Why UB?

We proudly create and graduate pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences leaders. For over 130 years, the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (SPPS) at UB has continually been a leader in the education of pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists, renowned for innovation in clinical practice and research. The school is accredited by the American Council of Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE) and is the #1 ranked school of pharmacy in New York State and #14 in the United States by U.S. News & World Report. The school is located in a state-of-the-art building with specialized research labs and centers. It is home to a productive international research program with Distinguished Teaching Professors and faculty members who are recipients of the Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence. UB SPPS offers the “best of both worlds” – you will live and learn among a close-knit community of students and faculty with the resources and facilities of a large research university at your fingertips.

What is the Difference Between the Pharmacy (PharmD) Program & the Pharmaceutical Sciences Programs?

The PharmD program enables one to practice as a licensed pharmacist, interacting with patients and other health care practitioners regarding medications. It is neither an undergraduate (bachelor’s) degree, nor is it a graduate degree (master’s or doctorate). The PharmD is a professional degree for pharmacists similar to the doctor of medicine (MD) for physicians or a doctor of dental surgery (DDS) for dentists. In contrast to that, a degree in the pharmaceutical sciences does not prepare or permit students to practice as a pharmacist, but rather enables them to enter a career in drug development and research for the pharmaceutical industry. UB offers both undergraduate (BS) and graduate (MS, PhD) programs in pharmaceutical sciences.

Prerequisite Courses for University at Buffalo’s Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) Program

- MTH 160 - Statistics I
- MTH 210 - Calculus I
- BIO 144 - Anatomy & Physiology I
- BIO 145 - Anatomy & Physiology II
- BIO 155 - General Biology I
- BIO 156 - General Biology II
- BIO 209 - General Microbiology
- BIO 221 - Principles of Biochemistry
- BIO 230 - Molecular Genetics
- CHE 151 - General College Chemistry I
- CHE 152 - General College Chemistry II
- CHE 251 - Organic Chemistry I
- CHE 252 - Organic Chemistry II
- ENG 101 - English Composition
- ENG 200 - Advanced Composition - A social/behavioral science course

Note: Effective Fall 2022, Calculus II is no longer required but is highly recommended. Effective Fall 2019, Physics I (PHY 145, 154 or 161) is no longer required but is highly recommended. AP and IB exam credit can be accepted for some courses with scores of 4/5.
SUNY General Education Curriculum

For electives, choose from MCC’s Approved List of SUNY General Education Requirements.

Admission

To be considered for the PharmD program at UB, the following criteria are important:

1. Complete all prerequisite courses, with a C- or higher, by the end of the summer session prior to fall admission, and within 5 years preceding admission.

2. Apply to the PharmD program via PharmCAS (Pharmacy College Application Service). Visit pharmacy.buffalo.edu/admissions and pharmcas.org/school-directory for details. UB’s application deadline is June 1.

3. There is no minimum GPA for admission consideration.

4. Effective fall 2022: the PCAT is not required, but students may submit test scores to strengthen their admission consideration if they fall short with grades or GPA. If taking the PCAT, scores must not be older than 3 years, and can be submitted to PharmCAS, or emailed to pharm-admit@buffalo.edu. Scores at or above the national average are considered highly competitive for entry.

5. Have a minimum of two letters of recommendation submitted to PharmCAS. Instructions for submission of letters can be found on the PharmCAS website (pharmcas.org). Do not send your letters directly to UB.

6. Demonstrate motivation for pharmacy. While experience is not required, it is recommended to volunteer or shadow in a health care organization, engage in research, and/or gain leadership experience through clubs and other organizations.

7. Write a personal essay about your desire for a career in pharmacy.

8. Prepare for an admissions interview.

Additional Criteria of Importance for Acceptance

- Effective written and oral communication skills using the English language, as well as strong academic integrity (see Applicant Code of Conduct).

- The faculty of the UB SPPS have established Personal Attributes and Capabilities Essential for Admission, Progression, and Graduation (Technical Standards) for the doctor of pharmacy Degree (pharmacy.buffalo.edu/academic-programs/pharmd/Technical_Standards.html).

- See important information on student intern permits and pharmacy practice licensing requirements (pharmacy.buffalo.edu/academic-programs/pharmd/intern-permits-and-licensing-requirements.html).

- Learn about our Non-Discrimination Policy (http://pharmacy.buffalo.edu/non-discrimination.html).
Pharmaceutical Sciences

Pharmaceutical Scientists at UB perform cutting-edge research in drug delivery, protein formulation, drug metabolism, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacogenomics. These research studies are aimed at improving therapy for many diseases, such as cancer, transplantation rejection, multiple sclerosis, auto-immune diseases, and cardiovascular diseases. UB students are exposed to contemporary research techniques and practices. Graduates are highly recruited by national laboratories, in academia, industry and government. UB’s long standing tradition of excellence in education and research continues to receive national and international acclaim and recognition. UB offers several pharmaceutical sciences programs:

- **BS**: While the program is structurally a basic four-year science program (similar to biochemistry and biology), it uniquely offers an interdisciplinary field of study which seeks to achieve better understanding and control of the factors influencing clinical response to drug therapy.

- **Combined BS/MS**: An accelerated program for academically qualified students that are already enrolled in the BS degree; graduates of this program are highly sought after by pharmaceutical companies.

- **MS in Pharmaceutical Sciences**: Normally involves two years of additional post-graduate education beyond the BS; this comprehensive degree has internationally-renowned faculty in the fields of drug development and delivery whose research and cutting-edge knowledge has resulted in many novel drug delivery approaches and treatments.

- **MS in Pharmacometrics and Personalized Pharmacotherapy**: A new and unique graduate program focused on advanced training in pharmacometric principles of advanced pharmacokinetics (study of absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion of drugs) and pharmacodynamics (study of drug effects and toxicity in treatment of diseases) to enhance personalized pharmacotherapy.

- **PhD**: The highly sought-after PhD gives students the opportunity to work with internationally-renowned faculty specializing in the fields of systems pharmacology and drug delivery. Students receive distinct and rigorous training, allowing them to assume cutting-edge and leadership positions in industry, government and academia.

For questions, please contact:
Office of Admissions and Advisement
270 Pharmacy Building
Buffalo, NY 14214
pharm-admit@buffalo.edu

*Note: While every effort is made to ensure that the information in this guide is accurate, students are advised to contact transfer institutions for specific course requirements and the most up-to-date information.*

Updated 10/2021