

Many pharmacy schools require the following courses before being considered for admittance. These are general recommendations, as specific requirements vary by school. These courses must be completed with a minimum grade of 'C', higher preferred. Requirements are subject to change each year. **Be sure to research schools of interest for current prerequisites.**

**BIOL 120/121** Biological Concepts I (4)  
**BIOL 131** Human Anatomy & Physiology (4)  
**BIOL 231** Adv. Human Anatomy & Physiology (4)  
**BIOL 207/208** General Microbiology (4)  
or **BIOL 226/227** Microbial Biology & Diversity (4)

**CHEM 120/121** College Chemistry I (5)  
**CHEM 222/223** College Chemistry II (5)  
**CHEM 340/341** Organic Chemistry I (5)  
**CHEM 342/343** Organic Chemistry II (5)

**PHYS 231/232** Physics & Biophysics I (4)

**MATH 136** Calculus I (4)  
**MATH 183** or **BIOL 382** Statistics or Biostatistics (3)

**ECON 202** Principles of Economics - Micro  
**COMM 145** Fundamentals of Public Speaking (3)  
Two Semesters of English Composition

Some schools require/recommend:

**PSYS 100** Psychology | **SOCL 100** Sociology

Other courses that will assist with pharmacy school preparation include: Biochemistry, Genetics, Medical Terminology, Healthcare Ethics, and Immunology

Note: Some schools do not accept AP credit.

**In consultation with your advisor(s), it is vital to research all programs of interest to ensure all prerequisite courses and experience requirements are met before matriculation.**

## What should my major be?

You can major in anything you like to prepare for pharmacy school as long as you fulfill the prerequisites for your professional school of interest. A major in the sciences is not required. However, having a strong background in the sciences will certainly help you as you pursue pre-medicine, as it gives you a good foundation to build upon. "Pre-Pharmacy" is not a major, but is an 'advisement' that should be declared alongside your major in order to receive specialized advising towards your goal of attending pharmacy school.

## Application Checklist - Start Now!

- **ADVISING** | Meet with a pre-health advisor ASAP to map out your plan toward pharmacy school admission. Plan to meet with your pre-health advisor consistently throughout your journey.
- **RESEARCH** | Determine which pharmacy schools you are interested in. A good place to start is the AACP or PharmCAS websites, where you can find information on programs and their timelines.
- **PREREQUISITES** | Research each school to understand and begin work as soon as possible on their application requirements including courses, GPA, shadowing, patient care, etc.
- **TIMELINE** | Know the application start date and deadlines for each school you are interested in. Some schools have rolling admissions. The PharmCAS application opens in July.
- **EXPERIENCE** | Start early shadowing, volunteering, and working in pharmacies and the healthcare field. Research and strive to exceed the number of hours each program of interest recommends.
- **INVOLVEMENT** | Be involved in meaningful activities such as research, community service, work, and extracurriculars that are meaningful and unique. Well-rounded applicants are more competitive.
- **RECOMMENDATIONS** | Determine what types and how many references your schools of interest prefer and begin building relationships with potential letter writers.
- **PCAT** | As of 2023, no pharmacy school in the US requires that you take the PCAT. No PCAT testing dates will be offered during the 2024-2025 admissions cycle or beyond.
- **PERSONAL STATEMENT** | Start to write your personal essay prior to the application in a word document. Be sure to edit it carefully and have others review and edit as well.