

**Pharmacy School Prerequisites**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_   
ID: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Primary Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| **COURSES** | **GRADE** | **COURSES** | **GRADE** |
| BIOL 106 Introductory Biology: Organismal |  | BIOL 315 Gross and Microanatomy |  |
| BIOL 107 Introductory Biology: Cell |  | BIOL 353 Advanced Human Physiology, or  NEURO 425 & 426 Medical Physiology |  |
| CHEM 105 Principles of Chemistry I |  | MATH 140 or 171 Calculus |  |
| CHEM 106 Principles of Chemistry II |  | STAT 212 Introduction to Statistical Methods |  |
| CHEM 345 Organic Chemistry I |  | ENGL 101, 105 or 298 College Composition |  |
| CHEM 348 Organic Chemistry II |  | ENGL 201, 298, 301, 402, 403, or PHIL 200 |  |
| MBIOS 303 Introductory Biochemistry |  | ECONS 101 Fundamentals of Microeconomics |  |
| MBIOS 304 General Microbiology Lab |  | PHIL 365 Biomedical Ethics, or PHIL 103 or 201 |  |
| MBIOS 305 General Microbiology |  | PSYCH 105 Intro to Psychology |  |
| (UW) MBIOS 301 General Genetics |  | (UW) MBIOS Cell Biology |  |
| (Common) COM 102 Public Speaking … |  | (Common) PHYS 101 General Physics |  |

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| Cumulative GPA’s | F 20\_\_ | F 20\_\_ | F 20\_\_ | F 20\_\_ | F 20\_\_ |
|  | S 20\_\_ | S 20\_\_ | S 20\_\_ | S 20\_\_ | S 20\_\_ |

**Pharmacy admissions committees will consider:**

**Completion of prerequisite courses** (check with each pharmacy school to which you plan to apply)   
**GPA:** 3.00 + higher (again, check – this may be different at each pharmacy school)  
**Letters of Evaluation:** 1 from a science professor, 1 from a former supervisor, 1 from a person who knows you well. Each should write about your integrity, judgement, ethics, reliability, strengths and weaknesses.  
**Experience:** Significant time spent volunteering, evidence of leadership experience, research and shadowing pharmacists.  
**PCAT Scores:** About half of the nation’s PharmD programs require a PCAT score. WSU does not; UW does and wants to see the chemistry score in the 60th percentile or higher. Montana requires the PCAT; Idaho State and Pacific U do not.

**Compassion:** Evidence of honest, forthright concern and empathy for the sick, elderly, injured, or disabled.

P**harmCAS Essay:** Your opportunity to make a case as to why you are an outstanding candidate. Most schools also require a supplemental application, and some of those ask additional questions that you would answer in paragraph form.

**Supplemental Professional Goals Statements (if any):** Answer each question fully and completely. Admissions committee

faculty can tell when you are beating around the bush for an answer, or deflecting the question.

**The personal interview:** Evaluation of students may include one or more 20-30 minute personal interviews used to assess

the applicant's maturity, compassion, motivation, communication skills, knowledge of the profession, and desire to contribute to society during their pharmacy career. MMI’s are occasional. Revised June 2017

# Timeline/Checklist for Pre-Pharmacy Studies at WSU

**First Year (Freshman)**

* Learn about the “3-and-In” option. Then learn about the “Save-A-Seat” program. Do both of these by attending a HPSC Pre-Advising Workshop for first year Pre-Pharmacy students.
* You can select ***any*** major of study. Combine the prerequisites for pharmacy school with ***any*** academic field.
* Besides meeting with your major advisor, also meet with your pre-health specialist in HPSC.
* Work on earning a strong GPA. This should be your constant, highest priority. Get to know your teachers.
* Get some experience. Volunteer and shadow. However, focus on maintaining a strong GPA first.

**Sophomore Year**

* Continue bolstering a higher than average GPA. Visit often with your faculty.
* Continue to volunteer, shadow and increase your activity and responsibility in clubs to demonstrate leadership.
* Explore gaining experience with research (optional, but recommend by some pharmacy schools).
* Meet with your pre-pharmacy specialist.
* Explore pharmacy schools on-line and in person. Look at faculty specialties, pre-requisites & past cohort stats.
* Begin studying for the PCAT (summer after sophomore year) if any of your top choice schools require it.

**Fall Semester Junior Year**

* Continue to shadow and volunteer. Reflect on this experience in writing for your personal statement.
* Look up specific schools to which you plan to apply to find their particular requirements.
* Write the first draft of your personal statement. Ask the Writing Center and your HPSC Specialist to proof it.
* Register for PCAT. Register early, test sites fill up quickly. May is an ideal time to take the test (after finals).

**Spring Semester Junior Year**

* Ask faculty and supervisors if they would do you the favor – and the honor – of completing an evaluation for you (see front side). All should be able to speak about you in depth. If they do not feel they know you well enough, spend ample time coaching them, answering all their questions. This may take several meetings.
* Provide your evaluators with a Resume or CV, a copy of your personal statement, and a copy of the form they will complete for you (obtain this from your HPSC Specialist.)
* Before you leave campus for the summer, submit transcript requests to the Registrar to be sent as soon as spring grades are recorded. Do the same for other institutions where you received credit.
* On all applications, use your WSU email. You need a stable, professional email address for the application cycle.
* Intense preparation for PCAT. Treat studying for it as if it is a three-credit course.

**Summer Between Junior and Senior Year**

* Take PCAT, preferably in May.
* Submit your application **as early as possible**. Preferably, the first week in August. Verification takes 4-6 weeks to process. *Some* pharmacy schools have rolling admissions (first come, first served).
* PharmCAS applications open in July; Early Decision applications are due September 1. Regular admission deadlines range from November 1 (California schools) to December 1 for UW and Montana, January 1 for WSU, February 1 for Idaho State U, March 1 for Pacific U. Check with each school to complete their supplemental applications and professional goals statements by their respective deadlines.
* Send thank you notes to each of your evaluators.

**Fall Semester Senior Year**

* Interviews: practice and prepare. Plan your wardrobe. We strongly suggest that you attend an *Interview Basics Workshop, Small Group Interviews,* and an *MMI Workshop* early in the fall semester. If you get an interview before these workshops let your HPSC specialist know.

**Spring Semester Senior Year**

* Decision Notification: If you are accepted to more than one school, be sure to notify the schools that you will not be attending quickly. As an ethical practice, you should only hold one acceptance at a time. Make deposits.
* Financial Aid: Work with financial office of the pharmacy school to submit FAFSA forms. This paperwork must be done between January and April.
* If you are on a waitlist, continue to inform the school of your interest. Ask where you are on the wait list.
* If you have not received an acceptance in this cycle, learn what might be done to make your future application more competitive. Apply the feedback given to you from pharmacy school admissions officers and your HPSC specialist following your rejections. Reapply, work on other plans, and continue preparation for a later application. You may use the recourses of HPSC as an alum. We will be here for you continuously.