



PRE-PHARMACY PREPARATION

AT EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

NAME	
E NUMBER	
CATALOG	

SP20

Pharmacists are essential healthcare professionals who enhance patient care and promote wellness. When pharmacists are involved in patient care, outcomes improve and costs decline. Pharmacy is a diverse and rewarding career, with opportunities for patient care, scientific research and innovation.

To prepare for a career in pharmacy, a student must complete a Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm. D.) degree at a professional college of pharmacy. A Pharm.D. degree consists of 4 academic years of professional education. Although it is possible to apply for a Pharm.D. program after completing 60 semester hours at the undergraduate level, it is not the norm. Many students complete at least 3 years of undergraduate education, while most complete their baccalaureate degree. A "C" or better in all prerequisite coursework and a minimum of a 2.5 GPA are required, although the average accepted student has around a 3.5 GPA. Pharmacy colleges encourage or require applicants to have volunteer or paid experience working with patients in a pharmacy or

health-related setting (hospital, nursing home, etc.). Ongoing work or volunteer experience in a pharmacy setting may be an important factor in the admissions process. Most pharmacy degree programs require 1-4 letters of recommendation typically from a science professor and a pharmacist.

Most pharmacy programs utilize the PharmCAS application service (www.pharmcas.org). Applicants can apply as early as July one year prior to when they plan to enter a program and must take the PCAT exam. The PCAT (Pharmacy College Admissions Test) is offered a limited number of times throughout the year. Visit pcatweb.info for specific dates for the academic year. The potential applicant needs to take the PCAT no later than October of the year prior to entry. The PCAT has 5 sections: Writing, Biological Processes, Chemical Processes, Critical Reading and Quantitative Reasoning. Scores range from 100-300 with the minimal accepted score in the 50th percentile.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

LANGUAGE: 9 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
ENG 1001G Composition & Language	3		
ENG 1002G Composition & Literature	3		
CMN 1310G Speech Communication	3		

SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE: 9 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
PSY 1879G Intro to Psychology	3		
ECN 2800G OR 2801G OR 2802G* Economics of Social Issues/Macro/Micro	3		
	3		

HUMANITIES/FINE ARTS: 9 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
PHI 1000G* Intro to Philosophy OR PHI 1900G* Logic & Critical Reasoning	3		
Fine Arts	3		
Humanities	3		

CHEMISTRY*: 19 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
CHM 1310G General Chemistry I	3		
CHM 1315G General Chemistry I Lab	1		
CHM 1410 General Chemistry II	3		
CHM 1415 General Chemistry II Lab	1		
CHM 2440 Organic Chemistry I	3		
CHM 2445 Organic Chemistry I Lab	1		
CHM 2840 Organic Chemistry II	3		
CHM 2845 Organic Chemistry II Lab	1		
CHM 3450* Biochemistry	3		

BIOLOGY*: 12 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
BIO 1500 General Biology I	4		
BIO 2210 Anatomy & Physiology I	4		
BIO 2220 Anatomy & Physiology II	4		
BIO 3300* Microbiology	4		

PHYSICS*: 8 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
PHY 1151G Principles of Physics I	3		
PHY 1152G Principles of Physics I Lab	1		
PHY 1161* Principles of Physics II	3		
PHY 1162* Principles of Physics II Lab	1		

MATH*: 8-9 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
MAT 2250G Elementary Statistics	4		
MAT 2110G* Brief Calculus OR MAT 1441G* Calculus I	4 5		

* Additional prerequisite classes may be required. See Undergraduate Catalog.

* Required by some pharmacy schools

Check each program for their specific requirements

Departmental Exit Interview is also required prior to leaving EIU.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

PRE-HEALTH PROFESSIONS ADVISING

Eastern Illinois University
Life Science Building
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, IL 61920
Phone: 217-581-3126
Email: healthprofessions@eiu.edu

WHAT MAKES YOU UNIQUE FROM OTHER APPLICANTS?

Healthcare Experience

- Volunteer or work: hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, assisted living centers, crisis nursery, rehab centers are a few examples.
- Shadow/volunteer/work with pharmacists in a variety of settings.

Leadership Experience

Pharmacists are leaders. Demonstrated leadership skills are a must. Campus, church, and community organizations provide excellent leadership opportunities.

RESOURCES:

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy

www.aacp.org

Chicago College of Pharmacy, Midwestern University

www.midwestern.edu/ccp

Chicago State University College of Pharmacy

www.csu.edu/pharmacy/

Roosevelt University

www.roosevelt.edu/Pharmacy

Rosalind Franklin University, North Chicago, IL

rosalindfranklin.edu/collegeofpharmacy/

Southern Illinois College of Pharmacy

www.siu.edu/pharmacy/

University of Illinois at Chicago College of Pharmacy

www.uic.edu/pharmacy

SAMPLE COURSE SEQUENCE:

The suggested course sequence accounts for typical pharmacy school prerequisites and general education requirements, assuming the foreign language requirement has been completed. It does not include all requirements for a bachelor degree from EIU.

FRESHMAN	
FALL	SPRING
ENG 1001G BIO 1500 CHM 1310G/1315G PSY 1879G	ENG 1002G CHM 1410/1415 SOC 1838G
SOPHOMORE	
FALL	SPRING
BIO 3120 CHM 2440/2445 Gen Ed Elective	BIO 3200 CHM 2840/2845 BIO 2210 Gen Ed Elective
JUNIOR	
FALL	SPRING
BIO 2220 PHY 1151G/1152G (Fall ONLY) CHM 3450 (Fall ONLY) PCAT Prep	BIO 4750 OR MAT 2250G PHY 1161/1162 (Spring ONLY) CMN 1310G PCAT Exam/Apply to Pharmacy School
SENIOR	
FALL	SPRING
EIU 4***G Gen Ed Elective Pharmacy School Admission Interviews	Gen Ed Elective Pre-Health Advising Exit Interview