



# Why pharmacy?



## Pharmacy is...

### A well-rounded career.

Pharmacy is an exciting blend of science, healthcare, direct patient contact, computer technology and business.

### Excellent earning potential.

The Pharm.D. degree is a good investment. Pharmacy remains one of the most financially stable and rewarding careers in healthcare.

### A vital part of the healthcare system.

Pharmacists play an integral role in improving patients' health through the medicine and information they provide.

### Outstanding opportunities.

There is a need for pharmacists in a wide variety of healthcare settings.

### A trusted profession.

Pharmacists are consistently ranked as one of the most highly trusted professionals because of the care and service they provide.\*

\*According to data by Wirthlin Worldwide and Gallup International

While it varies by pharmacy practice area, recent pharmacy graduates can earn top salaries right out of college! Pharmacy is a career that offers great benefits, flexible work schedules, outstanding growth opportunities, profit sharing and much more.

If you enjoy working with people, excel in science and would like a rewarding healthcare career, pharmacy is for you!



[www.aacp.org/pharmacycareers](http://www.aacp.org/pharmacycareers)

## Pharmacy Career Information Council

This brochure was sponsored and prepared in conjunction with the Pharmacy Career Information Council, a group of pharmacy organizations with a common interest of ensuring a strong future for the pharmacy profession. A list of supporting organizations can be found on the AACP Website. For additional information about a career in pharmacy, contact AACP or visit the AACP Website at [www.aacp.org/pharmacycareers](http://www.aacp.org/pharmacycareers).



## Prescription FOR A REWARDING CAREER



Take the first step toward an exciting career in pharmacy by visiting the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy at [www.aacp.org/pharmacycareers](http://www.aacp.org/pharmacycareers) for links to all U.S. colleges and schools of pharmacy.

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American Association of  
Colleges of Pharmacy **AACP**  
Discover • Learn • Care: Improve Health

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# The BENEFITS of a Career in Pharmacy

## Pharmacy Career Options

There are many career options in pharmacy including:

- Academic pharmacy
- Community practice
- Government agencies
- Hospice and home care
- Hospital and institutional practice
- Long-term care or consulting pharmacy
- Managed care pharmacy
- Medical and scientific publishing
- Pharmaceutical industry
- Pharmaceutical sciences
- Trade or professional associations
- Uniformed (public health) services

## Pharmacists Help Patients Improve Their Health

Pharmacists' responsibilities include a range of care for patients, from dispensing medications to monitoring patient health and progress to maximize their response to the medication. Pharmacists also educate consumers and patients on the use of prescriptions and over-the-counter medications, and advise physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals on medication decisions.

Pharmacists provide expertise about the composition of medications, including their chemical, biological and physical properties, as well as their manufacture and use. They ensure drug purity and strength and make sure that medications do not interact in a harmful way. Pharmacists are the medication experts ultimately concerned about their patients' health and wellness.

## Your Future in Pharmacy Begins with Education

A balanced and comprehensive high school and college education is an important first step in the pursuit of a professional degree in pharmacy, especially in the areas of math and science.

The Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree program requires at least two years of pre-professional (undergraduate) study followed by four academic years of professional study. A growing number of first-year students enter a pharmacy program with three or four years of college experience.

The requirements for admission into a pharmacy program vary. Admission requirements for all U.S. pharmacy programs can be found at [www.aacp.org/pharmacycareers](http://www.aacp.org/pharmacycareers).

## An Exciting Curriculum

The professional pharmacy curriculum is designed to educate pharmacists to:

- Counsel patients on the proper use of their medications;
- Promote the public health;
- Develop and manage medication distribution and control systems;
- Manage pharmacy practice; and
- Plan and perform ongoing evaluations to provide patients with the best drug therapy for their individual healthcare needs.



The University of Louisiana at Monroe



The University of Louisiana at Monroe



The University of New Mexico



Idaho State University