Pharmacy is the art and science of preparing and dispensing medications, and the provision of drug and health information to the public. Pharmacists are vital members of health-care teams. They work with patients to determine their medication needs and the care required to best meet these needs. This is called pharmaceutical care, the goal of which is to improve an individual patient’s quality of life.

Is pharmacy for you?

We invite you to consider a career in pharmacy. Have you ever wondered about the answers to these questions?

- How are new drugs discovered?
- Why do some antihistamines make people sleepy?
- Is it all right to take medications with food?
- What are the best drugs to treat high blood pressure?
- How do forensic scientists determine if a drug is toxic?

Pharmacy students:
- are interested in helping people;
- are interested in health care and science;
- have strong communication skills;
- can analyze and problem-solve;
- are precise and careful with details; and
- are willing to accept the responsibilities of a health-care provider.
To practise pharmacy, you need:

- a degree in pharmacy which includes experiential learning;
- successful completion of Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada Exam; and
- registration with a provincial regulatory body.
YOUR CAREER OPTIONS

PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY
Pharmacists are involved in research, development of drug information materials and sales of pharmaceutical products. Advanced studies may be needed for some careers in industry.

HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL CENTRES
Pharmacists provide pharmaceutical care to patients and drug information services to other health-care practitioners. They can specialize in fields such as oncology, infectious disease, psychiatry and other areas.

COMMUNITY PHARMACIES
Pharmacists own, manage or are employed in pharmacies, where they provide pharmaceutical care to patients, including preparing and dispensing medications and answering questions about drugs.

FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL AGENCIES
Pharmacists develop policy related to drugs and deal with laws to protect the public with respect to drug products and pharmacy practices.

UNIVERSITIES
Pharmacy professors educate future professionals and conduct research. Advanced studies are needed for this career path.

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As a pharmacy student, you will:

- provide comprehensive medication therapy management
- chronic diseases management
- medication assessment
- provide drug information
- provide medications
- work on interprofessional health care teams
The practice of pharmacy is changing. Today’s pharmacists are highly respected as the medication management experts of the health care team. They collaborate with patients, their families and other health care providers to benefit the health of Canadians.

The college’s mission is to develop skilled and caring pharmacy and nutritional professionals and scientists, and to create knowledge—through excellence in teaching, research, scholarship, outreach and engagement—for the health of individuals and communities.

Doctor of Pharmacy

We offer a four-year program leading to the degree of Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD), after completing 60 credit units of pre-pharmacy courses in Arts and Science or other programs.

The program provides a high quality, challenging education with significant clinical practice experience, increased integration and application of material throughout, and is delivered in a way that actively involves students in the teaching-learning process and develops self-directed habits for lifelong learning.

Our goal is to graduate medication therapy experts competent as care providers, communicators, collaborators, leaders/managers, advocates, scholars and professionals.

The PharmD program is designed to prepare graduates for a wide range of careers as pharmacists, who may be employed in or operate their own store in the community, or work in hospitals or medical centres providing pharmaceutical care for patients and drug information for health care providers.

The pharmaceutical industry employs pharmacists in research, production, testing and sales of pharmaceutical products.

Pharmacy graduates may also be employed in federal or provincial government agencies such as the departments of health.

Cultural competency

To develop effective practitioners, the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition provides students a series of opportunities in various communities throughout Saskatchewan and beyond to gain hands-on experience and develop skills in cultural competency.
Experiential Learning

40 weeks of experiential learning in addition to immersion visits enables students to develop technical, professional and patient care skills in community, hospital, direct and non-direct patient care, and other settings.
The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition at the University of Saskatchewan (uSask) offers students:

- a nationally accredited program, leading to outstanding career opportunities
- dedicated faculty who are excellent teachers, scholars and researchers
- knowledgeable, helpful staff
- state-of-the-art, integrated facility that supports and enables collaboration between students, faculty and researchers in all health science disciplines
- many scholarships and bursaries specifically for pharmacy students
- state-of-the-art, patient-focused professional skills teaching facility (Apotex Pharmacy Professional Practice Centre)
- access to hospitals and community pharmacies to get hands-on experience
- opportunities to learn about post-graduate pharmacy residencies and graduate studies in pharmacy
- the opportunity to become a member of the Canadian Association of Pharmacy Students and Interns and attend its national conference for students

Join the Pre-Pharmacy Club
The college offers a Pre-Pharmacy Club for students interested in the profession of pharmacy. Learn about the PharmD program from current students, instructors and pharmacists. Contact pre.rx@usask.ca.

Students with disabilities
The college welcomes enquiries from students with disabilities. Contact our Associate Dean Academic or the university’s Access and Equity Services at 306-966-7273 or aes@usask.ca for more information on disability services.

Practical experience
Students receive extensive practice experiences during the program in a community pharmacy, hospital setting and/or specialty practice site such as a research lab, clinical practice in psychiatry or the Medication Assessment Centre.

Education Equity Program
Our Education Equity Program encourages Aboriginal students to enrol in the college. Up to four spaces are available each year for Aboriginal students applying through this program. If there are more applicants to the program than spaces, students are then selected on the basis of admission selection criteria. Applicants who wish to be considered for this program are requested to indicate this on their application forms.
Get involved

Pharmacy and nutrition students are among the most active students on campus and in the community. The Saskatchewan Pharmacy and Nutrition Students’ Society organizes a wide range of social, athletic and professional events, which include: welcome barbeque, action/sports nights, beach volleyball tournament, Christmas Formal, Professional Enhancement Days, kids medicine education program and Pharmacy Awareness Month activities.
High school subjects for pre-pharmacy

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition does not require the completion of high school-level subjects for admission, as this is a non-direct entry program requiring university-level prerequisite coursework. However, the following subjects are often required for university-level pre-pharmacy courses:

- Grade 12 level mathematics (pre-calculus recommended)
- Grade 12 level biology
- Grade 12 level chemistry

Province-specific subjects can be found at admissions.usask.ca.

Admission overview

The college admits up to 90 pharmacy students each year. These spaces are available primarily for Saskatchewan residents; however, a number of spaces are available for non-Saskatchewan residents.

Admission to the program is based on:

- your calculated post-secondary admission average
- Test of Critical Skills
- Personal Video Interview

Admission average

To assess academic performance, an admission average is calculated based on:

- the 60 credit units of prerequisite coursework (weighted at 40% of the admission average), and
- the cumulative average obtained on all courses at the university level (weighted as 60% of the admission average).

Prerequisite coursework

Candidates for admission must have completed 60 credit units (or equivalent), including the following prerequisite subjects, by April 30 of the year admission is desired. At least 24 credit units must have been taken in a single academic year.

- Biology: 6 credit units (BIOL 120.3 and BIOL 121.3 at uSask)
- Chemistry: 3 credit units general and 6 credit units organic (CHEM 112.3, CHEM 250.3, and CHEM 255.3 at uSask)
- English: 6 credit units (ENG 110.6 or two of ENG 111.3, 112.3, 113.3, 114.3 at uSask)
- Biochemistry: 3 credit units biomolecules and 3 credit units metabolism (BMSC 200.3 and BMSC 230.3 at uSask)
- Physiology: 6 credit units human body systems (BMSC 207.3 and BMSC 208.3 at uSask)
- **Mathematics**: 3 credit units calculus (MATH 125.3 at uSask)
- **Statistics**: 3 credit units (STAT 246.3 at uSask)
- **Microbiology**: 3 credit units (BMSC 210.3 at uSask)
- **Nutrition**: 3 credit units (NUTR 120.3 at uSask)
- **Electives**: 15 credit units, including 6 credit units from psychology, sociology, Indigenous studies or philosophy; and 9 credit units of any electives

For information on equivalent subjects at other universities, please contact the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition at: undergrad-pharmacy-nutrition@usask.ca.

For comprehensive, up-to-date admission requirements, visit: pharmacy-nutrition.usask.ca.

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**Important dates for admission**

**FEB 15**

PHARMACY APPLICATION DEADLINE

**MAR**

TEST OF CRITICAL SKILLS AND PERSONAL VIDEO INTERVIEW

**JUN 1**

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF FINAL TRANSCRIPTS
ADMISSIONS.
USASK.CA