UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
College of Pharmacy

ADMISSIONS TIPS AND TRICKS FOR PHARMACY SCHOOL

Updated Summer 2026

Congratulations on your decision to be a pharmacist. We are excited you are considering the University of Georgia to pursue your goal. Here are a few tips to help you on your journey to pharmacy school.

Education

- Familiarize yourself with the Pre-Pharmacy Curriculum. We require the successful completion of 69 credit hours in the sciences, quantitative reasoning, social sciences, and world languages and culture.
- If you are currently a high school student, consider taking Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or Dual Enrollment courses that will complete our Pre-Pharmacy Curriculum. Not only does this help with applying to our program, but it also reduces future tuition costs!
- Make sure to meet with your academic advisor each semester so you can plan your progression and ensure you complete academic requirements for admission into pharmacy school.
- Most importantly, do well in your pre-pharmacy classes. The knowledge you gain in those classes will be the foundation for what you learn in pharmacy school.
- Make sure you use your time to develop other skills to help you be successful in pharmacy school, such as study habits and time management.

Pharmacy Experience

- Previous pharmacy experience is not required for admission into the Doctor of Pharmacy program, but it is strongly recommended. There are a few ways you can get experience in pharmacy or in healthcare settings, such as working as a pharmacy technician, volunteering in clinics or hospitals, or shadowing a pharmacist or other healthcare workers.
- Be sure to do your research about pharmacy as a career. Here are some resources to help you learn more about careers in pharmacy:
    - Learn more about different pharmacy career paths through ASHP's Career in Pharmacy Videos and APhA Career Option Profiles.
- Pharmacy Is Right For Me also has some great resources, such as informational videos, a career quiz, and admissions tips.
- Learn even more about being a pharmacist directly from a pharmacist! Conduct an informational interview with a pharmacist to learn more about what the job is like.

Leadership & Involvement

- Pharmacists are leaders, so strong candidates for the pharmacy program also have some leadership experience.
- We like to say "quality over quantity"; instead of being involved in 10 different organizations and attending meetings and events, pick a few that you are most passionate about, and get more involved within those organizations.
- Looking for ideas? Why not join your school's pre-pharmacy organization? If they don't have one yet, you can start it!
- Pharmacists are important pillars in the community in which they work, so community involvement and volunteering are also great ways to build up your experience. Need ideas? Find an organization that matches your interests, join a service organization on campus, volunteer with a local faith-based group, or donate your time to a health fair in the community.

- Don't forget your work experience, too! Each job you've had has helped you gain more experience and develop more skills. Focus on how those skills are transferable to a career in pharmacy.

Preparing Your Application

- Gather your relevant material before you sit down to fill out your PharmCAS application, including your college transcripts (from each institution you attended), your AP or IB scores, and even a resume or CV with your work and leadership experience. It is helpful to have all of this gathered before you fill out the application, so you don't have to hunt it down later.
- Don't forget to fill out the UGA Supplemental Application! This is a secondary application for UGA, and completing it is required for your application to be considered.
- You can submit your application without your evaluations completed.
- Use the PharmCAS Checklist to ensure you've completed all the steps of the application process.
- APPLY EARLY! The UGA College of Pharmacy admits students on a rolling basis, and it might be possible to fill all our seats before the final application deadline.
- Proofread your application before you hit submit, especially for the written components like the personal statement. Sometimes, it helps to read it out loud so you can catch spelling and grammar mistakes. You could even have a friend or mentor proofread it.

Evaluations (Letters of References)

- We require two evaluations (letters of reference), but you may submit up to four. One evaluation should come from a healthcare professional, preferably a pharmacist, and one should come from someone familiar with your academic background at the college level (such as a professor, TA, or lecturer).
- For your academic evaluations, keep in mind that the professor might not always be the best choice. If you are in a lecture class of 300 students, the professor may not know you as well as your TA for the lab. Be selective when you choose your evaluators.
- Professors, lecturers, and TAs who teach math and science courses might be able to evaluate your academic abilities and apply it directly to your future career as a healthcare professional and pharmacist.
- You may have had great relationships with some of your high school teachers but make sure that you select evaluators who can speak to your academic abilities at the college level.
- We do not accept evaluations from members of the clergy, your family, personal friends, or politicians.
- Pro tip: Always ask if the evaluator can be a ***positive*** recommendation for you and give them plenty of time to write your letter of recommendation.

Interviewing

- A great way to prepare for your interview is to do a mock interview. Check with your college or university's career center or with an academic advisor. UGA students also have access to resources like Big Interview.
- Practice writing and speaking. Communication, both written and verbal, are important skills to have in pharmacy. We want to know if you can communicate effectively.
- Be confident in your experiences and your abilities, and make sure to talk about them in your interview.
- Be prepared to ask questions…you'll get the chance to interact with current students, staff, and faculty. What do you want to know?
- Not quite sure what to wear for your interview? Business professional attire is preferred for your on-campus interview.
- Be clear about your motivations to pursue pharmacy. Why do you want to be a pharmacist?