

HARDING UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

DOCTOR OF PHARMACY (PHARM.D.) PROGRAM 2017 ADMISSIONS GUIDE

CONTACT INFORMATION

Harding University College of Pharmacy
915 East Market Street
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Searcy, AR 72149-5615
501-279-5528
Email: pharmacy@harding.edu
Website: www.harding.edu/pharmacy

The administrative offices for the College of Pharmacy are located in the Henry and Grace Farrar Center for Health Sciences, Suite 101. The Farrar building is located on the corner of East Park Avenue and Dr. Jimmy Carr Street (formerly Remington Drive).

A representative from the College of Pharmacy regularly visits colleges and universities to speak with students who are interested in learning more about the College. To schedule an information session, contact the director of admissions at: ccjones@harding.edu

Interested applicants are also welcome to contact the Office of Student Affairs and Admissions for additional information, transcript review, or to request an appointment with an advisor.

ACCREDITATION

Harding University's Doctor of Pharmacy program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, 135 S. LaSalle St., Suite 4100, Chicago, IL 60603; 312-664-3575; fax: 312-664-4652; website: www.acpe-accredit.org.

PHARM.D. PROGRAM

Harding University College of Pharmacy offers a four-year program of study leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree. The four-year program consists of three years comprised of a combination of didactic instruction and introductory pharmacy practice experiences followed by a fourth year comprised entirely of advanced pharmacy practice experiences. There is an emphasis on the integration of faith, learning and living, the development of Christian scholarship, the promotion of Christian ethics, and the promotion of citizenship within a global perspective through participation in mission efforts.

Once admitted to Harding University College of Pharmacy, students benefit from the close ties the University has forged with public and private institutions throughout the world. As an example, students have the opportunity to gain clinical education at a medical mission point in Namwianga, Kolomo, Zambia. Students also benefit from interactions with those in Harding's other health sciences programs including Nursing, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant and Communication Sciences and Disorders. Interprofessional education is utilized as much as possible in the Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

HUCOP students have made a positive impact on the community that surrounds the college. Students are required to complete a portion of their introductory pharmacy practice experiences (IPPEs) at charitable clinics. In addition to their didactic coursework, students participate in health fairs and wellness screenings, community immunization programs, medication take back programs, tobacco cessation education, patient counseling and clinical skills competition. Students also participate in independent research projects with faculty, and are highly involved in professional student organizations.

PROGRAM COSTS

Tuition for academic year 2016-17 is \$37,228 per year. Tuition and fees are subject to change based on the recommendation and approval of the Board of Trustees. Any new tuition and fee schedule is effective at the beginning of the fall term.

Other anticipated costs include the following:

- Tuition deposits: \$250 upon notification of acceptance, \$250 on May 1, and \$250 on June 1, for a total of \$750. All deposits are non-refundable but are applied toward tuition upon matriculation.
- Books: \$600 - \$1000 per semester
- Travel to practice experience sites: approximately \$275 per semester P1 – P3 years; approximately \$500 per practice experience during P4 year
- Harding University technology/academic enrichment fee: \$240/semester
- Graduation fee: \$300
- Criminal background checks: approximately \$65 per occurrence; students are required to authorize and submit to a criminal background check with fingerprinting, including background checks for sex offenses and crimes against minors to obtain an Arkansas pharmacy intern license; some clinical sites require updated criminal background checks and random drug testing; these additional costs would be the students' responsibility (Non-compliance with the criminal background checks and/or drug testing policies may be cause for dismissal from the program.)
- Portions of the curriculum will require travel to various locations. All students are required to have access to a motor vehicle, a valid driver's license, and auto liability insurance. Clinical experiences entail travel to clinical

sites. Doctor of Pharmacy students are responsible for all costs associated with travel and off campus clinical experiences. Transportation and food are the most common out-of-pocket expenses. Some sites will require additional living arrangements to be made, which will be the student's responsibility.

- All students will be expected to purchase or have the required medical equipment needed to meet program requirements. This will include acquiring an approved lab coat with a school issued patch.
- Other student costs may include: laptop computer, room and board, health insurance, professional liability insurance, costs associated with clinical rotations such as food, lodging (if required) and any other requirements of the clinical site; all of these are approximate costs and are subject to change.

Mechanisms to offset program costs include the following:

- Dean's scholarships are awarded to students who rank in the top 10% of each class.
- Academic scholarships for incoming students based on PCAT, GPA, and interview score.
- Organizations such as Walgreens, Walmart, CVS, Pharmacists Mutual and other pharmacy-related organizations provide scholarships for students ranging from \$500 to \$2000. Students may apply for these scholarships. The Honors, Awards and Scholarship Committee selects recipients for these scholarships. For information about additional internships and scholarships, visit the College of Pharmacy website:
<http://www.harding.edu/pharmacy/students/scholarships.html>

For specific financial aid information, contact the Student Financial Services Office at 501-279-4257.

ADMISSIONS APPLICATION INFORMATION

Eligibility to Apply

- ✓ **United States citizens**
- ✓ **Non-US citizens who hold "Permanent Resident" or "Refugee/Assylee":** Applicants must send a copy of the front and back of their green card or visa along with the HUCOP supplemental application.
- ✓ **International Applicants (F-1 or H-4 visa holders)** 1. Students who are non-native English speaking must send TOEFL scores. Harding University's TOEFL score code is 6267. The TOEFL is not required if an applicant completes a BA or BS degree within the United States. 2. Students must submit documentation of financial ability to pay all expenses for the first year of study at Harding University College of Pharmacy, and demonstrate adequate coverage for health insurance in the United States. 3. International students must have a U.S. Social Security Number in order to apply for an Arkansas Pharmacy Intern License. 4. Harding University College of Pharmacy will not accept or review foreign course work. Courses completed at a college or university outside of the United States must send a foreign transcript evaluation report (FTER). World Education Services (WES) www.wes.org is one example of an organization that can provide an FTER. Credit will be given only for the number of hours as evaluated by WES or that is transferred to a U.S.-accredited college or university.
- ✓ **Transfer Students:** Harding University College of Pharmacy accepts transfer students with advanced standing; however, space is limited and because curricula in pharmacy schools vary, students may not transfer at the same level achieved at the previous college. To be considered for transfer admission applicants must meet the following criteria:
 1. Be in good standing in a Pharm.D. program at another college of pharmacy that is ACPE-accredited with a minimum of Candidate status
 2. Satisfy core prerequisites for Harding University College of Pharmacy
 3. Have a minimum grade-point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- ✓ **Graduates from a School of Pharmacy Outside of the U.S.:** Coursework completed in foreign colleges of pharmacy is not transferable to Harding University College of Pharmacy.

PREREQUISITES

Admissions requirements and standards are designed to ensure scholastic success in the professional Pharm.D. Program. Selecting a candidate for the future practice of pharmacy involves many important factors, including academic background, PCAT scores, letters of recommendation and pharmacy experience. A qualified applicant will be invited to visit the College of Pharmacy for a required personal interview. Because admission information is updated regularly, applicants should verify current requirements at the College of Pharmacy web site. The most current admission information will always be posted at this site.

Admission to the four-year Doctor of Pharmacy degree program requires completion of a minimum of 64 semester hours of preprofessional education at an accredited college or university. This typically takes two years of preprofessional study. Application can be made after the completion of 30 semester hours of college coursework. The minimum specific pre-pharmacy course requirements are as follows:

Courses	Semester Hours	Quarter Hours
General Chemistry--labs required	8	15
Organic Chemistry--labs required	8	15
Biology – choose from Human Anatomy & Physiology, Cell Biology, Genetics, Biology 1 and 2	8	15
Biochemistry--no lab required	3	5
Microbiology--lab required	4	5
Calculus	4	5
Statistics	3	5
Psychology or sociology	3	5
Speech	3	5
English composition	6	5
Economics (Macro recommended)	3	5
Other electives	11	20

- Applicants must possess a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale on all previous college work; grades for all undergraduate coursework attempted are included in the calculation of the overall undergraduate GPA which is the primary GPA used in the admissions process
- Grades below "C" cannot be accepted for any math or science course
- No more than 6 hours of CLEP or credit by examination will be accepted to meet the pre-pharmacy requirements; such credit must be listed on the official transcript
- Advanced Placement (AP) credit may be used to satisfy prerequisite coursework provided that the AP credit is accepted by the applicant's institution and is posted on the applicant's official academic transcript

- Calculus – A business calculus course is not acceptable
- The speech requirement should be fulfilled with a public speaking course
- It is recommended that students include accounting and genetics in the electives
- No credit toward the 64 semester hour requirement will be accepted for military science or physical education courses
- Official transcripts from all colleges previously attended should be sent to PharmCAS; once admitted, students must send official transcripts from all colleges previously attended to Harding University College of Pharmacy
- All prepharmacy course requirements must be satisfied prior to matriculation
- Students must have a minimum of 72 semester hours of undergraduate coursework completed prior to enrollment to be eligible for consideration for graduate and professional level Federal Student Loan assistance.

General Information Regarding Application

Harding University College of Pharmacy participates in a centralized application service called PharmCAS which allows applicants to use a single application to apply to multiple Doctor of Pharmacy degree programs. PharmCAS will collect and process applications to colleges of pharmacy that participate in the service. PharmCAS begins accepting applications mid-July. Students may apply at: www.pharmcas.org

The College of Pharmacy admits students for the fall semester only. Admission is highly competitive and is based on a number of factors including cumulative and prerequisite grade point averages, PCAT scores, letters of recommendation, written communication skills, and the personal interview. Competition varies from year to year depending on the strength and size of the applicant pool.

When the College receives a student's verified PharmCAS application, PCAT scores, three letters of recommendation and the supplemental application, the application is ready for review. The [Supplemental Application](#) is posted at the College's website: www.harding.edu/pharmacy

Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT)

Applicants to Harding University College of Pharmacy must take the Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT) within five years of application to the program. The last acceptable test date for Early Decision Applicants is July 2016. The last acceptable testing window for regular admission is January 2017.

In accordance with PharmCAS procedures, applicants must request that PCAT scores be sent directly to PharmCAS (school code 104).

The Admissions Committee reserves the right of final decision with regard to establishing minimum standards for PCAT score thresholds for consideration of interview.

Letters of Recommendation

Applicants must have three letters of recommendation sent directly to PharmCAS. These letters should focus on the applicant's academic and professional abilities. Having at least one reference from a pharmacist is highly recommended.

General Transcript Information

Official transcripts from ALL colleges, universities, community and technical colleges previously attended should be sent to PharmCAS. Transcripts are required even if coursework does not apply toward pharmacy prerequisites. Only students who are admitted to Harding University College of Pharmacy should submit their official transcripts directly to the College of Pharmacy.

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR APPLICATION

Pharmacy Experience

It is important for applicants to pharmacy school to carefully research the pharmacy profession and the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to provide patient care. Although not required, applicants are strongly encouraged to obtain work experience in a pharmacy setting. An example of appropriate experience is as a pharmacy technician in either a hospital or community pharmacy.

Extracurricular Activities

In addition to academic preparation and pharmacy experience, applicants who have experiences in extracurricular activities contribute to the richness and diversity of the student body. Students who have participated in volunteer service and other service organizations add to the leadership ability and maturity of our student body.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

Application Timeline

July 2016	PharmCAS begins accepting on-line applications www.pharmcas.org
September 6, 2016	PharmCAS "Early Decision" Application Submission Deadline HUCOP supplemental application postmarked by this date for early decision
October 28, 2016	Early Decision decisions due to PharmCAS

March 1, 2017	PharmCAS Regular Admission Application Submission Deadline HUCOP supplemental application for regular admission postmarked by this date
March-April 2017	Final round of interviews

Rolling Admission – The College of Pharmacy works on a rolling admission basis. Interviews will begin in September and will conclude in April. Within 2 weeks of the interview, students will be notified of their admission status.

Apply Early – After an application has been submitted to PharmCAS, it takes 4-6 weeks for PharmCAS to verify transcripts. Send transcripts early and check PharmCAS regularly to see that your transcripts have been verified and your letters of recommendation have been received.

INTERVIEW

Interview Selection

A personal interview in Searcy, Arkansas, is required as part of the College of Pharmacy Admissions process. After applications are reviewed, the most qualified applicants are invited for an interview. Letters of invitation will be mailed to students who have been selected for an interview. Students must confirm that they will be in attendance at the interview by calling the Office of Student Affairs and Admissions at 501-279-5528.

If a student is unable to attend the interview, they must contact the Office of Student Affairs and Admissions. Students who confirm attendance at the interview but do not appear on the interview day will not be considered for a seat in the class.

Interview Process

The interview is an important part of the admissions process. During the interview, applicants are evaluated in a variety of areas including self-confidence, empathy, comprehension, communication skills, common sense, leadership, knowledge of pharmacy, and drive. The purpose of the interview is to give the applicant an opportunity to demonstrate these attributes through their answers to probing questions. Harding University College of Pharmacy utilizes the Multiple Mini Interview (MMI) standardized process. The Nelson Denney Reading Test will be administered at the interview to assess an applicant's reading level. At the end of the interview, a special session is set aside for applicants to speak with current pharmacy students. The entire interview process lasts approximately 3 ½ hours.

OFFER OF ADMISSION

Interviewed candidates are ranked comparatively on the criteria established by the Pharm.D. Admissions Committee. The College of Pharmacy expects to admit 60 students for entry into the program each fall. Some students may be selected for the alternate list. Students selected for the alternate list will be considered each time the Admissions Committee meets. The alternate list will be ranked after May 1, and will remain active until the class is filled.

Offers of admission are contingent upon the successful completion of any remaining prerequisites, ability to meet the Technical Standards, eligibility to obtain an Arkansas Pharmacy Intern License, satisfactory review of the criminal background check, and compliance with the Harding University College of Pharmacy immunization policy.

REQUIREMENTS FOLLOWING ADMISSION

Criminal Background Check

Harding University College of Pharmacy participates in the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) approved PharmCAS Centralized Criminal Background Check Program to provide a criminal background check on students admitted to the program prior to matriculation. Certiphi Screening, Inc. is the vendor used to conduct the Centralized Criminal Background Check. Once a student is admitted, an email will be sent to that student from Certiphi Screening, Inc. to initiate the background check. Students will have an opportunity to review the results of the criminal background check before the College receives a copy.

Applicants are advised to fully disclose all prior criminal history and conviction information, including expunged records, on the Conviction/Criminal History Information Form. Failure to do so may result in a withdrawal of an offer of admission. Applicants who disclose a conviction/criminal history will be reviewed on an individual basis and may be asked to provide additional information for the Admissions Committee to review for consideration prior to formalizing an offer of admission.

Health and Immunization Policy

Student immunizations will be managed through myRecordTracker (mRT), a web-based platform for maintaining students' immunization and health-related records. The Office of Experiential Education will provide log in information for students who have been admitted into the College of Pharmacy.

Students are required to maintain health insurance.

Applicants selected for admission to the program must provide evidence of good health, no communicable diseases and required immunizations and screenings prior to matriculation. Immunizations and screening tests required are as follows:

- Hepatitis B series and titer (this can take up to seven months to complete)
- Two MMRs or positive rubella titer
- Current tetanus/diphtheria (within past 10 years, tetanus toxoid accepted)
- History of chicken pox or positive varicella titer (if negative then series of two immunizations)
- A Mantoux 5TU PPD tuberculin skin test performed within three months prior to matriculation
- Influenza vaccine is required but will be administered by the College during the fall semester.

Harding University College of Pharmacy 2016-2017 Laptop Requirements

Harding University College of Pharmacy administers all exams, and many quizzes, electronically using ExamSoft testing software. It is critical that a student's laptop be capable of running this program. Students may also choose to take exams on an iPad, but iPads are not required in the program. The testing software works on iPad and iPad Mini. It does not work on any other tablet format at this time.

Laptop requirements:

Any laptop purchased within the last 2 years should already meet our minimum requirements. For older laptops, please ensure that you meet the following specifications:

Intel Core i5 processor or higher
Capable of running 64-bit version of Windows 8 or 10, or Mac OS 10.9 or later
4 GB of RAM or more (8GB recommended)
256 GB hard drive
Built-in WiFi network adapter (802.11 b/g/n or faster) capable of WPA or WPA2 encryption
Anti-virus software for Windows laptops – Windows Defender recommended
Microsoft Office 2010 or later or compatible software (e.g. Apache Open Office, Microsoft Office for Mac)

Suggested Options

Ethernet port recommended
4 GB (or higher) USB flash memory device
USB or Bluetooth optical mouse

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR ADMITTED STUDENTS

Canvas Course

In March 2017, an on-line Canvas class will be opened to students who have accepted an offer of admission to the Pharm.D. program. This on-line course will serve as the primary location for important documents for admitted students. In this course, students will find additional information about immunizations, obtaining a pharmacy intern license, new student orientation, available housing, and other pertinent information for new students. This will also provide an on-line forum where new students may become acquainted before classes begin.

Arkansas Pharmacy Intern License

Upon satisfactory completion of remaining prerequisites and satisfactory review of the criminal background check, the College of Pharmacy will notify the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy with the names of individuals admitted to the Doctor of Pharmacy Program. This notification allows students to apply for an Arkansas Pharmacy Intern License, which is required for program completion.

Students should complete the intern application process in a timely manner. Obtaining an Arkansas Pharmacy Intern License is vital to a student's academic progression.

New Student Orientation

New Student Orientation is required of all incoming students to the Pharm.D. program. It is a week-long orientation which begins on the Monday prior to the start of classes in August. Orientation is designed to assist incoming students in the transition to the professional level of their academic training.

Students admitted to the Pharm.D. program will receive information about Orientation during the summer before the fall semester begins.

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP)

1727 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-739-2330
Website: www.aacp.org
Email: mail@aacp.org

PharmCAS

19 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
PharmCAS Hotline: 617-612-2060
TTY Phone: 617-612-2060
Email: info@pharmcas.org
Website: www.pharmcas.org

Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT)

Pearson Education, Inc.
Website: www.pcatweb.info

National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP)

1600 Feehanville Drive
Mount Prospect, IL 60056
847-391-4406
Website: www.nabp.net

Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy

322 South Main Street, Suite 600
Little Rock, AR 72201
501-682-1090
Website: www.pharmacyboard.arkansas.gov