Pharmacy: Cure for the Common Career

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What is Pharmacy?

The practice of preparing, preserving, dispensing and compounding medical drugs

But, the actual job is getting even broader!
Pharmacists also:

- Provide a range of health-related services:
  - Counseling
  - Immunizations
  - Chronic Disease Management
  - Specialty Medication
What does a Pharmacist do?

- **Medication Expert** – understands the composition of drugs and how they should best be used for **patient health and wellness**

- **Key player** in patient **healthcare team** to optimize patient health and minimize cost of pharmaceutical care

- **Educates** and **counsels** patients on **correct usage of medication** while monitoring patient progress; one of the **most accessible** healthcare professionals

- **Advises healthcare professionals** on appropriate medication usage

- Works in **various settings** – community pharmacies, hospitals, clinics, compounding labs and many more!
Pharmacy as a Career Choice

Science & Math

Information Technology

Healthcare

Counseling

Interpersonal Communication

Business
Pharmacy as a Career Choice

Pharmacists as Health Professionals must have:

- Desire for Lifelong learning
- Strong aptitude in math & science
- Passion for helping others and patient advocacy
- Desire to work as part of a healthcare team
- Attention to detail
- High ethical standards
- Strong interpersonal communication skills
- Critical thinking & problem-solving skills
Oregon State University
Doctor of Pharmacy Program

- Four Year Program
  - Corvallis – OSU Campus (2 years)
  - Portland – OHSU Campus (1 year)
  - Experiential Rotations (1 year)
- Strong Experiential Component
- Dual Degree Options – Ph.D. and MBA
- Approx. 600 applications for approx. 80 places

March 4, 2015
Applying to Pharmacy School

• Complete **prerequisites** prior to enrolling

• **PharmCAS application** (includes essay)

• **OSU** Supplemental Application

• Letters of **Recommendation**

• Learn about the Profession NOW!—**Gain experience** in Pharmacy / Healthcare

• **Extracurricular**: Volunteer, Student Leadership, Pre-Pharmacy Organizations
OSU Required Pre-Pharmacy Courses

**Science Courses:**
- General Chemistry with lab
- Organic Chemistry with lab
- Principles of Biology with lab
- General Physics with lab
- Adv. Cell & Molecular Biology
- Microbiology* with lab
- Human Physiology*
- Human Anatomy*
- Biochemistry*

*Upper-division highly encouraged and taken at 4-year university

**Non-Science Courses:**
- Calculus
- Principles of Statistics
- Micro or Macro Economics

*Upper-division highly encouraged and taken at 4-year university

**Please note:** Students must complete pre-requisites prior to enrolling in Pharm.D. program. Students must also complete their bachelor’s degree by the end of the 2nd Pharm.D. year.
OSU Class Statistics for Class of 2018

• Pre-pharmacy science GPA of 3.4
  • (2.75 Science GPA required for Oregon residents; 3.00 for out-of-state to be eligible for admissions)

• 98% of our P1 class has their bachelor’s degree

• ~64% female

• Average age when beginning program 26, but students range from 21 to 49

• States represented in College include:
  • California
  • Hawaii
  • Idaho
  • Indiana
  • Nevada
  • Texas
  • Washington
  • Alaska
  • Pennsylvania

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Successful Student Profile:

• Make **good grades**, especially in science classes
• Take **more upper-division science classes** (e.g. quantitative chemistry, genetics, immunology)
• **Finish** a bachelor’s degree
• Work or volunteer experience in **pharmacy or other health care settings**
• Stay informed about **current issues** in pharmacy profession
• Secure **good letter** writers
• Demonstrate a **strong desire to become a pharmacist** and strong interest in the pharmacy profession
• Serve in **leadership positions** and demonstrated strong collaborative ability on teams
• Demonstrate ability to respond with **resilience, confidence, and adaptability** in stressful situations
• Show strength in **intellectual pursuits** and **community awareness**
• Act with **ethics** and **integrity** in all situations
Questions?

Keep in touch!

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