SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

If you are interested in becoming a pharmacist, a PharmD (Doctor of Pharmacy) degree is needed. PharmD degrees do not require a bachelor's degree first, but you do need to complete a set of college prerequisite courses and a specific number of college credits to apply to the PharmD degree program.

- For more information on the PharmD degree and program, visit the PharmD section of the Guide (https://guide.wisc.edu/pharmacy/pharmacy-school-wide/pharmacy-dph/).
- If you are a current or prospective UW–Madison undergraduate student, and interested in entering the PharmD program in the future, visit our pre-pharmacy at (https://students.pharmacy.wisc.edu/student-services/sop-advising/pre-pharmacy-uwmadison/)UW (https://students.pharmacy.wisc.edu/student-services/sop-advising/pre-pharmacy-uwmadison/)– (https://students.pharmacy.wisc.edu/student-services/sop-advising/pre-pharmacy-uwmadison/)Madison (https://students.pharmacy.wisc.edu/student-services/sop-advising/pre-pharmacy-uwmadison/) website (https://students.pharmacy.wisc.edu/student-services/sop-advising/pre-pharmacy-uwmadison/) for more information on resources and pre-pharmacy advising available to you.
- If you are a high school student or a first-semester college freshman interested in becoming a pharmacist, learn about our PharmD Early Assurance (https://pharmacy.wisc.edu/academics/pharmd/early-assurance/) program and how you can get conditional admission to UW–Madison's PharmD program.
- For prerequisite and admissions information for all other students, visit the PharmD admissions website (https://pharmacy.wisc.edu/academics/pharmd/admissions/).

If you are interested in a pharmacy or biomedical sciences-related career that does not require a pharmacist license, consider checking out our BS in Pharmacology and Toxicology program below.

BS IN PHARMACOLOGY AND TOXICOLOGY

The BS in Pharmacology and Toxicology (PharmTox) focuses on the biomedical sciences. **Pharmacology** is concerned with the properties, effects, and mechanisms of action of drugs, and with the interactions between chemical agents and biological systems. **Toxicology**, the science of poisons, combines the elements of biology and chemistry with those of many other disciplines to help us understand the harmful effects of chemicals on living organisms.

A major challenge for the **pharmacologist** is to determine how drugs act. This can be carried out at the subcellular and molecular level, the cellular level, the tissue level, the organ level, or the whole-animal level. Pharmacologists also are concerned with the development of new drugs that produce fewer side effects while curing disease, and provide more effective and/or more rapid treatment of disease in humans or animals.

Toxicologists find scientifically sound answers to questions about chemicals that may potentially threaten our health, about pesticides in the food we eat, pollutants in the air we breathe, chemicals in the water we drink, and toxic waste sites near our homes. Some toxicologists are concerned with determining the cellular mechanisms by which drugs and chemicals produce toxic effects. Many are involved in subspecialty areas in toxicology research, such as reproductive and developmental toxicology, neurotoxicology, immunotoxicology, and inhalation toxicology. Researchers in these areas utilize both laboratory animals and in vitro systems to examine the cellular, biochemical, and molecular processes underlying toxic responses.

BS IN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

The BS in Pharmaceutical Sciences **is not a major** but is an internal degree granted to current Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) students after they complete at least one year of the PharmD program. In order to qualify for the BS in Pharmaceutical Sciences, students must have attended UW–Madison as an undergraduate prior to entering the School of Pharmacy and must meet all degree requirements.

DEGREES/MAJORS/CERTIFICATES

DEGREES/MAJORS/CERTIFICATES

- Pharmaceutical Sciences, BS (https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/pharmacy/pharmacy/pharmaceutical-sciences-bs/)
- Pharmacology and Toxicology, BS (https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/pharmacy/pharmacy/pharmacology-toxicology-bs/)

ENTERING THE SCHOOL

ENTERING THE SCHOOL

Admission to either the BS in Pharmacology and Toxicology or the Doctor of Pharmacy program is selective and competitive, and requires specific prerequisite coursework as well as a complete admissions application. Completion of required prerequisite coursework does not guarantee admission. Each applicant's admission credentials are considered not only on their own merit, but also in comparison with the credentials of other applicants.

For detailed information on prerequisites and the application for the BS in Pharmacology and Toxicology (PharmTox), see the major's "How to Get In" tab in the (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/pharmacy/pharmacy/pharmacology-toxicology-bs/#howtogetintext)*Guide*.

Information about the required elements of the application and prerequisites for the PharmD (Doctor of Pharmacy) program can be found on the School of Pharmacy website (https://pharmacy.wisc.edu/programs/pharmd/admissions/).

Most pre-pharmacy students are admitted to UW–Madison as College of Letters & Science students with an intention to pursue a School of Pharmacy program (PharmTox undergraduate degree **and/or** the professional PharmD program). While our School of Pharmacy does not directly admit students from high school, we do offer comprehensive academic, admissions, and career advising to students who have expressed an interest in either of these programs. The School of Pharmacy also offers an Early Assurance program for high school seniors and first-semester freshmen admitted to a Universities of Wisconsin campus. The Early Assurance program provides conditional admission to UW–Madison's PharmD program. The Early Assurance application is offered

through the School of Pharmacy and is separate from the undergraduate application process. Please refer to the Resources (https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/pharmacy/#resourcestext) section to start exploring available resources and opportunities available for pre-School of Pharmacy students at UW–Madison.

POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

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For a list of Pharmacology and Toxicology (PharmTox) undergraduate policies, including academic standing and probation policies, please visit the PharmTox Policy Handbook (https://students.pharmacy.wisc.edu/pharm-tox-handbook/).

RESOURCES

RESOURCES

ACADEMIC ADVISING

If you're a current UW–Madison undergraduate student, you have access to dedicated, structured pre-pharmacy advising at the School of Pharmacy. Please choose the School of Pharmacy as your advising group option when you make your SOAR reservation in April. We're here to help you with:

- Career paths related to pharmacy, pharmacology, and toxicology
- Understanding prerequisites and developing a plan for completion
- Accessing courses and guidance on how to sequence classes
- PharmD and PharmTox curriculum and degree options
- Admissions selection criteria
- Application process and components

Who is a pre-pharmacy student? A pre-pharmacy student is anyone who is taking the courses necessary to be considered for admission to the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) professional program and/or the BS in Pharmacology and Toxicology (PharmTox) at the UW–Madison School of Pharmacy. Completion of prerequisite coursework does not guarantee admission as admission is selective and competitive.

How do I get started with pre-pharmacy advising? Schedule your pre-pharmacy advising appointment using the Starfish app (https://wisc.starfishsolutions.com/starfish-ops/) in MyUW. Search for "Kendra Gurnee" to meet with the pre-PharmTox advisor or "Amy Zwaska" to meet with the pre-PharmD advisor. Any UW–Madison student with any major or no major can access our dedicated pre-pharmacy advising services at the School of Pharmacy. Individual appointments are typically scheduled for 30 minutes.

If you experience any trouble with the scheduling process:

- You can get help with Starfish here (https://advising.wisc.edu/facstaff/starfish/starfish-student-resources/).
- You can also contact the School of Pharmacy Student and Academic Affairs Office at 608-262-6234 to set up your advising appointment.

Due to the selective nature of the PharmD and PharmTox admissions processes, interested students are encouraged to meet with School of Pharmacy advisors early and often to explore our programs and get valuable guidance about prerequisites, selection criteria, application timeline/procedures, and career opportunities. We recommend that you meet with your pre-pharmacy advisor at least once per semester.

For more information on preparing for and applying to our programs, visit our admissions resources for PharmD (https://pharmacy.wisc.edu/academics/pharmd/admissions/) and PharmTox (https://pharmacy.wisc.edu/academics/pharm-tox/admissions/).

EARLY ASSURANCE

Early Assurance (https://pharmacy.wisc.edu/academics/pharmd/early-assurance/) offers high school and first-semester college freshmen conditional admission to the UW–Madison PharmD program. Eligible students must be admitted to a Universities of Wisconsin campus and complete the Early Assurance application which is separate from the undergraduate application process.

FINANCIAL AID

Students who seek financial assistance should contact the UW–Madison Office of Student Financial Aid (https://financialaid.wisc.edu/) for financial aid applications and information about scholarships, loans, grants, work-study programs, and student employment.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY SCHOLARSHIPS

The School of Pharmacy awards a variety of scholarships each year to admitted PharmTox and PharmD students. Awards are based on both academic merit and financial need. Students are invited to apply to School of Pharmacy-specific scholarships, as well as campus-wide or non-Pharmacy scholarships, through the Wisconsin Scholarship Hub (https://wisc.academicworks.com/).

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Students will find many organizations of interest, both in the School and across the UW–Madison campus. The School of Pharmacy student organizations website (https://students.pharmacy.wisc.edu/student-life/student-organizations/) has a comprehensive listing of student organizations and groups that are affiliated with the School.

FACILITIES

The School of Pharmacy is located in Rennebohm Hall on the west side of campus, near University Hospital and Clinics and Health Sciences Learning Center. The School of Pharmacy provides students and faculty with the finest possible physical environment for professional pharmacy and for research in pharmaceutical fields of study.