

PRE-PHARMACY

Eastern Washington University offers students the opportunity to earn substantial amounts of coursework toward the requirements of a number of specific professions. Although the following Pre-Professional programs have been offered for several years by EWU, this listing is not exclusive; students who are interested in a profession which is not represented (below) are encouraged to contact the Office of General Undergraduate Academic Advising for assistance in identifying departments or programs which can offer coursework and advice as regards alternative Pre-Professional studies.

Pre-Communication Disorders (<http://catalog.ewu.edu/archives/2015-2016/health-science-public/pre-communication-disorders>)

Pre-Dentistry and Pre-Medicine (<http://catalog.ewu.edu/archives/2015-2016/science-technology-engineering-mathematics/pre-dentistry-pre-medicine>)

Pre-Engineering (<http://catalog.ewu.edu/archives/2015-2016/science-technology-engineering-mathematics/pre-engineering>)

Pre-Law (<http://catalog.ewu.edu/archives/2015-2016/social-behavioral-sciences-work/pre-law>)

Pre-Pharmacy (<http://catalog.ewu.edu/archives/2015-2016/science-technology-engineering-mathematics/pre-pharmacy>)

Pre-Veterinary Medicine (<http://catalog.ewu.edu/archives/2015-2016/science-technology-engineering-mathematics/pre-veterinary-medicine>)

Pre-Pharmacy

College of Science, Health & Engineering
Department of Chemistry / Biochemistry

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Pharmacy occupies both a unique and varied position within the health sciences. Undergraduate pharmacy education is largely founded in the biological and chemical sciences and is integrated with coursework in the humanities and social sciences. The curriculum of a school of pharmacy is designed to prepare graduates for a variety of professional careers. These include the practice of community retail and hospital pharmacy, clinical pharmacy, research or sales in the pharmaceutical industry and regulatory and administrative positions at either the state or federal level. Traditionally the pharmacist has been among the most accessible of the health-care team, serving as the first source of advice and assistance for common medical disorders. At present, due to an increased clinical emphasis in pharmacy education, pharmacists are more frequently involved in a direct, patient-oriented practice that includes responsibilities such as selecting and dispensing drug products, monitoring drug interactions and counseling patients.

Degree Information for Pharmacy

Most schools of pharmacy offer only one degree in pharmacy: the Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm. D.). The Pharm. D. degree qualifies the student to take the State Board of Pharmacy Licensing Examination, a requirement for the practice of pharmacy in any state. The academic program leading to the Pharm. D. degree is divided in two parts. The

first, termed the pre-professional program provides coursework in the basic sciences, mathematics, English, humanities and social sciences. The second, termed the professional program (four years) provides academic exposure to the practice of pharmacy and includes coursework in areas such as biochemistry, medicinal chemistry, pharmacology, anatomy, physiology, dispensing, law, therapeutics, pharmacokinetics and biostatistics. In addition, clerkships in community and clinical settings are required. Students should contact pharmacy schools of interest to determine specific pre-professional course requirements, and should also contact EWU pre-pharmacy advisors.

Admissions Requirements/Preparation

Due to the time requirement necessary for completion of the Pharm. D. degree and substantial prerequisites for courses in the professional portion of the program, students should be prepared to begin college level chemistry and biology at the inception of their pre-professional curriculum. Thus students interested in pre-pharmacy should complete one year of both high school chemistry and biology, as well as mathematics through pre-calculus prior to enrollment at EWU. Students transferring from other institutions, including community colleges, should consult with the Admissions Office for information regarding course equivalencies. Students are encouraged to contact Eastern's pre-pharmacy advisors prior to enrollment or early in their academic program.

Admission to a school of pharmacy is highly competitive. Application to a school is normally initiated one year prior to transfer and may include application to both the university and the school. In addition to completion of pre-professional course requirements with a satisfactory GPA, the school will likely require a personal interview and/or successful completion of the Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT), a nationally administered evaluative test.