those with advanced pharmacy training can often move easily between these different areas. Pharmacy can offer many interesting opportunities over the course of your entire career.

**Excellent earning potential.** Pharmacy is one of the most financially rewarding careers. In 2016, over 90% of pharmacists report earning more than \$100,000 per year.

**A trusted profession\*.** Pharmacists are consistently ranked as one of the most highly trusted professionals because of the important care and health-related service they provide.



### Preparation for Pharmacy School Checklist:

- Good Written & Verbal Communication Skills
- Good Math and Science Abilities
- Develop Good Study Habits
- Take the PCAT
- Talk to the Admissions Director About Application
- Complete Pre-Requisite Courses
- Maintain a Good GPA
- Gain Either Paid or Unpaid Pharmacy Experience
- Perform Community Service and Leadership Activities
- Visit the OU College of Pharmacy

### Possible Pharmacy Career Paths

#### Community Pharmacy Practice

- Mail Order
- Chain Pharmacy Practice
- Independent Ownership
- Specialized Compounding Service
- Veterinary Pharmacy
- Home or Hospice Care

#### Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Practice

- Anticoagulation
- Cardiovascular risk
- Diabetes
- HIV

#### Consulting Pharmacy

- Nursing Home Practice
- Geriatric Pharmacy

#### Public Service Pharmacy Practice

- Military
- Public Health Service (Indian Health Service, Prisons)
- Veterans Affairs

#### Institutional (Hospital or Health-System) Pharmacy Practice

- Medication Distribution and Control
- Quality Assurance and Quality Improvement
- Medication Safety and Drug Information
- Specialty Clinical Practice
  - Cardiology
  - Critical Care
  - Infectious Disease
  - Oncology
  - Pediatrics
  - Organ Transplants

#### Managed Care Pharmacy Practice

- Benefits Manager
- Formulary Management
- Insurance

#### Nuclear Pharmacy

#### Pharmaceutical Industry

- Research and Development
- Management
- Communications and Advertising
- Regulatory Affairs
- Sales

#### Pharmacy Professional Associations

- National and State Pharmacy Professional Organizations

#### Poison Control Centers

#### Regulatory Agencies

- CDC
- DEA
- FDA
- State Boards of Pharmacy



# WHY OU COLLEGE OF PHARMACY? YOUR PRESCRIPTION FOR OPPORTUNITY

## OVERVIEW

### 1. Residencies

Are you interested in direct patient care and clinical services? Then a residency may be a good option for you! Residencies are anywhere from 1-2 years depending on your career goals. Your Post-Graduate Year One (PGY1) is a general program designed to expose you to a variety of specialties. If you choose to do a PGY2, you would select a specialty to complete. OUCOP currently offers residency specialties in the following areas:

- Ambulatory Care
- Cardiology
- Infectious Diseases
- Managed Care
- Oncology
- Pediatrics

### 2. Degree Options and Specialty Tracks

OUCOP offers the opportunity to focus your Pharm.D. electives into a specialty area known as a degree option or specialty track. These offer you additional education and training in the following areas:

- Ambulatory Care (Degree Option)
- Leadership (Degree Option)
- Nuclear Pharmacy (Specialty Track)
- Pediatrics (Degree Option)
- Research (Specialty Track)

### 3. Interdisciplinary Opportunities

As a comprehensive academic health sciences center, OUHSC provides interdisciplinary education, training, and networking between 7 different health science colleges including:

- Medicine and Physician Assistants, Dentistry, Nursing, Allied Health, Public Health, and Graduate Programs

### 4. Research

As a Tier 1 major research university, OUCOP faculty are active in basic science and clinical research in areas such as cancer, diabetes, neurosciences, and infectious diseases. OUCOP faculty currently hold grants on local, state, and federal levels from organizations such as NIH, CDC, American Colleges of Clinical Pharmacy, American Cancer Society, and more. OUCOP also houses the OU Research Imaging Facility, a key component in imaging research and the operator of the world's first Biomarker Generator.

### 5. Unique Opportunities

OUCOP offers other additional unique opportunities for students including:

- Operations of the only nationally certified Poison & Drug Information Center in the state of Oklahoma
- An on-site fully operational nuclear pharmacy, one of only two such pharmacies located on a college of pharmacy campus in the U.S.
- University owned pharmacies, hospitals, clinics, and over 100 other training sites in a vast array of pharmacy settings
- Students will complete 4<sup>th</sup> year rotations in either primarily the OKC area or the Tulsa area

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY**  
**DOCTOR OF PHARMACY CURRICULUM**  
**ACADEMIC YEAR 2018-2019**

**FIRST PROFESSIONAL YEAR [P-1]**

<b>Fall Semester</b>		<b>Cr Hrs</b>	<b>Spring Semester</b>		<b>Cr Hrs</b>
7122	Pharmacy Practice I	2	7124	Pharmacy Practice II	4
7104	Biochemistry	4	7133	Principles of Drug Action I	3
7112	Pharmaceutical Mathematics	2	7422	Principles of Drug Action II	2
7456	Human Physiology	6	7153	Pharmaceutical Immunology	3
7614	Pharmaceutics I	4	7712	Drug Information Systems	2
			7624	Pharmaceutics II	4
Total Credit Hours		18	Total Credit Hours		18

**SECOND PROFESSIONAL YEAR [P-2]**

<b>Fall Semester</b>		<b>Cr Hrs</b>	<b>Spring Semester</b>		<b>Cr Hrs</b>
7212	Pharmacy Practice III	2	7222	Pharmacy Practice IV	2
7143	Pharmaceutical Biotechnology	3	7713	Pharmacy and Health Care Mgmt II	3
7834	Pharmacokinetics	4	7802	Patient Assessment	2
7704	Pharmacy and Health Care Mgmt I	4	7824	Pharm. Care Cardiology	4
7733	Clinical Communications	3	7833	Pharm. Care Respiratory and Renal	3
7813	Pharm. Care Health Module	3	7891	Pharm. Care Dermatology	1
				*Elective(s)	2-4
Total Credit Hours		19	Total Credit Hours		17-19

**THIRD PROFESSIONAL YEAR [P-3]**

<b>Fall Semester</b>		<b>Cr Hrs</b>	<b>Spring Semester</b>		<b>Cr Hrs</b>
7313	Pharmacy Practice V	3	7323	Pharmacy Practice VI	3
7732	Pharmacy Law and Ethics	2	7812	Drug Literature Evaluation	2
7163	Biostatistics	3	7512	Clinical Toxicology	2
7853	Pharm. Care Endocrinology	3	7883	Pharm. Care Hematology/Oncology	3
7862	Pharm. Care GI/Rheumatology	2	7894	Pharm. Care Neurology/Psychiatry	4
7873	Pharm. Care Infectious Diseases	3	7882	Nonprescription Products	2
	*Elective(s)	2-3		*Elective(s)	3-4
Total Credit Hours		18-19	Total Credit Hours		19-20

**FOURTH PROFESSIONAL YEAR [P-4]**

<b>Required Practicums</b>		<b>Cr Hrs</b>	<b>Selective Practicums</b>		<b>Cr Hrs</b>
7010	Community Pharmacy	4		Selective	4
7020	Hospital Pharmacy	4		Selective	4
7004	Adult Medicine I	4		Selective	4
7024	Ambulatory Care I	4		Selective	4
7030	Ambulatory Care II	4			
7970	Seminar Pharmacy Practice	2			
Total Credit Hours		22	Total Credit Hours		16

\*Electives – 9 hours of elective courses are required in the Pharm.D. curriculum.

\*\*Students have twelve months to complete a minimum of nine one-month practicums after completion of the three years of required professional courses. Each student will complete five required and four selective practicums. Selective practicums may be additional rotations in the required areas, as well as 7090 Research, 7094 Selective and/or other specialty areas as available. The order in which the practicums are scheduled is determined by the Assistant Dean for Experiential Education.

# HOW DO I START MY PHARMACY CAREER?

## APPLICATION PREPARATION TIPS

### 1. Academics

- **Challenge yourself academically!** Take as many upper-level science and math courses as possible. Diversify your coursework with broad-based liberal arts courses such as communications, literature, or psychology and sociology to develop critical thinking and communication skills and expand your knowledge.
- Keep your GPA at a 3.0 or above to stay competitive for an interview.
- Don't take the PCAT until you've finished, at minimum: calculus, microbiology, either physiology or anatomy, and the first organic chemistry.

### 2. Demonstrating Care for Others

- **Be involved on your campus and in your community!** Community service plays a huge part in demonstrating a sincere desire to give back to others and making the world around you better. A great way to be involved on campus is to join a pre-pharmacy club or pre-health club which will expose you to a variety of information about your chosen profession and usually provides volunteer and networking opportunities as well.
- **Be a leader!** Find ways to develop leadership skills and to demonstrate leadership. This tends to expose you to opportunities in which they work on teams and learn valuable skills such as self-awareness, self-management, time management, interpersonal skills and accountability. Health care professionals are leaders in their communities so it's never too early to begin being a leader before you begin school!
- **Get some pharmacy experience!** It is important to see your chosen profession in action so you can determine if the investment health professions training requires is right for you. This helps you expand more on your desire and motivation for the profession that goes beyond the basics of liking math and science, wanting to help others, and having a good, well-paying job. Pharmacy experience can be gained either for pay or in a volunteer or job shadowing setting.

### 3. Demonstrating Desirable Attributes in a Pharmacist

- **Begin building relationships now!** Most health professions will require letters of reference. Typically, these will come from professors, advisors, employers, or volunteer supervisors. It will also help you develop interpersonal skills and to network for future employment opportunities.
- Learn about emotional intelligence and begin developing your self-awareness, self-management, and awareness of others.
- Look for ways to develop your problem-solving, critical thinking, and communication skills.
- Broaden your experiences to include a diverse array of other cultures, languages, and people.

### 4. Plan Your Application Path Early

- Contact the OUCOP Student Affairs Office ([oupharmd@ouhsc.edu](mailto:oupharmd@ouhsc.edu)) to set up an advisement appointment either in person or by telephone.
- Keep in mind that the application process takes almost a year in advance of the year you plan to start so timing is crucial. All pre-requisites must be completed by August 5 of the year you plan to enter and you must have a PCAT score to be considered for an interview.
- Determine if you plan to apply via the Early Decision Program (additional information later in this guide) or the Regular Decision Application pathway as this will affect the timing of your submitted application materials.

# PHARMACY COLLEGE ADMISSION TEST (PCAT) INFORMATION

## OVERVIEW

### 1. What is the PCAT?

The PCAT is a computer-based exam for admission that is designed to assess an applicant's knowledge in the following areas: Biological Processes, Chemical Processes, Critical Reading, Quantitative Reasoning, and a Writing Assessment. The Writing subtest (30 minutes) presents a prompt, or topic, stating a problem that you will be asked to address by proposing a solution in an original essay. In the Biological Processes and Chemical Processes subtests (40 minutes, 48 items each), items are presented either in a set accompanying a short passage or as stand-alone items that can be answered independently. For the Critical Reading subtest (50 minutes, 48 items), all items are in sets that accompany reading passages. The Quantitative Reasoning subtest (50 minutes, 48 items) consists entirely of stand-alone items, with many of the items presented in a word-problem or problem-solving scenario. A full test blueprint and other additional information regarding registration and test dates may be found on PCAT's website at <http://www.pcatweb.info>.

### 2. When Should I Take the PCAT?

Because the PCAT is a competency-based exam, it is best not to attempt the PCAT until you have completed at minimum, calculus, general biology, microbiology, at least either human anatomy or physiology, and the first organic chemistry although it is better if you can have both semesters of organic chemistry completed. The majority of applicants will register and take the exam in the same application year they are applying. The PCAT is typically offered beginning each July, September, October, November, January, and February. A PCAT score is required in order to evaluate an application for admission (unless you received approval for a standardized exam substitution request). If you are planning to apply for the Early Decision Program then you must take the exam no later than September of the application year. PCAT scores should be designated to the Pharmacy Centralized Application Service (PharmCAS), (code 104) at the time of exam registration. PCAT will assign you a CID number and you will need to enter that number in your PharmCAS application in order to match up the scores to your application. Questions regarding score release should be directed to PCAT.

### 3. How is the PCAT Scored and What is a Competitive Score?

The PCAT is a standardized exam and is scored in two ways. One is a scaled score between 200-600 points. The second is a percentile ranking between 1-99<sup>th</sup> percentile. The writing assessment is scored on a scale of 1-6. OUCOP only considers the percentile score. To be competitive for an interview, applicants should have at least a 35<sup>th</sup> percentile composite score with no subscore below the 19<sup>th</sup> percentile. OUCOP uses the highest exam score for admission so students may take the exam multiple times if necessary.

### 4. How Can I Prepare for the PCAT?

There are many ways to prepare for the PCAT and you may find a combination of some of the following suggestions may help you when developing your study plan:

- Don't attempt the PCAT until you complete the coursework covered on the test blueprint.
- Save your textbooks in those courses.
- Purchase the practice exams available on PCAT's website. These are the only practice tests that use actual old PCAT questions.
- Purchase a study guide that works best for your learning style. The most popular guides seem to be Kaplan and Dr. Collins.
- Set up a disciplined study plan a few months in advance of your test date. The PCAT is not an exam that you can "cram" for.
- Typically you do not need to pay for a prep course unless you've taken the exam multiple times and still are unable to achieve a competitive score.

# PRE-PHARMACY COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS

## OVERVIEW

### 1. Application Advisement

Interested students are encouraged to contact the OUCOP Office of Student Affairs to arrange advisement regarding the application process and pre-requisite course requirements. It is recommended that students do this early in their educational journey. Appointments may be completed in person or by telephone. To schedule an appointment, email [oupharmd@ouhsc.edu](mailto:oupharmd@ouhsc.edu) or call 405-271-6598. A pre-requisite course worksheet is provided on the next page to assist with planning.

### 2. Pre-Pharmacy Information

Admission to the Doctor of Pharmacy program requires successful completion of approximately 64 semester hours of approved pre-pharmacy courses also known as pre-requisite coursework.

To be eligible for admission, applicants must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. permanent resident, or hold DACA status at the time of application.

These are minimum requirements. We highly recommend, if there is time, applicants also successfully complete a biochemistry course, at least one upper-level science, both human anatomy and physiology, and statistics. In order to best be prepared for the PCAT, it is highly recommended that applicants complete general biology, microbiology, and at least either human anatomy or human physiology. Our first preference is for physiology if a student is unable to take both anatomy and physiology.

### 3. Additional Information Regarding Pre-Requisite Course Requirements

When calculating the pre-requisite GPA, the best grades are selected for the biological sciences requirement and the electives requirements (i.e. we start with grades of "A" and work our way down until the required number of hours have been included). Please note that microbiology w/lab is required for admission and that grade must be included in the calculation of the GPA. All biology/chemistry requirements cannot be for non-majors. If a student repeats a pre-requisite, the most recent grade is used to calculate the pre-requisite GPA.

Electives can be chosen from these subject areas:

Fine Arts (non-performance based), History, Political Science, Anthropology, Humanities, Geography, Philosophy, Literature, Social Science, Behavioral Science, Foreign Language, Communications, English, Business (may include management, marketing, economics, accounting), Computer Science, Statistics, General Studies, Leadership. Students are expected to have a computer proficiency level at or above basic word processing skills. Students are encouraged to select a diverse set of courses as preference is given to those with a broad-based educational background that includes a diversity component.

## University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy Pre-Requisite Worksheet

Full admission information is available on our website at <http://pharmacy.ouhsc.edu>.

Effective for entry in Fall 2019

Date: _____		First Name: _____		Last Name: _____	
College(s) Attended: _____		Degree(s): _____		Date(s) _____ Major: _____	
Overall GPA: _____		Pre-requisite GPA: _____		Science GPA: _____ Math GPA: _____ Last 60 Hours: _____	
PCAT Test Date: _____		PCAT Scores: Comp _____		CR _____ Bio _____ Chem _____ QR _____	

Math/Science Requirements	REQUIRED HOURS	COMPLETE (Y/N=Yes/No)	GRADE	HOURS	SEMESTER	YEAR
Calculus	3					
Physics	3					
General Chemistry I w/lab	4-5					
General Chemistry II w/lab	4-5					
Organic Chemistry I	3					
Organic Chemistry II	3					
Organic Chemistry Lab	2					
Biological Science	4					
Biological Science	4					
Microbiology w/lab	4-5					
<b>Elective Requirements</b>						
English I	3					
English II	3					
Elective	3					
Elective	3					
Elective	3					
Elective	3					
Elective	3					
Elective	3					
Elective	3					
Elective	3					
Elective	3					

1. These are minimum requirements. We highly recommend, if possible, applicants also successfully complete a biochemistry course, at least one upper-level science, both human anatomy and physiology, and statistics. Our first preference is for physiology if a student is unable to take both anatomy and physiology.

2. In order to best be prepared for the PCAT, it is highly recommended that prior to taking the exam, applicants complete general biology, microbiology, at least either human anatomy or human physiology, and at least Organic Chemistry I.

3. Approved Elective Subject Areas: Fine Arts (non-performance based), History, Political Science, Anthropology, Humanities, Geography, Philosophy, Literature, Social Science, Behavioral Science, Foreign Language, Communications, English, Business (may include management, marketing, economics, accounting), Computer Science, Statistics, General Studies, Leadership. Students are expected to have a computer proficiency level at or above basic word processing skills. Students are encouraged to select a diverse set of courses as preference is given to those with a broad-based educational background that includes a diversity component.





## 2 YEAR PLAN TO COMPLETE PRE-PHARMACY REQUIREMENTS

Please be aware that this only applies to those who have to start from the beginning. If you have previous college credits or AP credits, your plan would look differently. Email [OUPharmD@ouhsc.edu](mailto:OUPharmD@ouhsc.edu) if you are in this situation to determine your individualized plan.

Fall Semester Year 1	Minimum Required Hours	Total Hours
General Biology 1 w/lab or General Zoology w/lab	4-5	4-5
General Chemistry 1 w/lab	4-5	4-5
English Composition 1	3	3
College Algebra	3	3
Elective (See approved elective subject list below.)	3	3
		17-19
Spring Semester Year 1	Minimum Required Hours	Total Hours
General Microbiology	4-5 (hours vary as it may or may not include lab depending on your school)	4-5
General Chemistry 2 w/lab	4-5	4-5
English Composition 2	3	3
Calculus (Business and Biocalculus are acceptable)	3	3
Elective	3	3
		17-19
Summer Semester Year 1	Minimum Required Hours	Total Hours
General Physics	3-5 (hours vary as it may or may not include lab depending on your school)	3-5
		3-5
Fall Semester Year 2	Minimum Required Hours	Total Hours
Organic Chemistry 1	3-5(hours vary as it may or may not include lab depending on your school) (Be sure to enroll in the Organic Chemistry Lab if your school offers it separately.)	3-5
Human Physiology	4	4
Electives	9	9
		16-18
Spring Semester Year 2 (Take PCAT & Apply)	Minimum Required Hours	Total Hours

Organic Chemistry 2	3-5 (hours vary as it may or may not include lab depending on your school) (Be sure to enroll in the Organic Chemistry Lab if your school offers it separately.)	3
Introductory Biochemistry <b>OR</b> Additional biology course (Recommended, not required)	3-5 (hours vary as it may or may not include lab depending on your school)	3-5
Electives	9	9
		15-17
<b>Total Required Hours</b>		<b>65-74</b>

**NOTES:**

1. We accept AP/IB and CLEP credit for pre-pharmacy coursework as long as it is transferred to and appears on your primary college or university's transcript and can be verified.
2. Pre-requisites may be completed at any regionally accredited U.S. college or university. Those attending a 2 year college should make plans to transfer to a 4 year university for the third year if necessary.
3. An individual will want to have certain subjects completed prior to attempting the PCAT. It is not recommended to attempt the PCAT until following completion of the Fall semester Year 2.
4. If you choose to take a combined Human Anatomy and Physiology course, you must complete both Human Anatomy & Physiology 1 and Human Anatomy & Physiology 2 for us to consider them equivalent to the separate courses.
5. Please note that some schools combine organic chemistry lecture and labs into one course. At minimum, each student must complete 8 total hours of organic chemistry including lab.
6. A minimum of 24 hours of electives must be successfully completed. Approved subject areas for electives may be selected from the areas listed below. **(Please note, the examples are not exhaustive nor specifically required. They are just a reference tool.)**
7. **It is highly recommended (though not required) that students select the following electives as a part of their 24 hours:**
  - a. A statistics course
  - b. A computer science course
  - c. A course with a diversity component
  - d. An economics course
  - e. A communications course (interpersonal or public speaking)
  - f. A behavioral science course (psychology or sociology)

**APPROVED ELECTIVE SUBJECT AREAS:**

Subject Area	Examples
<b>Fine Arts (non-performance based)</b>	Intro to Music; Film Appreciation; History of Rock and Roll; Dance Appreciation; World Music; Art History or Art Appreciation
<b>History</b>	US History Before 1865; US History Since 1865; World History;

<b>Political Science</b>	American Government; US Political System; Intro to Public Administration
<b>Anthropology</b>	Introduction to Anthropology; General Anthropology; Cultural Anthropology
<b>Humanities</b>	General Humanities; Introduction to Western Civilization
<b>Geography</b>	World Political Geography; Introduction to Geography; Cultural Geography
<b>Philosophy</b>	Introduction to Philosophy; Early Greek Philosophers; Philosophy of Religion; Religious Studies
<b>Literature</b>	American Literature; British Literature; World Literature; Mythology
<b>Social Science</b>	Criminal Justice; Criminology; Social Studies; Archaeology; Linguistics; Law
<b>Behavioral Science</b>	General Psychology; Introduction to Sociology
<b>Foreign Language</b>	Spanish, French, German, Russian, Native American Languages, Arabic, Italian, Chinese, Japanese, etc.
<b>Communications</b>	Intro to Public Speaking; Intro to Business & Professional Speaking; Interpersonal Communication; Journalism; Media; Public Relations
<b>English</b>	Advanced Grammar; History of English Language; Gender Studies; Ethnicity Studies; Medical Terminology; Writing Courses
<b>Leadership</b>	Intro to Leadership; Presidential Leadership Class; Leadership Seminar; Military Leadership
<b>Business</b>	Intro to Business Administration; Microeconomics; Macroeconomics; Personal Finance; Finance; Marketing; Public Relations; Economics
<b>Statistics</b>	Intro to Probability & Statistics; Biostatistics; Research Statistics (regardless of subject area)
<b>Computer Science</b>	Intro to Computer Programming; Programming Languages; Software Development; Web Development; Word Processing; Spreadsheet Functions



## RECOMMENDED 3 YEAR PLAN TO COMPLETE PRE-PHARMACY REQUIREMENTS

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1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	Minimum Required Hours	Total Hours
General Biology 1 w/lab or General Zoology w/lab	4-5	4-5
General Chemistry 1 w/lab	4-5	4-5
English Composition 1	3	3
College Algebra	3	3
Elective	3	3
		17-19
2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester	Minimum Required Hours	Total Hours
Human Physiology	4-5	4-5
General Chemistry 2 w/lab	4-5	4-5
English Composition 2	3	3
Calculus (Business and Biocalculus are acceptable)	3	3
Elective	3	3
		17-19
3 <sup>rd</sup> Semester	Minimum Required Hours	Total Hours
Organic Chemistry 1	3-5 (hours vary as it may or may not include lab depending on your school)	3-5
Human Anatomy OR another Biology course	4-5	4-5
Electives	6	6
		13-16
4 <sup>th</sup> Semester (Take PCAT)	Minimum Required Hours	Total Hours
Organic Chemistry 2	3-5 (hours vary as it may or may not include lab depending on your school) (Be sure to enroll in the Organic Chemistry Lab if your school offers it separately.)	3-5
Organic Chemistry Lab (if separate)	2	2
General Microbiology w/lab	4-5 (hours vary as it may or may not include lab depending on your school)	4-5
Electives	6	6
		15-18
5 <sup>th</sup> Semester (Apply)	Minimum Required Hours	Total Hours
Introductory Biochemistry	3	3

Additional biology course (Recommended, not required)	3-5 (hours vary as it may or may not include lab depending on your school)	3-5
Electives	3	3
Introductory or General Physics	3-5 (hours vary as it may or may not include lab depending on your school)	3-5
		12-16
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Semester</b>	<b>Minimum Required Hours</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>
Upper Level Biology or Chemistry course	3-4	3-4
Electives	3	3
Additional Biology or Chemistry course or elective	3	3
		9-10

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2. Pre-requisites may be completed at any regionally accredited U.S. college or university. Those attending a 2 year college should make plans to transfer to a 4 year university for the third year if necessary.
3. An individual will want to have certain subjects completed prior to attempting the PCAT. It is not recommended to attempt the PCAT until following completion of the 4<sup>th</sup> semester.
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<b>Anthropology</b>	Introduction to Anthropology; General Anthropology; Cultural Anthropology

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<b>Geography</b>	World Political Geography; Introduction to Geography; Cultural Geography
<b>Philosophy</b>	Introduction to Philosophy; Early Greek Philosophers; Philosophy of Religion; Religious Studies
<b>Literature</b>	American Literature; British Literature; World Literature; Mythology
<b>Social Science</b>	Criminal Justice; Criminology; Social Studies; Archaeology; Linguistics; Law
<b>Behavioral Science</b>	General Psychology; Introduction to Sociology
<b>Foreign Language</b>	Spanish, French, German, Russian, Native American Languages, Arabic, Italian, Chinese, Japanese, etc.
<b>Communications</b>	Intro to Public Speaking; Intro to Business & Professional Speaking; Interpersonal Communication; Journalism; Media; Public Relations
<b>English</b>	Advanced Grammar; History of English Language; Gender Studies; Ethnicity Studies; Medical Terminology; Writing Courses
<b>Leadership</b>	Intro to Leadership; Presidential Leadership Class; Leadership Seminar; Military Leadership
<b>Business</b>	Intro to Business Administration; Microeconomics; Macroeconomics; Finance; Marketing; Public Relations; Economics
<b>Statistics</b>	Intro to Probability & Statistics; Biostatistics; Research Statistics (regardless of subject area)
<b>Computer Science</b>	Intro to Computer Programming; Programming Languages; Software Development; Web Development; Word Processing; Spreadsheet Functions

# ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

## OVERVIEW

### 1. Admissions Process

OUCOP engages in a holistic admissions process. This means that each aspect, both academically and non-academically of the applicant's record is important. Eligibility for an interview is based on an evaluation of the applicant's academic record including the pre-requisite, overall, science, math, and last 60 hours GPAs in addition to the PCAT or other standardized exams, as well as an applicant's non-academic record including their experiences and attributes.

### 2. Admissions Policies

OUCOP is an equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religion, nationality, creed, sexual orientation or disability. All incoming students are expected to meet required technical standards. Additionally, applicants should be aware all COP students are subject to criminal background checks and drug screening. Applicants should be aware that admission requirements defined below are minimum requirements. The admissions process is competitive and most applicants who are admitted far exceed the minimum. All applicants must meet the same admission requirements and follow the same application procedures to be considered for admission.

#### Coursework Policies

1. Applicants must have and maintain a cumulative (overall) GPA of 2.50 on a 4.0 scale in all college coursework. OUCOP does not recognize academic forgiveness or academic bankruptcy policies in calculating an overall GPA.
2. All attempts of a course are included in the calculation of the overall, science, and math GPAs.
3. The most recent grade of a course that has been re-taken will be used to calculate the pre-requisite and last 60 hours GPAs.
4. Admission to the Doctor of Pharmacy program requires completion of a minimum of 64 semester hours of specific [pre-requisite coursework](#).
5. All pre-requisite coursework must be completed at a regionally accredited college or university.
6. Pre-requisite coursework may be satisfied if taken outside of the U.S. as long as the applicant provides a [World Education Services](#) course-by-course evaluation. WES is the ONLY acceptable foreign course evaluation accepted by OUHSC.
7. Acceptance of foreign coursework to satisfy pre-requisite course requirements is at the discretion of the College of Pharmacy. Inquiries regarding acceptance of foreign coursework may be directed to the [Director of Recruitment & Admissions](#). The Director cannot tell someone what pre-requisites may be satisfied by foreign coursework unless they provide a copy of the WES evaluation. It is recommended this be done at least one year prior to a planned entry year.
8. The 6 hours of required English coursework must be completed at a U.S. college or university. Foreign coursework will not be accepted to meet this requirement.
9. Applicants must have either completed or be on track to complete the pre-requisite coursework requirements by August 5th of the year they plan to enter.
10. Applicants must successfully complete all pre-requisite coursework with a "C" (C+, C, C- grades are acceptable) or better by August 5th of the year they plan to enter.

#### Standardized Exam Policies

1. Applicants must take either the [Pharmacy College Admission Test \(PCAT\)](#) or the [Graduate Record Examinaton \(GRE\)](#) or the [Medical College Admissions Test \(MCAT\)](#).
2. The preferred exam is the PCAT but there may be occasions we will accept a GRE or MCAT score in lieu of the PCAT. If you wish to substitute the PCAT for one of these exams, you must submit a [standardized exam substitution request form](#). The form may be obtained on our website.

### PCAT Policies:

1. Although no minimum requirement is defined for the PCAT, it is generally recommended that applicants achieve at least a 35th percentile composite score with no score less than the 19th percentile in each subscore on the PCAT.
2. Applicants applying for the Early Decision application track who take the PCAT in September must submit the preliminary score report via email to [OUPharmD@ouhsc.edu](mailto:OUPharmD@ouhsc.edu) no later than September 10<sup>th</sup>.
3. The highest PCAT exam score is considered for admission.
4. The college will not accept PCAT scores older than three calendar years from the date an applicant plans to enter.
5. The PCAT writing assessment score from the applicant's PCAT exam is used to evaluate an applicant's written communication skills.

### GRE Policies:

1. A minimum overall scaled score of 300 is required if you substitute the GRE. The highest score will be used for admission. GRE scores are only reportable for 5 years after the test date.
2. GRE scores must be reported to the OU Health Sciences Center. PharmCAS does not report GRE scores. The score release code for OUHSC is 6902.
3. The GRE writing assessment score is used to evaluate an applicant's written communication skills.

### MCAT Policies:

1. A minimum overall scaled score of 500 is required if you substitute the MCAT. The highest score will be used for admission. Only MCAT exams taken since April 2015 will be acceptable.
2. PharmCAS does not report MCAT scores. Please go to [the AAMC website](#) for instructions on how to have a copy of your official MCAT scores mailed to OUCOP. Please be sure to have them mailed to: OU College of Pharmacy, Attn: Admissions, 1110 N Stonewall Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73117.
3. The MCAT does not include a writing assessment. Therefore, if an applicant substitutes an MCAT exam in lieu of the PCAT exam and is invited for an interview, the applicant must complete an on-site writing assessment that day in addition to other interview activities and should plan accordingly.

### General Policies

- Applicants must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. permanent resident, or currently hold DACA status at the time of application.
- Applicants are required to participate in the interview process and have a successful interview to be eligible for admission.
- Interviews are not guaranteed and are by invitation only.
- Interviews are only conducted in-person. Teleconferencing or video conferencing are not permitted.
- Applicants must be eligible for licensure as a pharmacy intern in the state of Oklahoma. Applicants should refer any questions regarding licensure to the Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy (OSBP) ([www.pharmacy.ok.gov](http://www.pharmacy.ok.gov)).
- Applicants must have a reasonable chance to successfully complete the professional curriculum.
- Accepted students are required to undergo a background check and random drug screen.
- Applicants must meet the technical standards.
- As a state-supported institution, a preference is given for Oklahoma residents but the college encourages any qualified applicant to apply. Non-residents who are invited to interview may submit a non-resident tuition waiver application but no guarantee is made to receive one as it is dependent upon available funding.
- Requests to defer enrollment are considered on a case-by-case basis and should be for extenuating circumstances. After paying an enrollment deposit, an applicant may request in writing an enrollment deferral for one year. The written request should include the specific reason for the request. Additional information may be requested to verify the request before a decision is rendered. Questions regarding a possible enrollment deferral should be sent to [OUPharmD@ouhsc.edu](mailto:OUPharmD@ouhsc.edu)

Full information on our admission requirements may be found on our website at <https://pharmacy.ouhsc.edu>.



# APPLICATION INFORMATION

## OVERVIEW

OUCOP only accepts a class to begin each fall. Only completed applications are considered for a possible interview. A completed application to be considered for an interview consists of a verified PharmCAS application, 2 letters of reference, standardized exam scores, and the TOEFL (if required). **If you are invited to interview, you will also be required to complete an OUHSC application which will be by invitation only.** There are two application tracks: early decision and regular decision. Please read the information below carefully to determine which track might be right for you:

### 1. Early Decision Application Track (Deadline: Tuesday following Labor Day every year)

OU participates in the PharmCAS early decision program. This program allows you to select one PharmCAS school for application. The early decision process allows applicants to know by the last Thursday in October of the school's decision. See the PharmCAS instructions on their website for full details. **The deadline for early decision applications is September 4, 2018.**

Students applying for the early decision track should be aware of the following:

1. The application must be complete by September 4. This includes the PharmCAS application, standardized exam scores, and two letters of reference.
2. The latest an applicant can take the PCAT to be considered for early decision are the September 2018 dates. If an applicant is taking the September PCAT then unofficial scores must be submitted to [oupharmd@ouhsc.edu](mailto:oupharmd@ouhsc.edu) no later than Monday, September 10.
3. Early decision interviews will be Saturday, October 13. An interview is not guaranteed simply by selecting to apply to the early decision program.
4. If you are not invited for an interview, your application will be rolled over to the regular decision applicant pool and any new information received throughout the cycle will be considered for a possible interview.
5. You will be notified of a decision no later than October 19, 2018.
6. If you are accepted as an early decision applicant, you are obligated to accept the offer and will have 10 business days to pay a \$100.00 non-refundable admission deposit.

### 2. Regular Decision Application Track (Deadline: June 1<sup>st</sup> each year)

Admission to the Doctor of Pharmacy program is on a competitive basis. **For admission to Fall 2019, the PharmCAS application, two letters of reference and standardized exam scores must be submitted by June 3, 2018.** Applicants should successfully complete all required pre-requisite courses and provide the college with an official transcript showing any missing course grades by August 5, 2019.

Regular admission interviews will be conducted with set dates in February and April 2019 (specific dates TBA) of the application year. If additional interviews are needed, they will be conducted on an as-needed basis in May through July 2019.

Therefore it is highly recommended that applicants apply earlier than the deadline to receive full consideration when there is more space in the class. The college employs a rolling admissions process which means that positions are filled as we interview.

Failure to meet deadlines or to submit any of the required application materials will constitute a late or incomplete application and will not be considered for admission.

# STEPS TO APPLYING

## Step 1. PharmCAS Application (Opens July 18, 2018 for Fall 2019 entry)

Application for admission to the Doctor of Pharmacy program requires completion of the Pharmacy College Application Service (PharmCAS) application. It can be found at <https://www.pharmcas.org>. PharmCAS processes your academic information providing one central location to send transcripts, references, and PCAT scores while applying to multiple pharmacy schools. The PharmCAS deadlines are the Tuesday after Labor Day for the Early Decision Program and June 3rd for the Regular Decision Track.

- Create your PharmCAS account. Make note of your assigned PharmCAS ID #. This number must be entered in your supplemental application if you are invited to interview.
- Enter your reference contact information in your application. A minimum of two references are required. References are completed electronically so as soon as you save your reference information, a web link will be e-mailed to them to complete the online form.
- Arrange to have official transcripts sent from all colleges or universities attended. Refer to the PharmCAS instructions for specific information on how to complete this step to prevent delays.
- When registering for the PCAT, make sure to designate PharmCAS (code 104) as the recipient of the scores. If you took the PCAT in a previous application year, you will need to re-release the scores even if you designated PharmCAS previously. You may do this by going to PCAT's website at <http://www.pcatweb.info>. Make note of your assigned PCAT CID # as you will need to enter this in your PharmCAS application so that scores may be matched to your application.
- Please note that in order to verify an application, PharmCAS **only** needs all official transcripts. Processing takes approximately 4-6 weeks. References and PCAT scores may be submitted later so you don't have to wait for those to submit an application. However, all required materials must be received by our college before an application will be reviewed for a possible interview.
- If you are enrolled in the fall semester of the application year, you will need to submit an Academic Update to PharmCAS. This update window opens on December 15<sup>th</sup>. It is required for all applicants to complete this step if taking fall courses. It is a two-step process. You will log back in to your application, enter your fall grades and your projected enrollment (if you plan to take spring or summer courses) and then you will have an official transcript sent to PharmCAS so the fall grades can be verified. Both steps must be completed. Sending a transcript alone is not sufficient.

## Step 2. Recommendation Letters

The Admissions Committee requires each applicant to provide two letters of recommendation which provide insight into the applicant's personal, academic, and professional characteristics. Applicants should solicit letters from those who can best attest to your ability to be successful in pharmacy school. Examples are professors, employers, volunteer supervisors, or health care professionals, preferably a pharmacist. These individuals should know the applicant well, and be in a position to evaluate the applicant's potential for academic success and a career in pharmacy. We do not accept letters from family, friends or clergy members. Although a minimum of two letters is required, you may enter up to four names in the PharmCAS application and if four recommendations are received, all four will be evaluated.

## Step 3. Standardized Exam Scores

Applicants must take either the [Pharmacy College Admission Test \(PCAT\)](#) or the [Graduate Record Examination \(GRE\)](#) or the [Medical College Admissions Test \(MCAT\)](#).

The preferred exam is the PCAT but there may be occasions we will accept a GRE or MCAT score in lieu of the PCAT. If you wish to substitute the PCAT for one of these exams, you must submit a [standardized exam substitution request form](#) which may be found on our website at <https://pharmacy.ouhsc.edu>. Please refer to the Admission Requirements page or the PCAT information page in the application guide for more information on our requirements and recommendations regarding standardized exams.

#### **Step 4. Holistic Admissions Application Review**

OUCOP engages in a holistic admissions process. This means that each aspect of the applicant's record is important. Eligibility for an interview is based on an evaluation of the applicant's academic record including the pre-requisite, overall, science, math, and last 60 hours GPAs in addition to the PCAT (or other substituted standardized exam score) and other academic factors as well as an applicant's non-academic record including their experiences and attributes.

In general, applicants can be considered competitive for an interview if they have at least a 3.0 GPA in the areas mentioned above and a composite PCAT score of the 35<sup>th</sup> percentile with no subscore lower than the 19<sup>th</sup> percentile (or a 300 scaled score on the GRE or a scaled score of 500 on the MCAT).

Additionally, applicants should have no negative letters of recommendation and should demonstrate those qualities desirable in a healthcare professional such as good communication skills, leadership, community service activities, and a demonstration of pharmacy knowledge. Although not required, it is highly recommended that an applicant gain experience in a pharmacy setting whether paid or unpaid experience.

#### **Step 5. OUHSC Application (By Invitation Only)**

OUHSC requires a supplemental application. Only those invited for an interview will receive information on submitting the supplemental application. Those invited to complete the supplemental will need to do so prior to the selected interview date. You will need your PharmCAS Application ID # to enter on your supplemental application. The supplemental application fee is \$50.00. Do not send official transcripts to the university. Official transcripts should be submitted directly to PharmCAS.

#### **Step 6. The Personal Interview (October, February, April, May-July as needed)**

The Admissions Committee requires a personal interview to assess an applicant's communication skills as part of the admission process. Interviews are by invitation only and sent only via e-mail. OUCOP utilizes the multiple mini interview (MMI) format. Applicants complete a circuit of at least 5 stations designed to assess the applicant's attributes, problem-solving skills and critical thinking skills. You may want to conduct an internet search to learn more about the MMI process.

Early decision interviews are typically conducted in early October. Regular admission interviews will be conducted with set dates in February and April 2019 (specific dates TBA) of the application year. If additional interviews are needed, they will be conducted on an as-needed basis in May through July 2019.

An invitation to interview does not imply acceptance for admission, and all expenses incurred during the interview process are the responsibility of the applicant. Applicants must interview in person on their assigned day and time. Interviews cannot be conducted via telephone or video conferencing due to the nature of the activities that day.

# NEXT STEPS IF YOU ARE ACCEPTED

## OVERVIEW

If you received a letter of acceptance, then congratulations! All of your hard work has paid off! However, your work isn't done yet. You will still need to do the following so that you can matriculate in the fall:

### 1. Confirmation of Acceptance and Deposit

1. All students accepted for admission to the Doctor of Pharmacy program are required to confirm their intention to enroll and attend with a \$100.00 non-refundable deposit. This deposit is applied toward tuition and fees during the first term.
2. Accepted early decision program applicants will have 10 business days to pay the deposit from the date of notification of their acceptance from OUHSC Admissions & Records.
3. Regular decision applicants accepted prior to March 1st will be required to pay the deposit no later than March 1st unless otherwise instructed.
4. Regular decision applicants accepted after March 1st will have 7 business days to pay the deposit from the date of notification of their acceptance from OUHSC Admissions & Records.
5. Offers of admission are conditional based on the successful completion of requirements and adherence to all admission policies prescribed by the Admissions Committee.

### 2. Financial Aid

We encourage all students who believe they will require financial aid to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (<https://fafsa.gov>) as quickly as possible once it opens on October 1st. Additionally, you may wish to seek out other ways of paying for pharmacy school. Some students look at options such as the military, National Public Health Service Corps, or the Indian Health Service. You do not have to be Native American to participate in IHS. However, please be aware these programs are limited and require you to repay the assistance with a time commitment after graduation. Although OUCOP does offer some scholarships, they typically are not available until beginning in your second year of pharmacy school and are not in large enough amounts to cover the cost of attendance.

### 3. Criminal Background Checks and Drug Screening

All accepted students are required to complete a criminal background check and undergo drug screening.

- Criminal Background Check: Upon acceptance by OUCOP, the student will receive an email from a company called Certiphi. Students must follow the instructions in this email to complete the CBC. This step must be completed by June 1<sup>st</sup> if the applicant has been accepted prior to that date and by August 5<sup>th</sup> if accepted after June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Drug Screening: OUHSC requires annual drug screening for all students. Accepted students will be required to complete this step prior to matriculating in August. The screening is random so a specific date cannot be released but it will typically occur sometime over the summer prior to matriculation.
- Applicants are responsible for all associated fees for the criminal background check and drug screening.

### 4. Immunizations and Transcripts

- Immunizations: OUHSC requires health professions students to have certain immunizations in order to participate in educational activities and training. Accepted students will receive specific instructions regarding providing proof of immunizations beginning in April. These requirements must be completed by August 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Official Transcripts: Accepted students must submit an official transcript directly to OUCOP showing spring grades or any degrees received by August 5<sup>th</sup> prior to beginning the fall semester.

# LIFE IN PHARMACY SCHOOL

## OVERVIEW

The Pharm.D. program consists of 4 years with your first three years being in the classroom setting and your fourth year consisting of 9 one month rotations in a variety of pharmacy settings. OUCOP's curriculum is a systems-based curriculum meaning there is an emphasis on disease states, body systems, and treatments within that context. In addition, students take various courses in management, toxicology, pharmacy law, and many more. We have a 6:1 student-faculty ratio providing many opportunities for students and faculty to interact on a meaningful level. OUCOP has state-of-the-art technology in the classroom that provides students the opportunity to view podcasts of lectures at their own pace while studying. With small class sizes, it is easy for students to get to know each other, their professors, the staff, and others as they participate in student life at OUCOP!

### 1. Student Organizations

There are 14 different student organizations just at OUCOP alone! In addition, there are OUHSC student organizations as well as an OUCOP student ambassador program. OUCOP student organizations are the lifeblood of the college and allow students the opportunity to explore professional opportunities, leadership opportunities, networking opportunities, community service opportunities, as well as engagement in the profession of pharmacy. Many of our organizations have been recognized on campus and nationally for their community outreach efforts and several of our students serve in national leadership positions for their organizations.

### 2. Experiential Education

All pharmacy students are required to complete a certain amount of experiential education hours while in pharmacy school. This is part of your training to become a licensed pharmacist. These experiences begin in your first year and culminate with your fourth year rotations. Your Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences (IPPE) in your first three years is coordinated by the Office of Experiential Education and this office will also coordinate your Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE) (commonly referred to as rotations) in your fourth year. In addition to our pharmacies, hospitals, and clinics on the OUHSC campus, we have over 100 other training sites where students can complete their experiential education. Students will complete experiential education in either primarily the Oklahoma City area or the Tulsa area.

### 3. Life in OKC

OUCOP is just minutes away from historic Bricktown in OKC, home to the NBA's OKC Thunder, many restaurants, nightlife, movies, and shopping as well as the Oklahoma River, home to world-class rowing facilities, outdoor activities such as ziplines and white water rafting, and sight-seeing tours. Additionally, OKC is connected by three major interstates (I-35, I-40, I-44) making it easy to maneuver from surrounding areas to the campus. The OKC area offers many museums, a zoo, concerts, Broadway shows and other theater, ballet, a symphony, botanical gardens, sports, and many other cultural and recreational activities. The cost of living is among some of the most affordable in the US. And Oklahomans are known for their friendliness and hospitality as well as some excellent down home cooking!

