Pre-Pharmacy

The practice of pharmacy requires detailed knowledge of the physical and chemical properties of drugs as well as their particular biologic effects. Pharmacists practice in a variety of settings, including community pharmacies, hospitals, drug industries, and government agencies. Pharmacists may provide patient care, teach at colleges and universities, or may perform pharmaceutical research.

The preprofessional course work listed below prepares the student to apply to the Doctor of Pharmacy program in the College of Pharmacy. The course work generally requires a minimum of two full-time academic years of study. Most students require at least three years to complete prerequisite course work.

Pre-Pharmacy Courses

Select one of the following mathematics courses:

- MATH 165 Calculus for Business
- MATH 170 Calculus for the Life Sciences
- MATH 180 Calculus I

Select the following:

- CHEM 118 Honors and Majors General and Analytical Chemistry I
- CHEM 119 Honors and Majors General and Analytical Chemistry II
- CHEM 232 Organic Chemistry I
- CHEM 233 Organic Chemistry Laboratory I
- CHEM 234 Organic Chemistry II
- BIOS/CHEM 352 Introductory Biochemistry
- BIOS/CHEM 452 Biochemistry I

Select one of the following statistics courses:

- STAT 101 Introduction to Statistics
- STAT 130 Introduction to Statistics for the Life Sciences
- PHYS 131 Introductory Physics for Life Sciences I
- or PHYS 141 General Physics I (Mechanics)

Select one of the following anatomy and physiology sequences:

- BIOS 110 Biology of Cells and Organisms
- BIOS 120 Biology of Populations and Communities
- BIOS 350 General Microbiology
- BIOS 351 Microbiology Laboratory
- KN 251 Human Physiological Anatomy I
- KN 252 Human Physiological Anatomy II
- KN 253 Human Anatomy and Physiology I
- KN 254 Human Anatomy and Physiology II

Select one of the following general chemistry sequences:

- CHEM 122 General Chemistry I Lecture
- CHEM 123 General Chemistry Laboratory I
- CHEM 124 General Chemistry II Lecture
- CHEM 125 General Chemistry Laboratory II

Select one of the following mathematics courses:

- MATH 165 Calculus for Business
- MATH 170 Calculus for the Life Sciences
- MATH 180 Calculus I

Total Hours 71-74

Additional information regarding the admission/application process can be found on the College of Pharmacy Office of Student Affairs website.

Students apply for admission to the College of Pharmacy through the centralized application service (PharmCAS) sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. Students should apply for admission approximately one year before enrollment.

The minimum GPAs (cumulative, science/math, pre-pharmacy requirement/prerequisite) for application to the program in pharmacy are 2.50/4.00. A minimum grade of C must be earned in each pre-pharmacy requirement. Students completing a bachelor’s degree at UIC must fulfill all the requirements of an undergraduate degree program, including General Education requirements. Students should consult their college and department sections of the catalog for information on completing their degree programs, including General Education requirements, as well as the General Education section of the catalog for a list of approved General Education courses in each category.

Students completing an undergraduate degree at UIC should meet with their academic advisor to select courses in the social or behavioral sciences and humanities that are approved for Exploring World Cultures, Understanding the Creative Arts, Understanding the Past, and Understanding U.S. Society General Education categories.

The College of Pharmacy accepts applications for the fall semester admission only. PharmCAS applications are available starting in mid-July. The College of Pharmacy reviews applications on an ongoing basis beginning shortly after PharmCAS applications are made available. A UIC College of Pharmacy supplemental application is also required.