



DOCTOR OF PHARMACY PROGRAM

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

M E R C E R U N I V E R S I T Y

Application deadline is 'A UFW1, 2011' to be considered for the class entering in August 2013.

What are the materials required to apply to the Doctor of Pharmacy program?

- Primary application must be submitted online through PharmCAS prior to the deadline (<http://www.pharmcas.org>). All U.S. college transcripts and PCAT scores must be sent to PharmCAS.
- Letters of Reference must be submitted to PharmCAS. References written on your behalf have the option of being submitted electronically or in paper format.
- Supplemental Application must be submitted online via the Mercer COPHS website prior to the deadline (<http://cophs.mercer.edu/SupplementalApplication.shtm>).
- Supplemental Application fee (\$25) must be submitted to our office prior to the deadline. Check or money order made out to Mercer University can be sent to the address below. Please make sure you include your name and PharmCAS ID number on your check or money order.

Pharmacy Admissions
Mercer University COPHS
3001 Mercer University Dr, PAC-121
Atlanta, GA 30341

- Pharmacy College Admissions Test (PCAT) Scores. PCAT scores must be submitted to PharmCAS (**Use code: 104**), and must be received before your file can be considered complete and ready for review. Only scores from June 2008 to January 2013 will be accepted in the current admissions cycle.

Do I need a Degree?

Although a bachelor's degree is not required, it is used to benefit an applicant's file. In recent years, over 65% of the entering class received degrees prior to enrollment.

When and how can I submit my application?

Applications for the entering class of Fall 2013 will open in June 2012 and will close on March 1, 2013. Interviews will begin in September and applicants will be accepted to the Doctor of Pharmacy program throughout the duration of the interview process on a continual basis until the class has been filled. All required courses do not need to be completed at time of application but will need to be completed prior to matriculation in August. **PharmCAS applications may be submitted before letters of reference and PCAT scores are received by PharmCAS.** These applications will not be considered complete and ready for review until all materials are received.

What are the required courses needed for applying to the Doctor of Pharmacy Program?

General Chemistry (two courses with labs)	Calculus (one course)
Organic Chemistry (two courses with labs)	Statistics (one course)
Biochemistry (one course, lab optional)	English Composition (two courses)
General Biology (two courses with labs)	Speech (one course)
Anatomy (one course with lab)	Humanities Electives (two courses)
Physiology (one course with lab)	Economics (one course)
Microbiology (one course with lab)	Social/Behavioral Science Electives (two courses)
Physics (one course with lab)	
Other Electives to total 90 semester hours	

Admission to the four-year Doctor of Pharmacy degree program requires a minimum of 90 semester hours (135 quarter hours) of pre-professional education at a regionally accredited college or university in the United States.

What are the restrictions on these courses?

- Grades below "C" cannot be accepted toward completion of these requirements.
- All science courses (except Biochemistry) must include a laboratory with each lecture and must be majors courses. Non-majors courses will not fulfill the requirement.
- General Biology courses can be fulfilled with courses in genetics, cellular biology, molecular biology, developmental biology, or zoology.
- English Composition can be fulfilled with courses designated as Writing Intensive.
- The speech requirement should be fulfilled with a Public Speaking course.
- The economics requirement must be fulfilled with either a Macroeconomics or Microeconomics course.
- Humanities courses may be chosen from one or more of these areas: art, foreign language, history, literature, music, philosophy, religion, or theatre.
- Social / Behavioral Science electives may be chosen from one or more of the following areas: accounting, anthropology, business, computer science, economics, geography, health, history, management, political science, psychology, or sociology.
- No credit will be accepted for military science or physical education courses.
- All pre-pharmacy course requirements must be satisfied prior to matriculation. Applicants should include their plans for completing outstanding coursework in their PharmCAS applications.

What other courses can strengthen my application?

Behavioral Psychology	Immunology
Ethics	Medical Terminology
Genetics	Medical Microbiology

Additionally, applicants are strongly encouraged to take both Macroeconomics and Microeconomics courses (at least one course is required).

How many letters of reference do I need to submit?

A minimum of two letters of reference are required for applications to be considered complete. Applicants are encouraged to submit up to four letters of reference through PharmCAS. Letters from college professors, advisors, work supervisors and pharmacists are preferred. Letters from immediate family members and politicians are not accepted.

How should I prepare for the PCAT?

Preparation for the PCAT should be determined based upon individual preference. Below are some resources and materials used by applicants in the past.

PCAT Websites

www.pcatweb.info
www.pcatprepinfo.com

PCAT Study Guides

Barron's PCAT
Kaplan
McGraw-Hill's PCAT

Independent Study/PCAT Prep

Dr Putzer's PCAT Review	www.testprep.com	ep.ucf.edu/pcat.asp
Kaplan	www.kaplan.com	test.com/pharmacy
The PCAT Prep Class	www.pcatprepclass.com	
The PCAT Professor	www.pcatprofessor.com	
Study Guide Zone		

What are the preferred or competitive stats?

The Admissions Committee prefers applicants to have an overall undergraduate GPA of a 3.0 with a preferred PCAT composite percentile score of a 50. The accepted class averages in recent years have been a 3.4 GPA and 72 PCAT score.

What does the admissions committee look at when reviewing an application?

Admissions requirements and standards are designed to ensure scholastic success in the professional PharmD program. Selecting a candidate for the future practice of pharmacy involves many important factors, including academic background, PCAT scores, letters of reference, pharmacy/work experience and extracurricular activities. A qualified applicant will be invited to visit the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences for a required personal interview.

What is the curriculum and schedule of a first year pharmacy student?

Please see the attached curriculum outline. For more information and a detailed class schedule please visit the registrar’s website (www.mercer.edu/registrar). The College’s Doctor of Pharmacy program curriculum uses a hybrid-block schedule. This means the pharmacy student will have some courses (e.g., Practice of Pharmacy, Introduction to Pharmacy, and electives) one day each week of the semester and others every week day for a specific number of weeks.

Can I work while in pharmacy school? Can the program be accelerated?

Many students do work as pharmacy interns while in the Doctor of Pharmacy program. The college does not discourage part-time employment provided it does not conflict with the student’s ability to maintain satisfactory academic performance. The Doctor of Pharmacy program cannot be accelerated. Summer and winter breaks are used by students for completion of internship requirements for licensure. The summer between third and fourth year is also used for Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences after completion of the didactic curriculum.

What is the tuition for the Doctor of Pharmacy Program? Are there any additional fees / expenses outside of tuition?

Tuition per semester	\$15,	736.00
Technology Fee per semester	\$	150.00

Please note that the above tuition and fees are for the 2012-2013 academic year and are subject to change each year. There typically has been a slight increase in tuition each year (in recent years it has been between 3 and 4 percent).

Other expenses you should consider include those for books, living (e.g., housing, food), transportation, etc.

Who can I contact for information pertaining to financial aid?

Student Financial Planning Office:	(678) 547 – 6444
Student Financial Planning Website:	http://atlanta.merceraid.com
FAFSA on the Web	www.fafsa.ed.gov

Where can I find information about housing for students?

For information about on and off-campus housing options for Pharmacy students please visit the homepage for campus life (<http://campuslife.merceratlanta.org>).



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MERCER UNIVERSITY

Pharm.D. Curriculum

First Professional Year

Fall		Spring	
Introduction to Pharmacy	2	Health Care Delivery	2
Research Design and Literature Evaluation	2	Leadership and Advocacy in Pharmacy	2
Communication Skills for Pharmacists	3	Pharmacy Management	3
Pharmacy Law and Ethics	2	General Principles of Pharmacotherapy	2
Principles of Pharmaceutical Sciences	3	Pharmaceutics	4
Medical Immunology	3	Principles of Pharmacokinetics	2
Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience I	1	Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience II	1
Practice of Pharmacy I	2	Practice of Pharmacy II	2
	<u>18</u>		<u>18</u>

Second Professional Year

Fall		Spring	
Nervous Systems Disorders I	5	Cardiovascular/Renal Disorders I	4
Nervous Systems Disorders II	4	Cardiovascular/Renal Disorders II	4
Integument and Special Senses	3	Cardiovascular/Renal Disorders III	5
Pharmaceutics Laboratory	1	Elective II	2
Elective I	2	Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience IV	1
Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience III	1	Practice of Pharmacy IV	2
Practice of Pharmacy III	2		<u>18</u>
	<u>18</u>		

Third Professional Year

Fall		Spring	
Musculoskeletal Disorders and Pain	5	Pulmonary Disorders	3
Endocrine Disorders	5	Infectious Disease I	4
Gastrointestinal Disorders	3	Infectious Disease II	3
Elective III	2	Hematology/Oncology	3
Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience V	1	Elective IV	2
Practice of Pharmacy V	2	Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience VI	1
	<u>18</u>	Practice of Pharmacy VI	2
			<u>18</u>

Fourth Professional Year

Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences

Community Pharmacy Practice	5
Institutional Pharmacy Practice	5
Acute Care Pharmacy Practice	5
Acute Care Pharmacy Practice	5
Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Practice	5
Service Based Pharmacy Practice	5
Elective I	5
Elective II	5
Pharmacotherapy Case Conference	1
	<u>41</u>