

*Timothy S. Tracy, Ph.D., is Dean of the College of Pharmacy.*

The College of Pharmacy offers a professional degree program, a four year curriculum leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.). The Pharm.D. degree allows one to sit for the national licensing exam to become a licensed, practicing pharmacist. 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.

## ADMISSIONS OVERVIEW – PHARM.D. PROGRAM

The University of Kentucky is a public institution, and its primary mission is to educate residents of Kentucky and produce professionals who provide pharmaceutical care for its citizens. The College recognizes that a geographically and culturally diverse student body also contributes to more robust exchange of creative ideas and experiences, one that benefits all students. The UK College of Pharmacy, therefore, strives to admit a talented and diverse student body that enhances the educational process while serving the needs of the Commonwealth and the pharmacy profession.

Admission to the professional program is 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 a holistic review of the applicant's previous academic record, potential for academic achievement, standardized admis-

sion test scores, assessment of communication skills, contribution to diversity, integrity, commitment, 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 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. The applicant should research opportunities available to pharmacy graduates, services provided by pharmacists and obligations of pharmacy practitioners to the people they serve.

Work experience is not a requirement for admission. However, applicants are strongly advised to shadow a pharmacist and volunteer in a pharmacy or health care environment prior to entering a pharmacy program. Students who have prior work, shadowing or volunteer experience in a pharmacy setting generally enhance their performance during the admissions interview process and in the Pharm.D. program if later admitted.

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.

Individuals who have been dropped for academic or other reasons applying for reinstatement in the College will have their application considered through the Academic Performance Committee, but on a competitive basis with new applicants. Students applying for admission should be able to meet the technical standards for students in the College. These standards should be reviewed in the College Bulletin, under "Academic Progress and Promotion."

Any student may be denied admission or permission to continue enrollment in the College of Pharmacy if, in the opinion of the faculty, the moral or ethical character 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.

## ACADEMIC PREPARATION – PHARM.D. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 70 semester credit hours of prepharmacy course work is required for admission. Approximately 50-60 of those hours are in required subjects; the remaining credit hours can be elective courses of your choice. Elective courses to consider are physiology, biochemistry, psychology, public speaking, medical terminology, logic, health care ethics, foreign languages, genetics, as well as courses that meet the UK Core requirements.

Prepharmacy courses should be completed by the end of the spring semester prior to the desired fall enrollment. Prior approval must be obtained by students wishing to take required course work after the spring semester. See the chart on page 253 for the number of semester credit hours required in each prepharmacy subject area and the exact courses as offered at UK. Students may complete the prepharmacy course work at another accredited college or university.

### English Requirement for UK and Non-UK Students Interested in Pharmacy

UK students must complete the CIS/WRD requirement beginning Fall 2011. Non-UK students must take two semesters of English writing/composition. For questions about this requirement, contact the Prepharmacy Advisor at: [pharmacyinfo@lsv.uky.edu](mailto:pharmacyinfo@lsv.uky.edu).

### Pharm.D. Admission Requirements: Suggested Prepharmacy Schedule

Below is a suggested two-year schedule for UK students on a prepharmacy track. For a three-year, less aggressive prepharmacy schedule, contact the Prepharmacy Advisor at: [pharmacyinfo@lsv.uky.edu](mailto:pharmacyinfo@lsv.uky.edu).

#### FIRST PREPHARMACY YEAR

##### Fall Semester

BIO 152 Principles of Biology II .....	3
BIO 151 Principles of Biology Laboratory I	
or	
BIO 153 Principles of Biology Laboratory II	
or	
BIO 155 Laboratory for Introductory Biology I .....	1-2
CHE 105 General College Chemistry I .....	3
CHE 111 Laboratory to Accompany	
General Chemistry I .....	1
*MA 113 Calculus I .....	4
Electives .....	3
TOTAL .....	16

**Spring Semester**

BIO 208 Principles of Microbiology .....	3
BIO 209 Introductory Microbiology Laboratory .....	2
CHE 107 General College Chemistry II .....	3
CHE 113 Laboratory to Accompany General Chemistry II .....	2
CIS/WRD 110 Composition and Communication I .....	3
STA 291 Statistical Methods .....	3
TOTAL .....	16

**SECONDPREPHARMACY YEAR****Fall Semester**

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
CIS/WRD 111 Composition and Communication II .....	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

Electives .....	5
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.*

**Grades/Pharmacy College Admissions Test (PCAT)**

**Grades:** Please note that a grade of **C** or higher is required in all prepharmacy courses.

**Grades below C:** If prior to conditional acceptance, applicants are advised to repeat prepharmacy courses to earn a **C** average and improve their chances for admission. Most applicants will still be completing prepharmacy courses at the time admission decisions are made, however. In such cases, applicants should be advised that grades below **C** in any required course after acceptance will result in a review by the Admission Committee and could cause rescinding of admission.

**Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT)**

In addition to completing the required prepharmacy course work, prospective students must take and submit at least one set of PCAT scores for admission consideration. The highest composite percentile score reported will be considered in the admissions process. There is no limit on the number of times the PCAT can be taken. However, the College does **not** consider PCAT scores over three years old or test scores from a PCAT taken in January of the year in which the applicant wishes to enter the College.

The PCAT is a standardized test designed to measure general ability and scientific knowledge in five areas: verbal reasoning, reading comprehension, biology, chemistry and quantitative ability. There is also a critical thinking essay. The PCAT is developed and administered by Harcourt Assessment, Inc., which currently offers

Prepharmacy Required Subjects	Number of Semester Credit Hours Required in Each Subject	UK Prepharmacy Courses
<b>English</b>	2 semesters (6 semester credit hours)	CIS/WRD 110/111 Composition and Communication I and II
<b>Animal biology and lab</b>	1 semester plus lab (4-5 semester credit hours)	BIO 152 and one of the following: BIO 151, 153, 155 (BIO labs)
<b>Microbiology and lab</b>	1 semester plus lab (4-5 semester credit hours)	BIO 208 and 209 (lab) (BIO 308 also acceptable with BIO 209 lab)
<b>Calculus</b> Students can choose to bypass calculus by taking both college algebra and elementary calculus.	1 semester (4 semester credit hours <b>OR</b> 6 semester hours if taking college algebra and elementary calculus)	MA 113 <b>OR both</b> MA 109 (College Algebra) and MA 123 (Elementary Calculus)
<b>Statistics</b>	1 semester (3 semester credit hours)	STA 291
<b>Human anatomy or physiology</b> Non-UK students may take physiology or combined AP courses if anatomy is not offered at your school.	1 semester (3 semester credit hours)	ANA 209 or PGY 206 (anatomy is preferred)
<b>General chemistry and lab(s)</b>	2 semesters plus lab(s) (8-10 semester credit hours)	CHE 105 and CHE 111, CHE 107 and CHE 113
<b>Organic chemistry and labs</b>	2 semesters plus labs (8-10 semester credit hours)	CHE 230 and CHE 231, CHE 232 and CHE 233
<b>Physics and labs (algebra-based physics)</b> If the physics lecture courses are worth a minimum of 8 semester credit hours, then the labs are not needed.	2 semesters plus labs (8-10 semester credit hours)	PHY 211 and PHY 213
<b>Microeconomics</b>	1 semester (3 semester credit hours)	ECO 201
<b>Elective courses</b>	Enough to bring the total to 70 semester credits	Electives to consider: physiology, biochemistry, genetics, psychology, public speaking, medical terminology, logic, health care ethics, general education courses.

the exam several times per year. Test dates can vary from year to year. For more information about PCAT test dates, registration process and deadlines, contact Harcourt Assessment at: 1 (800) 622-3231 or at: [www.pcatweb.info](http://www.pcatweb.info).

### Structured Admissions Interview

To be considered for admission, applicants must be selected for and complete a structured interview process. Interview selection is based on information submitted during the application process. The interview itself is structured to assess the applicant's communication skills, confidence, integrity, maturity, commitment to the field of pharmacy, motivation, character and ability to interact with others. Students selected for an interview can expect to spend about two hours interviewing. The interview may include an individual and group session with fellow applicants before a committee of faculty, practitioners and current pharmacy students.

**Note:** Interview dates for each admission cycle are set in late summer by the College of Pharmacy Admissions Office. Those dates may vary annually. It is strongly suggested that candidates apply at least 6-8 weeks in advance of either the Early Decision or Regular Admission application deadlines and prior to interview dates. For maximum consideration, students should apply by early October.

### Rolling Admissions Process/ Application Timelines

**Rolling Admissions:** Please note that the UK College of Pharmacy uses a rolling admissions process. The College screens applications, schedules interviews and makes acceptance decisions on a continual basis, which makes it necessary to complete the application process as early in the admissions cycle as possible. Review of applications specifically begins with Early Decision in late August/early September and runs through the Regular Decision process in January. Interviews and acceptance decisions will be made on a continual basis until the class is filled.

**Early Decision (ED):** Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply as early as June-August for Early Decision. Many positions in the class will be filled through the ED process, which will greatly limit available seats once the Regular Decision process begins in early January. **Candidates should be advised that an early application (October) receives stronger consideration.**

### Required Admission Applications, Documents and Verification Process

Two separate applications and fees are required for admission to the UK College of Pharmacy:

1. PharmCAS Online Application
2. UK Pharm.D. Supplemental Application

### 1. PharmCAS Online Application – [www.pharmcas.org](http://www.pharmcas.org)

The College of Pharmacy utilizes a centralized application service called PharmCAS (Pharmacy College Application Service). Through PharmCAS, applicants submit a Web-based application comprised of biographical data, post-secondary institutions attended, academic course history, work experience, extracurricular activities, a personal statement and official transcripts from all accredited U.S./Canadian institutions attended. PharmCAS allows students to submit a single application to apply to multiple Pharm.D. programs. Students planning to apply to enter the UK Pharm.D. program are required to utilize PharmCAS.

**College Transcripts:** It is the applicant's responsibility to arrange for PharmCAS to receive all official transcripts before application deadlines. Official transcripts must be submitted from every U.S. and English-speaking institution attended by the applicant. If fall term grades are not available until after the time of application, the candidate must arrange for official fall transcripts to be sent directly to PharmCAS as soon as possible. It is the applicant's responsibility to submit fall transcripts, add any new courses completed since first submitting the PharmCAS application and to edit their in-progress and planned courses.

**PharmCAS Verification:** PharmCAS will not begin to verify transcripts and process the application until the student e-submits their complete PharmCAS application, arranges for sealed official transcripts to be mailed to PharmCAS directly from every U.S. and Canadian postsecondary institution attended, and pays the correct PharmCAS application fee. **It is not necessary to wait for the arrival of references, transcripts, fall grades, or PCAT scores to e-submit your application.**

### 2. UK Supplemental Application – [http://pharmacy.mc.uky.edu/admissions/ admissions.php](http://pharmacy.mc.uky.edu/admissions/admissions.php)

In addition to applying through PharmCAS, applicants are *required* to submit a UK Pharm.D. Supplemental Application and fee. The Supplemental Application is updated each June and is available at: <http://pharmacy.mc.uky.edu/admissions/admissions.php>

**NOTE:** Deadlines for application materials vary annually depending upon requirements of the PharmCAS. For the most current listings of application deadlines and procedures, applicants should check both the PharmCAS and UK College of Pharmacy Web sites in early June before the academic year in which they intend to apply to the College.

### Admission Committee Decisions/ Conditional Acceptance

The Admissions Committee convenes and admission decisions are made at the conclusion of

each round of interviews. Selected candidates are then "conditionally accepted" based on a holistic review of the PharmCAS and UK supplemental application. The review will include evaluation of GPA (weighing the science GPA most heavily), PCAT scores, interview performance, references, leadership/volunteer/service activities, written essays, character, contribution to diversity and an assessment of other characteristics as described under "Admissions Overview." The total number of students admitted each year will depend upon the availability of resources.

*All acceptances remain conditional until final matriculation and fall enrollment in classes.*

### Final Matriculation/Fall Enrollment Requirements

Before final matriculation and fall enrollment can be approved, all conditionally accepted students must submit a non-refundable tuition deposit, signed copies of specified acceptance forms, pass a criminal background check/drug screen with acceptable results, attend orientation programs and meet other enrollment requirements as set forth by the College prior to the first day of classes.

**Criminal Background Check and Drug Screen:** Applicants should be aware that both criminal background checks (CBC) and drug screens (DS) are becoming increasingly common requirements for participation in specific course work in the College of Pharmacy and for eventual licensure as a pharmacist. As a result, CBC/DS are now requirements for those students conditionally accepted for admission and must be completed with satisfactory results prior to matriculation to the College. Instructions for completion of CBC/DS requirements will be forwarded immediately following conditional acceptance to the College. The CBC/DS will be annual requirements for all Pharm.D. students enrolled in the College. The types of tests required as well as the cost involved are subject to change and beyond the control of the College of Pharmacy. The expense for background checks and drug screens will be borne by the individual applicant and/or student.

To view the official UK College of Pharmacy Criminal Background Check/Drug Screen Policy, visit: [http://pharmacy.mc.uky.edu/admissions/UK\\_CBC\\_DS\\_Policy.pdf](http://pharmacy.mc.uky.edu/admissions/UK_CBC_DS_Policy.pdf).

### General/Contact Information

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

**University of Kentucky  
College of Pharmacy  
Academic and Student Affairs  
114 Biological Pharmaceutical Complex  
Lexington, KY 40536-0596  
Phone: (859) 323-6163  
<http://pharmacy.mc.uky.edu/>**