

*Kenneth B. Roberts, Ph.D., is Dean of the College of Pharmacy.*

The College of Pharmacy offers a four year curriculum leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy degree (Pharm.D.). The College of Pharmacy also offers training for postdoctoral and research fellows, residency programs and graduate training (Ph.D.) in all areas of the pharmaceutical sciences through The Graduate School. The professional program is fully accredited by the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education and satisfies all educational requirements for licensure. The residency programs are accredited by the American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists (ASHP) or by ASHP in conjunction with the American Pharmacists Association.

The major goal of the College of Pharmacy is the education of competent and contemporary pharmacy practitioners who assume responsibility for achieving optimum therapeutic outcomes through the provision of rational drug therapy and who, in cooperation with other health care professionals, can favorably influence both overall health care and the individual patient's quality of life.

## ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE

**NOTE:** Deadlines for application materials may vary from year to year depending upon requirements of the Pharmacy College Application Service, as well as national testing agencies. Applicants should check the College of Pharmacy Web site at: [www.mc.uky.edu/pharmacy/acaffairs/](http://www.mc.uky.edu/pharmacy/acaffairs/) about June 15 before the academic year in which they intend to make application to the College for the most up to date listings of application deadlines and procedures.

### Prepharmacy Program Requirements

Admission to the professional program is highly competitive. The number of students admitted to the Doctor of Pharmacy program depends upon the availability of resources such as faculty, clinical facilities and space for implementation of a quality educational program. Consideration for admission will be based on the applicant's previous academic record, potential for academic achievement, standardized admission test scores, and an assessment of the applicant's communicative skills, integrity, commitment, dedication, motivation, character, maturity and emotional stability. Each applicant must have the physical, mental and emotional ability to learn and accomplish those competencies required of a

pharmacy practitioner, as well as the character and thought processes necessary to make professional judgments that benefit the patient. The minimum grade-point average (GPA) is 2.5; however, admission to the College is very competitive, and admission scores are often a grade-point higher.

The applicant should research opportunities available to pharmacy graduates, services provided by pharmacists, and obligations of pharmacy practitioners to the people they serve. In addition, the applicant is expected to communicate knowledge of these areas effectively in the interview. The Admissions Committee believes the applicant should base a decision to enter the pharmacy profession on more solid reasoning than merely an interest in science courses. Students holding degrees—or near completing degrees—in biology and chemistry, as well as preprofessional health care majors are particularly encouraged to apply for admission.

Students are admitted only for the fall semester. Since applications are screened, interviews are scheduled, and admissions decisions are made on a rolling basis, it is important that you complete your application as early in the admissions cycle as possible. The University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy Web site and the PharmCAS Web site, [www.pharmcas.org](http://www.pharmcas.org), will be updated by mid-June of each year with the new admissions cycle information and application review will begin September 1 through the Early Decision process. Early applications will receive stronger consideration. Applicants should check the UK College of Pharmacy Web site at [www.mc.uky.edu/pharmacy/acaffairs](http://www.mc.uky.edu/pharmacy/acaffairs) for current deadlines and application procedures.

**NOTE:** Any student may be denied admission or permission to continue enrollment in the College of Pharmacy if, in the opinion of the student casts grave doubts upon his or her potential capabilities as a pharmacist. Any type of involvement in the illegal use of drugs or other illegal or unethical acts relating to the practice of pharmacy are examples of incidents which would provide cause for considering denying admission or for dismissal of a student from the College.

### Reference Criteria

Due to the broad range of academic institutions represented in the application process, it is necessary to establish reference points to evaluate the large number of applicants each year. One such reference point is the grade-point average (GPA). Other equally impor-

tant reference points include the applicant's performance on the Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT). Selected candidates will also be interviewed during the final stage of the admission process.

### Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT)

A prospective applicant must take the Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT) and submit the scores to PharmCAS, using code **104**. The highest PCAT score that is reported to PharmCAS will be considered for the admission process. In order to receive serious consideration, an applicant must score at least a total percentile composite of 50 percent on the PCAT. PCAT scores from the January test in the year that you are applying are not considered. You may take the PCAT as often as you like. A PCAT score more than five years old will not be considered.

### Application Deadline for Regular Admission

Although PharmCAS applications will be accepted through the **January 1** deadline, we strongly recommend that, to be competitive, you submit your application, with official transcripts and PCAT scores, as early as possible. Since applications are screened, interviews are scheduled, and admissions decisions are made on a rolling basis, it is important that complete your application as early in the admissions cycle as possible. The University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy Web site: [www.mc.uky.edu/pharmacy/acaffairs](http://www.mc.uky.edu/pharmacy/acaffairs) and the PharmCAS Web site: [www.pharmcas.org](http://www.pharmcas.org) will be updated by mid-June of each year with the new admissions cycle information and application review will begin on September 1 through the Early Decision process. Supplemental applications must be submitted directly to the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy no later than **January 15**, though earlier application is strongly encouraged.

**Important Note:** It is advisable to apply **6-8 weeks prior to the set deadline** to ensure that PharmCAS has ample time for transcript verification. The interview dates for each admission cycle are set in late summer by our Pharmacy Admissions Office. Those dates may vary considerably from year to year. It is strongly suggested that applicants apply well in advance (6-8 weeks) of either the Early Decision deadline (September 1) or the Regular Admission Deadline (January 1) to allow for the time necessary for PharmCAS to process your application.

## Application Deadline for Early Decision Admission

The College of Pharmacy also offers an Early Decision admission option for interested students. Students wishing to apply for Early Decision must submit all application materials to **both** PharmCAS and UK by **September 1**. Selected candidates will interview in September or early October. Admission decisions will be made by October 31. For more information on the Early Decision application process, go to: [www.pharmacas.org](http://www.pharmacas.org).

## Transcripts

It is the applicant's responsibility to arrange for PharmCAS, [www.pharmacas.org](http://www.pharmacas.org), to receive all of your official transcripts by the application deadline date of January 1 or before. You must submit official transcripts from every U.S. and English-speaking institution that you have attended. If your fall term grades will not be available until after you apply, you must arrange for your official fall transcripts to be sent directly to PharmCAS as soon as they are available. It is your responsibility to submit your fall transcripts, add any new courses completed since you first submitted your application to PharmCAS, and to edit your in-progress and planned courses.

## Transfer or Readmission

The Admissions Committee cannot consider applications from students in other colleges of pharmacy when the applicant has previously been denied admission to the UK professional program or when the maximum number of students is already enrolled in the program.

**Please note:** Individuals who have been dropped for academic or other reasons who are applying for reinstatement in the College will have their admission considered through the Academic Performance Committee, but on a competitive basis with new applicants.

## Out-of-State Applicants

The University of Kentucky is a public institution, and its primary mission is to educate residents of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and produce professionals who will provide pharmaceutical care for the citizens of Kentucky. While we recognize the value of a geographically and culturally diverse student body, generally the College's admission process necessarily limits out-of-state residents in the professional program to ten percent.

## Technical Standards

Students applying for admission should be able to meet the technical standards for students in the College. These standards should be reviewed in the section under "Academic Performance and Promotions" in the *College of Pharmacy Bulletin*.

## Additional Requirements

Applicants should be aware that both criminal background checks and drug screens are becoming increasingly common requirements

for enrollment and/or participation in some course work in the College of Pharmacy, and for eventual licensure as a pharmacist. Because of this, both may become required for admission and continuation in the College. The types of tests required, and the costs involved, are subject to change, and are often beyond the control of the College of Pharmacy and the University. The expenses for such checks and screens are borne by the individual applicant and/or student.

## ACADEMIC PREPARATION FOR THE PHARM.D. PROGRAM

The College of Pharmacy recommends that applicants gain a strong foundation in the behavioral, biological, chemical, mathematical and social sciences. As indicated above, students with degrees in biology, chemistry and preprofessional health care majors are particularly encouraged to apply. Minimal requirements for admission include 70 semester credit hours of University work. The course work is outlined below in the "Required Courses" chart.

Though a degree is not required for admission, a significant number of applicants to the program have baccalaureate degrees. Individuals without degrees should seriously consider satisfying the University Studies Program (USP) requirements. With the exception of oral communication, humanities, cross-cultural and one-half of social sciences, other USP requirements will be met through the prepharmacy curriculum.

Since courses and the level at which they are offered vary significantly from one academic institution to the next, not all colleges' courses will satisfy the areas listed below for admission. At the very minimum, all applicants must complete the appropriate courses with the required number of semester credit lecture and lab hours as posted below. For more information about whether specific courses meet requirements for admission, contact the UK prepharmacy advisor at (859) 323-2755, or the advisor at the student's current institution. Prospective pharmacy students should contact the College at an early stage in their undergraduate career for guidance.

## Required Courses

Students must complete a minimum total of 70 hours of undergraduate work to include the following:

	Hours
2 semesters English composition .....	6
1 semester animal biology with laboratory .....	4-5
1 semester principles of microbiology with laboratory .....	4-5
1 semester mathematics (Calculus I)* .....	4
1 semester statistics .....	3
2 semesters general chemistry with lab(s), including qualitative analysis .....	8-10
2 semesters organic chemistry with two semesters of laboratory .....	8-10
1 semester human anatomy .....	3
2 semesters algebra-based physics .....	minimum of 8
1 semester principles of microeconomics .....	3

\*Students not prepared to take calculus may substitute both a college algebra and elementary calculus course for a total of six hours to meet the mathematics requirement for prepharmacy.

Students must complete sufficient electives to develop a reasonably well-rounded individual and bring the total number of semester credit hours to 70.

## General Application Guidelines

1. Access the PharmCAS online application and a list of their other required application materials on their Web site at [www.pharmacas.org](http://www.pharmacas.org). Students must also submit College of Pharmacy supplemental application materials. These materials are available each year around mid-June on the College of Pharmacy Web site: [www.mc.uky.edu/pharmacy/acaffairs](http://www.mc.uky.edu/pharmacy/acaffairs).
2. Applicants must complete the required 70 semester credit hours and all required core courses by the end of the spring term prior to beginning fall pharmacy classes. A minimum GPA of 2.50 is required for admission consideration. Applicants must also complete the following lecture and lab courses by end of the fall semester prior to the January 1 application deadline.
  - a. the first half of organic chemistry sequence.
  - b. the first half of physics sequence.
  - c. and either the microbiology or the anatomy course.
3. To be competitive, the applicant must be sufficiently knowledgeable about the pharmacy profession. Experience in pharmacy is not a formal requirement, but some knowledge of the pharmacy profession or other health care professions is usually helpful.
4. If the applicant does not have a bachelor's degree, prepharmacy course work should satisfy the UK University Studies Program (USP) requirements in mathematics, inference-logic, written communication, natural sciences, half of social sciences and electives. To satisfy the remaining USP requirements, the applicant should complete courses in the following areas: one social science, two humanities and one cross-cultural. Two years of a foreign language in secondary school will meet the USP foreign language requirement. The complete USP requirements are recommended for applicants but are not a requirement.
5. Since admission decisions are made prior to the end of the spring semester, applicants must have a grade of **C or higher** in any required prepharmacy course taken in the spring semester prior to entering the College of Pharmacy. A grade less than **C** in any of these classes will result in a review of

status by the Admissions Committee and could result in a rescinding of admission. Please note that a grade of **D** or below is not acceptable in any required prepharmacy course.

### Suggested Two-Year Curriculum

Below is a suggested two-year curriculum for UK prepharmacy students with the required courses. A three-year version of this schedule can be adopted for students who desire to progress at a less aggressive pace.

#### FIRSTYEAR

Fall Semester	Hours
BIO 152 Principles of Biology II .....	3
BIO 151 Principles of Biology Laboratory I or	
BIO 153 Principles of Biology Laboratory II .....	2
CHE 105 General College Chemistry I .....	3
*MA 113 Calculus I .....	4
Electives .....	6
TOTAL .....	18

#### Spring Semester

BIO 208 Principles of Microbiology .....	3
BIO 209 Introductory Microbiology Laboratory .....	2
CHE 107 General College Chemistry II .....	3
CHE 115 General Chemistry Laboratory .....	3
ENG 104 Writing: An Accelerated Foundational Course .....	4
Elective .....	3
TOTAL .....	18

\*Students not prepared to take MA 113 (Calculus I) may substitute both MA 109 (College Algebra) and MA 123 (Elementary Calculus and Its Applications) during the fall/spring for a total of six hours of mathematics.

#### SECONDYEAR

Fall Semester	Hours
CHE 230 Organic Chemistry I .....	3
CHE 231 Organic Chemistry Laboratory I .....	2
PHY 211 General Physics .....	5
ANA 209 Principles of Human Anatomy .....	3
ENG 2XX Writing Intensive Course .....	3
Elective .....	3
TOTAL .....	19

#### Spring Semester

CHE 232 Organic Chemistry II .....	3
CHE 233 Organic Chemistry Laboratory II .....	2
PHY 213 General Physics .....	5
ECO 201 Principles of Economics I .....	3
STA 291 Statistical Method .....	3
TOTAL .....	16

### GENERAL INFORMATION

For questions concerning admission, prepharmacy course work or a visit to the College, contact:

**UK College of Pharmacy  
Academic Affairs and Student  
Services  
215 Pharmacy Building  
Rose Street  
Lexington, KY 40536-0082  
Phone: (859) 323-2755  
[www.mc.uky.edu/Pharmacy/  
acaffairs/](http://www.mc.uky.edu/Pharmacy/acaffairs/)**