Questions and Answers About Admissions

What specific college courses must I take?

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy requires a minimum of 68 hours. However, many students complete a degree before coming to the school.

- 8 semester hours of General Chemistry for majors*
- 8 semester hours of Organic Chemistry*
- 8 semester hours of General Biology for majors*
- 4 semester hours of Microbiology*
- 4 semester hours of Physics*
- 3-4 semester hours of Calculus*
- 3-4 semester hours of Statistics*
- 3 semester hours of Public Speaking*
- 3 semester hours of Economics (macro preferred)*
- 6 semester hours of English Composition
- 3 semester hours of Literature
- 15 semester hours of humanities/social sciences

*Used in the calculation of the pre-pharmacy GPA
Note: Courses older than seven years require approval

The humanities/social sciences can include: anthropology, additional communications (not to include the Public Speaking), additional economics (not to include the required macro), ethnic studies, family living/human development, geography, history, journalism, philosophy, political science (government), psychology, and sociology. Performing and fine arts (including music), physical education, foreign languages, computers, religion, or similar courses WILL NOT serve as humanities/social sciences.

If you want the exact course number for a prerequisite at your college, there is a course matrix for the colleges in Texas located on our web site. Please go to http://www.ttuhsc.edu/sop/prospective/prereqcourses.aspx

What elective courses are suggested?

Physiology, anatomy, biochemistry, genetics, and cell biology are suggested. Since limited time is devoted to human behavior courses in the curriculum, psychology and sociology courses should be included in the pre-pharmacy education.

Who should I consult about a career in pharmacy?

You should speak to the pre-pharmacy advisor on your campus, the Admissions Office of Schools of Pharmacy, and local pharmacists. Observation in a pharmacy is required as part of the application process.

What major fields of study are preferred?

Though a large number of applicants major in biology or chemistry, other major fields of study are acceptable.

When should the Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT) be taken?

The PCAT is an exam offered by Pearson at test sites across the country. Applicants may take the PCAT in January, July or September. Check with your local bookstore for PCAT study guides. For online registration and information, go to www.PCATweb.info.

How do I apply?

To apply to the program leading to a Pharm.D. degree, the applicant should:

- Complete the PharmCAS application (www.pharmcas.org)
- Complete the required supplemental application (www.ttuhsc.edu/merlin)
- Adhere to the timetable for filing an application:
  - Early Decision deadline is Sep. 4, 2018
  - Regular application deadline is Dec. 3, 2018
- Application Fees may be paid by credit card.

It is to the applicant’s advantage to apply as early as possible. Selection for interviews begins in early September and this requires transmitted complete applications. All official PCAT scores, official transcripts from ALL colleges and universities, and all recommendation letters are required and must be submitted to PharmCAS BEFORE your file will be reviewed.

Our online application is interactive. This means that you can review your documents after you submit them.
What can I do to improve my chances for admission?

You may strengthen your chances for admission by:

- Keeping the pre-pharmacy GPA as high as possible with 3.0 minimum
- Having a composite percentile score of 50 or higher on the PCAT, and
- Giving careful attention to details in filing the application - apply early

On what basis are students accepted?

All applicants for admission will be considered without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, age or sex. Qualified handicapped persons, capable of meeting the academic and technical standards essential to participation in the program, will receive equal consideration. The grade point average, PCAT scores and the interview are the primary factors used in the evaluation. The interview is required before acceptance. An interview gives the opportunity for evaluation of a variety of factors. Consideration of any factors that may have impacted academic or personal history is important in interview selection and final acceptance decisions.

Is an interview required?

Yes, an interview is required. Processing of applications begins in July and the procedure continues until the posted deadline. When complete applications are received and evaluated, the applicant may be asked to come for an interview. Interviews are scheduled by the Office of Admissions. Although an official interview is not granted to all applicants, the School of Pharmacy gladly provides complete information and advising for all prospective students. Prospective students may also request and schedule a tour of the campus.

How much does it cost to attend the School of Pharmacy?

The tuition and fees for the student in the School are recommended by the administration and are approved by the Board of Regents and are subject to change. Refer to:

http://www.ttuhsc.edu/sop/prospective/moneymatters.aspx

Students are discouraged from holding any outside employment which may be detrimental to the pursuit of their education. For those who qualify, financial aid allows the borrowing of living expenses for our program.

Academic Calendar

The School of Pharmacy operates on a semester system with classes beginning only in August of each year. Classes are held in the fall and spring semesters. Classes are not conducted in the summer between the P1 and P2 years.

Can high school students begin to prepare for a career in pharmacy?

Yes. These students should take dual credit prerequisite courses that will prepare them for admission to our School.

Where are the campus locations?

- Abilene – all 4 years offered
- Amarillo – all 4 years offered
- Dallas – all 4 years offered
- Lubbock – 3rd and 4th years only

Are loan funds available?

Yes, the School of Pharmacy participates in several types of loan and scholarship programs. Financial aid is available to students who can establish a need for assistance. Questions concerning financial aid should be directed to the Financial Aid Office at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Lubbock, Texas at (806) 743-3025.

There are various scholarships available to candidates in the School of Pharmacy. The School utilizes one General Scholarship Application. The General Scholarship Application form and its deadline are on our web site.

Is a degree required to apply?

Though a large number of applicants holding bachelor degrees or higher apply to the School of Pharmacy, a degree is not required. The 68 hours of prerequisite work is required. An applicant may apply starting in July but must indicate on the application when courses will be completed in the fall and spring semesters with math and science courses to be completed by May 31, 2019. Courses older than seven years old require approval.

Do prerequisites and the PCAT have to be completed prior to submitting an application?

No. However, they must be completed prior to admission. See our web site for specific deadlines.

Are Dual, Advanced Placement (AP), and CLEP credit accepted?

Yes, as long as they appear on an accredited U.S. college or university transcript.

Additional questions?

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact our staff at (806) 414-9393. We will be glad to assist you in any way possible. Tours or advising sessions can be made by contacting us at this same number.

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