

**University of Rhode Island  
College of Pharmacy**

**Pre-Professional Student Manual**



**Class of 2027**

*We will lead through innovative pharmacy education, research and practice advances, effective global health care, merging true entrepreneurial spirit with care and compassion.*

## Welcome to the College of Pharmacy, Class of 2027!

URI College of Pharmacy students, faculty, and staff look forward to assisting you in achieving your goal to earn your Doctor of Pharmacy Degree. The path you have chosen is challenging, and it requires commitment throughout the next six years as you prepare to become a licensed pharmacist.

As a freshman you will be assigned to the University of Rhode Island's University College for Academic Success. Your advisor is from the College of Pharmacy and is your direct link to the Pharmacy Program. In addition to assisting in curriculum planning, he/she will be one of your best resources for obtaining knowledge and guidance about all areas of your academic life. Specifically, the advisors will discuss your course schedule, will help you decide if it is necessary to drop or add a class, and generally will provide the best academic guidance in order for you to obtain your degree on schedule.

As a Doctor of Pharmacy student, your curriculum is very structured. Please check with your advisor **before** you make any changes in the courses in which you are registered. **Do not ask other University students or other University College (UC) advisors in other disciplines for advice** as it may not apply to you in the same manner.

As stated in the [University Catalog](#), "**The responsibility for meeting all course and credit requirements for the degree must rest with each individual student.**" Your academic advisor will assist, but you will ultimately determine the level of your success.

This student manual was prepared by the Office of Student Affairs in the College of Pharmacy to assist in your academic journey. It is important to recognize the need to maintain your academic performance during the next four semesters so that you do not lose your seat in the professional program. We urge you to work closely with your pharmacy advisor to ensure that you are meeting College of Pharmacy expectations.

**The first part of this manual will apply to your pre-professional years (first year and sophomore) and the second part will allow you to look ahead to the professional years (P1-P4).**

## Technical Standards

In addition to the academic requirements for admission, applicants must also meet the technical standards that the College deems essential for training and practice in the profession of pharmacy. Students who have concerns about their ability to meet these standards should contact the Associate Dean of the College. When requested, the College will provide reasonable accommodation to otherwise qualified students. Students should work closely with the [Office of Disability, Access, and Inclusion](#) for support.

These functions include, but are not limited to:

**Observation:** A candidate must be able to observe demonstrations and experiments in the basic sciences. A candidate must be able to observe a patient accurately at a distance and close at hand. The candidate must be able to visually observe and interpret presented information. This will necessitate the functional use of vision, hearing, and somatic senses.

**Communication:** A candidate must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients, caregivers, faculty/staff, and all members of the healthcare team. The focus of this communication is to elicit information, describe changes in mood, activity and posture, and perceive nonverbal communication. An applicant must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently orally and in writing.

**Sensory/Motor:** The candidate must have sufficient motor function and skills necessary to perform basic tasks in the practice of pharmacy. Examples of such tasks may include the compounding of medicinals, physical assessment, the administration of drugs, and the provision of basic cardiac life support. Such actions require the coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and functional use of the senses.

**Intellectual:** A candidate must have the ability to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, synthesize, and integrate information that is essential to fully develop these skills. A candidate must be fully alert and attentive at all times in clinical settings.

**Behavioral/Social:** A candidate must be of sufficient emotional health to utilize fully his or her intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, and the prompt completion of all patient care responsibilities. A candidate must possess the ability to develop mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients. A candidate must be able to tolerate physically and emotionally taxing workloads and to function effectively under stress. A candidate must be able to adapt to changing environments, to display flexibility and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of many patients. A candidate must possess compassion, integrity, interpersonal skills, and motivation to excel in pharmacy practice.

**Health.** Certain illnesses impair a student's performance. These include, but are not limited to, active drug and/or alcohol addiction, severe depression and other psychiatric illnesses. It is not permissible for students to interact with patients while impaired by these conditions. It is the policy of the College of Pharmacy to encourage recognition of these conditions and to support treatment so that the student may resume their studies in the College.

## **GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

All students enrolled in the Doctor of Pharmacy Program and the Bachelors of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences Program are required to meet the University requirements for general education. General education consists of 40 credits. Each of the twelve outcomes (A1-D1) must be met by at least 3 credits. A single course may meet more than one outcome, but cannot be double counted towards the 40-credit total. At least one course must be a Grand Challenge (G designation). No more than twelve credits used to meet general education may be from the same course code, with the exception of honors HPR courses, which may have more than 12 credits. General education courses may also be used to meet requirements of the major or minor when appropriate.

General Education encompasses the following four key objectives (A-D), met by the following twelve outcomes:

**A-Build knowledge** of diverse peoples and cultures and of the natural and physical world through the following four outcomes:

**A1** - Understand and apply theories and methods of the **science, technology, engineering, and mathematical (STEM) disciplines**

**A2** - Understand theories and methods of the **social and behavioral sciences**

**A3** - Understand the context and significance of the **humanities** using theoretical, historical, and experiential perspectives

**A4** - Understand the context and significance of **arts and design**

**B-Develop intellectual and interdisciplinary competencies** for academic and lifelong learning through the following four outcomes:

**B1 - Write effective** and precise texts that fulfill their communicative purposes and address various audiences

**B2- Communicate effectively** via listening, delivering oral presentations, and actively participating in group work

**B3** - Apply the appropriate **mathematical, statistical, or computational strategies** to problem solving

**B4** - Develop **information literacy** to independently research complex issues

**C-Exercise individual and social responsibilities** through the following three outcomes:

**C1-** Develop and engage in **civic knowledge and responsibilities**

**C2-** Develop and exercise **global responsibilities**

**C3-** Develop and exercise **diversity and inclusion responsibilities**

**D-Integrate and apply** abilities and capacities developed under each of the 3 above areas, adapting them to new settings, questions, and responsibilities

**D1** Demonstrate the ability to synthesize multiple knowledge perspectives, competencies and responsibilities

**G-Grand Challenge** – Exploration of multiple perspectives of areas of contemporary significance, including their ethical implications

**G-** At least one course must have the “G” designation for Grand Challenge

## **PRE-PROFESSIONAL CURRICULUM FOR PHARM.D. DEGREE**

### **First Year**

#### **First Semester: 15 credits**

3 CHM 101 General Chemistry I  
1 CHM 102 Lab for Chemistry 101  
3 WRT 106 or COM 100  
3 BIO 101 General Biology  
1 BIO 103 Lab for BIO 101  
3 PHL 212  
1 URI 101

#### **Second Semester: 17 credits**

3 CHM 112 General Chemistry II  
1 CHM 114 Lab for Chemistry 112  
3 MTH 131 Applied Calculus (or MTH 141)  
3 WRT 106 or COM 100  
3 BIO 220 Anatomy/Physiology I  
1 BIO 221 Anatomy/Physiology I Lab  
3 Elective

### **Second Year**

#### **First semester: 17 credits**

3 CHM 227 Organic Chemistry Lecture 1  
3 ECN 201 Principles of Economics: Microeconomics  
4 CMB 201 Introductory Medical Microbiology  
3 BIO 222 Anatomy/Physiology II  
1 BIO 223 Anatomy/Physiology II Lab  
3 Elective

#### **Second semester: 17 credits**

3 CMB 311 Introductory Biochemistry  
3 CHM 228 Organic Chemistry Lecture  
2 CHM 226 Organic Chemistry Lab  
4 STA 307 Introductory Biostatistics  
3 Electives

During your second year you may wish to take advantage of the National Student Exchange Program (contact the coordinator in University College) or the Study Abroad Program (housed in Taft Hall) for a semester. You need to work closely with the Assistant Dean in Pharmacy, to plan accordingly, so that you will not lose your seat and complete all coursework in a timely manner.

**Final permission for all off-campus work must be obtained from the Assistant Dean of Pharmacy, College of Pharmacy.**

**GENERAL EDUCATION GUIDELINES:** General education is 40 credits. Each of the twelve outcomes (A1-D1) must be met by at least 3 credits. A single course may meet more than one outcome, but cannot be double counted towards the 40 credit total. At least one course must be a Grand Challenge (G). No more than twelve credits can have the same course code (note- HPR courses may have more than 12 credits). General education courses may also be used to meet requirements of the major or minor when appropriate.

General Education Credit Count					
At least 40 cr., no more than 12 credits with the same course code.					
Course	Cr.	Grade	Course	Cr.	Grade
			Total Gen Ed credits		
				≥ 40	

General Education Outcome Audit		
	Course	Grade
<b>KNOWLEDGE</b>		
A1. STEM		
A2. Social & Behavioral Sciences		
A3. Humanities		
A4. Arts & Design		
<b>COMPETENCIES</b>		
B1. Write effectively		
B2. Communicate effectively		
B3. Mathematical, statistical, or computational strategies		
B4. Information literacy		
<b>RESPONSIBILITIES</b>		
C1. Civic knowledge & responsibilities		
C2. Global responsibilities		
C3. Diversity and inclusion		
<b>INTEGRATE &amp; APPLY</b>		
D1. Ability to synthesize		
<b>GRAND CHALLENGE</b>		
G. Check that at least one course of your 40 credits is an approved "G" course		

**Note to all students**

This worksheet is a snapshot of your entire curriculum. You must also complete remaining degree requirements to meet University requirements (GenEd, supporting electives, and free electives). You must work with your advisor each term to discuss requirements to keep you on course for timely progress to complete this major. Official requirements for graduation are listed in the University Catalog.

**ABOUT THE DOCTOR OF PHARMACY PROGRAM:**

The Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum is a ‘zero to six’ program, which means you begin as a freshman and complete the program in six years, graduating with a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. The program stresses critical thinking, active learning and clinical experience to prepare you for practice in a variety of professional settings.

<b>Basic Non-Science Requirements</b> (these courses also fulfill general education requirements)	<b>Course</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Cr.</b>
Microeconomics	ECN 201*		3
Ethics	PHL 212*		3
Communication	COM 100*		3
Research Writing	WRT 106*		3
Introduction to URI	URI 101		1

<b>Basic Science /Math Requirements</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Cr.</b>
General Chemistry I	CHM 101*		3
General Chemistry I Lab	CHM 102		1
General Chemistry II	CHM 112		3
General Chemistry II Lab	CHM 114		1
Organic Chemistry Lab	CHM 226		2
Organic Chemistry I	CHM 227		3
Organic Chemistry II	CHM 228		3
General Biology	BIO 101*		3
General Biology Lab	BIO 103*		1
Anatomy and Physiology I	BIO 220/221		4
Anatomy and Physiology II	BIO 222/223		4
Microbiology	CMB 201		4
Biochemistry	CMB 311		3
Biostatistics	STA 307		4
Calculus	MTH 131*		3

**You must have a 2.7 minimum gpa with no grade less than C- in your basic math and science (pre-professional) courses And your overall gpa of 3.00**

<b>Professional Requirements</b>			
<b>P1 First Semester</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Cr.</b>
Pharmaceutics I	BPS 319		3
Biomed & Pharm Sci I	BPS 337		4
Clin & Ther Sci I	PHP 327		3
Pharm. Tech. Lab	BPS 318		2
SAS I	PHP 307		3
Self-Care I	PHP 315		3
PHP Experience IPPE I	PHP 340 or 350		1
<b>P1 Second Semester</b>			
Biomed & Pharm Sci II	BPS 338		3
Clin & Ther Sci II	PHP 328		4
Integrated Lab I	PHC 316		1
SAS II	PHP 308		3
Nutrition	NFS 444		3
Immunizations	PHP 303		1
<b>P2 First Semester</b>			
Biomed & Pharm Sci III	BPS 437		3
Clin & Ther Sci III	PHP 427		4
Integrated lab II	PHC 415		1
SAS III	PHP 407		3
Immunotherapeutics	PHP/BPS 415		3
Pharmaceutics	BPS 320		3
IPPE II	PHP 450		2
<b>P2 Second Semester</b>			
Biomed & Pharm Sci IV	BPS 438		3
Clin & Ther Sci IV	PHP 428		4
Integrated lab III	PHC 416		1
SAS IV	PHP 408		3
Self Care II	PHP 418		3
Professional Elective			3

<b>Professional Requirements</b>			
<b>P3 First Semester</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Cr.</b>
Biomed & Pharm Sci V	BPS 537		3
Clin & Ther Sci V	PHP 527		4
Integrated lab IV	PHC 515		2
Prec Med and Genomics	BPS/PHP 547		3
Pedi & Geri Tx	PHP 509		3
IPPE III	PHP 451		1
Professional Elective			3
<b>P3 Second Semester</b>			
Biomed & Pharm Sci VI	BPS 538		2
Clin & Ther Sci VI	PHP 528		4
Capstone	PHP 548		4
SAS V	PHP 508		3
Professional Elective			3
<b>P4 First Semester</b>			
Rotations	PHP ____		6
Rotations	PHP ____		6
Rotations	PHP ____		6
<b>P4 Second Semester</b>			
Rotations	PHP ____		6
Rotations	PHP ____		6
Rotations	PHP ____		6
CPR Certification			1
Total Graduation Credits *			209
Must be CPR certified which adds 1 credit to equal 209			

\* Indicates requirements that also count as General Education Courses

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR PROGRESSION INTO THE PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM**

Pharm.D. students must request transfer from University College for Academic Success to the College of Pharmacy at the end of three semesters. There are three requirements for successful progression.

1. During your sophomore year, all students are required to have a formal interview (see College of Pharmacy Admission Interview on next page). Your progression to the professional program will be contingent upon a successful interview. The interview is designed to assess your commitment to the profession of pharmacy, knowledge of the profession, and ability to communicate with patients. Interviews will follow University policies for excused absences (University Manual Sections 8.51.11-8.51.13). If a student fails to attend the scheduled interview for reasons outside of Sections 8.51.11-8.51.13, the student will receive an automatic failure for their first interview and be allowed only one other opportunity to successfully interview. Otherwise, all students will be allowed a maximum of two interviews to successfully complete this program requirement. Students unsuccessful in completing the interview by the second attempt will be dismissed from the Pharm.D. program.
2. After three semesters, only those pharmacy students having a 2.70 grade point average or better in 13 of the 17 required preprofessional courses with no grade less than C- in any of these courses.
  - a. **CMB 201 and 311; BIO 101, 103, 220, 221, 222, and 223; CHM 101, 102, 112, 114, 226, 227, and 228; MTH 131; and STA 307**
  - b. Completion of **ECN 201, WRT 106, COM 100, and PHL 212.**
3. An overall grade point average of 3.00

Students admitted to the pre-pharmacy program are **NOT** necessarily guaranteed a place in the pharmacy program in the P1 year if these requirements are not met. Those URI pre-pharmacy students, who at the end of three semesters have satisfactorily completed **13 of the 17 pre-requisites science and math courses** below and have a grade average on all required science courses of at least **2.70 with no grade lower than C-**, will be admitted in the pharmacy program after successful completion of the interview. ***You must maintain the 2.7 with nothing less than C- requirement during the 4<sup>th</sup> semester to keep your seat.***

Unsuccessful candidates will lose their pharmacy seat at the end of the third semester. The students still interested in pharmacy, will have to compete during the fourth semester, for any **remaining seats** with transfer students from other universities or URI students who wish to change their major to Pharmacy. Competition will be based on academic performance in the pre-pharmacy science courses, as well as a personal interview. In addition, all 16 of the above listed courses, will be used to compute the pre-professional qpa. If you lose your seat because your pre-professional qpa is < 2.7, your chances of successfully competing for a seat are limited given the number of transfer applicants each year. In **NO** case will students who have a grade average of less than 2.70 be admitted to the pharmacy program.

## **COLLEGE OF PHARMACY ADMISSION INTERVIEW**

As part of the admissions process into the College of Pharmacy, students are required to complete a standardized interview. The purpose of the interview is to assess characteristics related to personal and professional development as a pharmacist. Interviews will evaluate academic preparation, communication skills, professionalism, personal qualities, and future goals.

**What to expect during the pre-pharmacy interview:** You will be assigned an interview time early in the spring semester of your sophomore year. *Those studying abroad for a semester will interview late in the fall prior to leaving the country.*

Small groups of students will be assigned to each room with 3 interviewers: a faculty member, a preceptor or alumni, and a P3/P4 student. You will be asked questions from 4 domains:

- Commitment to Pharmacy Profession
- Conflict Resolution
- Personal Insight
- Commitment to Patient – Centered Care

During the interview, it is helpful to provide detailed answers and specific examples, avoid “yes” and “no” responses. Your answers should depict specific examples where you have demonstrated the necessary skills to become a pharmacist and show your commitment towards this career path. Speak clearly and concisely, avoid saying filler phrases: um, uh, like, you know, in other words, etc...

Interviews should take approximately 45 minutes. You will not be provided any feedback on your performance after the interview; please do not ask the interviewers how you did.

**How to prepare for the pre-pharmacy interview:** Reflect upon the reasons that motivate you to become a pharmacist and specific reasons you came to this decision. It will help you to research contemporary issues impacting pharmacy and health-care practices. Come prepared with questions to ask your interview team about school or pharmacy practice, interviewers will be expecting questions upon conclusion of the interview.

An information session and mock interviews are often offered prior to the formal interviews. Take advantages of opportunities to assist you in preparation for the interview, many students find this helpful. It will provide a chance for you to think on your feet and feedback is included on how to improve your performance. *Be sure to check your email regularly throughout the fall semester for dates and times, including your assigned interview time. If you are not receiving emails through the listserv, please contact the Assistant Dean.*

**Completing the writing sample.** You will be asked to complete a short writing sample with the scheduled pre-pharmacy interview. We are looking for well-constructed essays, not necessarily how much you can write, in the allotted 30 minute time.

**Professional dress is recommended.**

## **PHARMACY ORGANIZATIONS**

As a new student at URI, you will find that the student pharmacy organizations have many things to offer to you. One benefit is the opportunity to meet other students in pharmacy--not only your own classmates but the upperclassmen who can give you added insight into what is ahead.

Pharmacy organizations offer you a chance to meet people in pharmacy, have a voice in your education, gain information about the curriculum and add to your knowledge through professional service projects. It's definitely worth your while to get involved.

Please see the attached flyer you were provided in URI 101 listing current pharmacy organizations. This information is also available on the College of Pharmacy website.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

Some of you may find that your adjustment to college does not go as well as you had expected. This is common- you are experiencing a lot of change in a short period of time. Remember that the University is here to help you when problems of any kind arise. For more information you should visit the website <https://web.uri.edu/ucas/>. Also the academic advisors are prepared to refer you to the appropriate office for any specific problems you may have. Please do not wait until it is too late to ask for help.