

Course Requirements

LLU Pharmacy Admission Requirements

(www.llu.edu/llu/sps/admissions.html)

Students are strongly advised to select a baccalaureate degree and work toward that degree while completing the pharmacy admission requirements listed below. Completing a baccalaureate degree will increase a student's career options as well as increasing their chances of admission into pharmacy. The choice of degree is up to the student, but the more the requirements of the degree overlap with the pre-pharmacy requirements, the easier scheduling will be.

BIOL 111+12+13	Biological Foundations I,II,III	5+5+5
CHEM 111+L	General Chemistry I+Lab	4+1
CHEM 112+L	General Chemistry II+Lab	4+1
CHEM 113+L	General Chemistry III+Lab	4+1
CHEM 371+L	Organic Chemistry I+Lab	3+1
CHEM 372+L	Organic Chemistry II+Lab	3+1
CHEM 373+L	Organic Chemistry III+Lab	3+1
PHYS 111	General Physics I	4
CHEM 481	Biochemistry I	
or BIOL 320	Cell & Molecular Biology	4

Additional recommended courses:

BIOL 102	Human Physiology	5
BIOL 426	Histology	5
BIOL 469	Immunology	4
MICR 134	General Microbiology	
or BIOL 366	Medical Microbiology	5

Admission without a Bachelor's Degree

In rare circumstances students are considered for admission without having completed a baccalaureate degree. In addition to the above prerequisites, students not completing a baccalaureate degree must complete the courses listed in the areas below. (For applicants completing a baccalaureate degree, the general education requirements for the degree cover the equivalent of these requirements.)

English Composition 8 quarter hours
ENGL 101+102 composition sequence from English department only; remedial English and ESL courses not acceptable.

Humanities and Fine Arts 16 quarter hours
Recommended areas include literature, philosophy, history, ethics, foreign language, art history, and music history. Studio or performance courses in art and music are not acceptable.

Social and Behavioral Sciences 16 quarter hours
Recommended areas include cultural diversity, anthropology, psychology, psychobiology, economics, political science, geography, and sociology.

Allowed Types of Courses

AP credit is accepted for the first quarter of any prerequisite sequence.

CLEP credit is not accepted to fulfill any prerequisite courses.

Distance and online courses are not accepted to any fulfill prerequisite courses.

LLU strongly advises prospective students to obtain significant pharmacy work experience (Pharmacy Technician, Pharmacy Clerk, Pharmacy volunteer). The experience should be long enough to allow the supervising pharmacist to write a meaningful letter of recommendation.

Please note: The final word on a suitable prerequisite program belongs to the accepting institution. Students are advised to contact LLU early to double check the adequacy of pre-pharmacy school plans.

Occupational Information

General Areas of Service

Pharmacists dispense and provide advice regarding the use of prescription medications. Specialized training regarding the actions, side-effects, and costs of pharmaceuticals makes the pharmacist an important member of the overall healthcare team, working closely with physicians, nurses, and other health professionals.

The educating role of pharmacists is critical as they are often the last to give professional medical advice before the patient begins treatment. In addition, the pharmacist is often the most accessible of the healthcare team and therefore is often the first to whom a patient will turn with medical questions.

Pharmacists serve in a wide variety of contexts including community pharmacies, hospitals, nursing homes, the pharmaceutical industry, and ranging to the fields of public health, insurance, and law.

Students considering pharmacy should have a desire to help others. In this context they will need to develop conscientious attention to detail and strong scientific and communication skills.

Professional Training

To obtain a license to practice pharmacy, one must complete a four-year post-college program culminating in the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree and pass the California State Board Examination in Pharmacy (for California) and/or the North American Pharmacist Licensure Exam (all other states).

Prior to entering PharmD studies, the student must complete a pre-pharmacy (college-level) program of specified prerequisite courses (see "Admission Requirements" below). Completion of a baccalaureate degree in chemistry, biology, physics, a related scientific field, or business is preferred.

Job Outlook

Employment for pharmacists is projected to grow about 6% from 2016 to 2026. This is comparable with other occupations. Demand is expected to increase for pharmacists in many health-care settings such as hospitals and clinics.

Earnings

As of March 2018, the average pharmacist wage was \$127, 122 with a range of \$119,558 to \$135,743. The median hourly wage was \$61, with a range between \$57 and \$65.

For More Information

Sources

School of Pharmacy, Loma Linda University
www.llu.edu/llu/sps/index.html

Occupational Outlook Handbook
www.bls.gov/oco/ocos079.htm

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
www.aacp.org

American Pharmacists Association
www.aphanet.org

PUC Pre-Pharmacy Advisor:
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