



HARDING UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Pre-Pharmacy Information



HUCOP Admissions Staff

Dr. Jeanie Smith, Assistant Dean for
Student Affairs and Admissions
jsmith17@harding.edu

Kathryn Robison
Pharmacy Admissions Counselor
mkrobison1@harding.edu

501-279-5528
Farrar Center for Health Sciences
Suite 101A

HARDING UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Admission to Harding's 3.5 year Doctor of Pharmacy degree program requires completion of a minimum of 64 semester hours of pre-professional education at an accredited college or university. This typically takes at least 2 years of pre-professional study. Students can apply after at least 30 hours of college credit are completed.

HUCOP Prerequisites

Courses	Hours	HU Courses*
General Chemistry - lab required	8	CHEM 1040, 1050
Organic Chemistry - lab required	8	CHEM 2740, 2750
Microbiology - lab required	4	BIOL 3400
Biology - Choose from A&P, Genetics, Cell Biology, Biology 1 & 2	8	BIOL 1500, 1500L, 3200, 3210, 3000, 3500
Math or Science Options	6 - 8	
Calculus	4	MATH 2350
Statistics	3	MATH 1200 or BIOL 2500
Psychology or Sociology	3	PSY 2010 or SOC 2030
Speech	3	COMM 1010
English Composition	6	ENG 1110, 2110
Economics (Macro recommended)	3	ECON 2010 or 2020
General Electives	6 - 8	
Total Prerequisites	64	

*The Harding courses that fulfill each requirement are listed so that you may read the course description and match it to your University course catalog. To view the science course descriptions go to: www.harding.edu/catalog

Pre-Professional Coursework Notes

- 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
- All science courses must be majors courses; non-majors courses will not fulfill the requirements
- Calculus – A Business calculus course is NOT acceptable.
- The speech requirement should be fulfilled with a public speaking course
- The economics requirement must be fulfilled with either an accounting , microeconomics or macroeconomics course. Macroeconomics is preferred.
- No credit toward the 64 semester hour requirement will be accepted for military science or physical education courses
- All pre-pharmacy course requirements must be satisfied prior to matriculation
- If you have a question about whether a particular transfer course will satisfy a pre-pharmacy requirement, please feel free to contact Dr Jeanie Smith, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs & Admissions at 501-279-5528 or jsmith17@harding.edu

HARDING UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Pathways to your Pharm.D.

Prerequisite Completion Time	Time in Pharmacy School	Total Time in School	Bachelor's Degree	Comments
2 Years	3.5 Years	5.5 Years	No	Fastest, most cost effective way to earn a PharmD
3 Years	3.5 Years	6.5 Years	Yes	3+1 BS and . Allows more time as an undergraduate to study abroad, be involved in campus organizations, etc
4 Years	3.5 Years	7.5 Years	Yes	Good if a BS in any other area besides Health Science is desired or if a student wants the four year Harding experience.



Applying to Pharmacy School

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, standardized test scores, letters of reference and pharmacy experience. A qualified applicant to the HU College of Pharmacy will be invited to a required personal interview. Because admission information is updated regularly, applicants should verify current requirements and application procedures at www.harding.edu/pharmacy

The Harding University College of Pharmacy seeks to attract applicants from across the country and to become a nationally competitive pharmacy program. Special consideration will be given to those applicants who have attended Harding or other church of Christ-affiliated institutions, but all applicants will be evaluated on their own merits.

1. **Application.** Application to Harding University's College of Pharmacy is made through the Pharmacy College Application Service (PharmCAS). Information regarding the PharmCAS application is available at www.pharmcas.org. Official transcripts from all colleges previously attended are sent to PharmCAS for verification. The competitive grade point average and other factors needed to qualify for a required personal interview will be determined by the overall strength of the applicant pool. Applicants are accepted on a continual basis until the class has been filled; an alternate list will then be established. Based on the overall strength of the applicant pool, acceptance is selective. All application materials must be completed and postmarked by March 1 to be considered for interviews. Earlier application is strongly encouraged.

4. **Work Experience.** Prospective pharmacy students are strongly encouraged to obtain work experience in a pharmacy setting. That experience could be working in either a hospital or community pharmacy, shadowing a pharmacist, volunteering in the pharmacy of a benevolent health care program, etc. Admissions committees want to see that you have some first-hand knowledge of what it means to be a pharmacist.

5. **Pharmacy College Admissions Test (PCAT).** The PCAT is administered nationally but is not required for application to HUCOP. Students may choose to take the PCAT to provide a more robust application packet. Deadlines for receipt of application to take the test are approximately six weeks before the test date itself. There are five major content areas measured by the test: Verbal Ability, Quantitative Ability, Biology, Chemistry, and Reading Comprehension. You must have your PCAT scores sent to PharmCAS (code 104).

6. **Letters of Reference.** Applicants must submit three letters of reference that focus on the applicant's academic and professional abilities. Letters of recommendation from non-academic professionals who know you well often make a favorable impression on admission committees. Letters from medical or pharmacy professionals familiar with your medical or pharmacy experience through volunteer work, employment, or research projects can be very helpful. Having at least one reference from a pharmacist is highly recommended.

Applying to Pharmacy School (cont.)

7. Personal Interview. HUCOP begins interviewing students in September and admits students until the class is filled (rolling admissions) rather than receiving all applications and then making a final decision. The interviews will most likely be seeking information not readily available by other means about such qualities as your motivation, character, leadership, altruism, interpersonal skills, and interest in the institution. The following comments may be helpful:

1. Let confidence in yourself and your ability to do pharmacy college work satisfactorily be evident without exhibiting over-confidence.
2. Among other things, your natural poise, courtesy, neatness and maturity will be important. One who has learned the art of conversation will be at a distinct advantage. However, a most important aspect of the art of conversation is being a good listener.
3. Above all, be yourself!! The purpose of this interview is for the admissions committee to get to know you as you are. After all, your being invited for the interview means that you have made it that far!
4. Anticipate being asked all kinds of questions, many of which will be unrelated to pharmacy or medicine.
5. Be prepared to discuss your motivation for pharmacy.
6. Be appropriately dressed and groomed for the occasion. Look like the professional you want to become.
7. Be honest about your financial needs if this subject is brought up.
8. Do not hesitate to ask questions of your interviewer.
9. Research has shown that the extrovert makes the most favorable impression on admission committee members. If that is not your personality, practice interviewing with another pre-pharmacy or pre-med student who has had the experience.



Accreditation

The Harding University College of Pharmacy received continued full accreditation status by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) through June 2026. The accreditation committee noted the mentor-mentee program as a special strength and was impressed that everyone associated with the College of Pharmacy understood the goal of using pharmacy as a means of service to others. ACPE may be contacted at: 20 North Clark Street, Suite 2500, Chicago, IL 60660; 312/664-3575, 800/533-3606; Fax 312/664-4652 web site www.acpe-accredit.org

