

Pharmacy Application: (To enter the Pharmacy Program fall semester 2017, you must fill out the on-line application during the fall semester 2017.)

What is the deadline to apply?

December 31 is the deadline in which to apply to the program each year. Students typically apply midway through their sophomore year or junior year. **(NOTE: if the deadline date falls on a Sunday, then the pharmacy application fee must be post-marked no later than Saturday, December 30.)**

How do I apply to the program?

The application is available on our web site each year after November 1 at www.ndsu.edu/pharmacy.

What if I'm currently attending another university? How do I apply?

You apply to North Dakota State University as an undergraduate student and to the School of Pharmacy. You would apply to the NDSU Office of Admission at: www.ndsu.edu/prospective_students/.

Is there a fee to apply?

Yes, the application fee is \$125 for the pharmacy program. There is also a \$35 fee for the NDSU application.

Do I have to send transcripts?

NDSU pre-pharmacy students do not have to send transcripts as they are already on file in the Dean's Office. However, all other students must request official transcripts be sent to our college by the December 31 deadline.

Is there an interview?

Yes. After applications have been reviewed and sorted by points, we interview approximately the top 60-75% of applicants.

What activities are involved in the interview process?

The interview process lasts for about 2/3 of a day and includes formal interviews and additional structured activities and assessments.

When is the interview?

The interview is held prior to spring break, usually in early March.

When do you notify students whether or not they're accepted after the interview?

Approximately three weeks after interviews.

If I'm not accepted to the program, may I apply again next year?

Yes. Students are allowed to apply to the program twice.

Do I need a special GPA to apply?

You must have an overall cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above from all colleges/universities attended in order to apply to the program. However, students accepted to the program have a higher GPA than 3.0.

What was the average GPA?

Students accepted to the program for fall semester of 2017 had a cumulative GPA in the core pre-pharmacy courses of 3.74.

How many applications do you receive?

The number of applications we receive are typically in the range of 130-220.

How many students do you accept?

We accept up to 85 students to our program each year.

Could students enter your pharmacy program in the fall semester or spring semester?

No. Students are admitted to our professional pharmacy program for the fall semester only.

What if I don't get in this year and want to apply again next year? Do I have to take the courses in the new curriculum?

Yes. Required courses are in effect at the time you apply to the pharmacy program.

Pharmacy Fees:

Are there fees for the pharmacy program?

Yes. There is a non-refundable admission deposit fee of \$500 for students who have been accepted to the pharmacy program. This fee is to assure their place in the class and will be applied to the differential tuition for the first semester of the professional program. Differential tuition is assessed for students who are accepted into the professional pharmacy program. This tuition differs from standard NDSU undergraduate tuition. See tuition information at: www.ndsu.edu/onestop/accounts/.

PCAT (Pharmacy College Admission Test):

How do I apply for the PCAT?

You apply through their web site, www.pcatweb.info.

How many times can we take the PCAT?

According to the rules by Pearson, Inc., "After sitting for the PCAT five times, restrictions may be placed on any subsequent registration, and you may be required to submit documentation." Please see their web site for additional details. However, we will not accept scores that are more than three years old at time of application to the program.

May I still apply this fall semester (2017) if I hadn't planned to take the PCAT until January 2018?

No. That is past the deadline to apply to the program which is December 31.

If I apply this fall semester, and have already taken the PCAT, may I retake the PCAT in January 2018?

No. The only PCAT scores accepted for this year's applicants must be completed and received in our office by the deadline of December 31.

Do you use the essay portion of the PCAT?

Yes. We do include the essay as part of our admission process.

What was your average PCAT last year for students accepted?

The average composite percentile on the PCAT for students accepted in 2017 was 56.06%.

Pre-Pharmacy Curriculum:

What are the classes I need to take for pre-pharmacy?

Pre-pharmacy coursework is listed in our pharmacy handbook which is located on our web site. Go to the following web site www.ndsu.edu/pharmacy/pharmd and select the link, Handbook. Once in the handbook, scroll through the bookmarks until you see pre-pharmacy curriculum.

What are core pre-pharmacy courses?

Selected core courses will be used for selection criteria to determine GPA used in calculation for admission to the professional program. These courses are indicated by an asterisk (*) in the pre-pharmacy curriculum. These core pre-pharmacy courses must be completed by the end of fall semester prior to the December 31 deadline date to apply to the pharmacy program.

What electives should I take?

You must take six credits of Humanities/Fine Arts. They are listed on the web site www.ndsu.edu/registrar/academics/gened.

Do I have to take a wellness course?

Yes. You must take a minimum of two semester credits of a wellness course. They are listed on the web site www.ndsu.edu/registrar/academics/gened.

What if I receive a "D" in a course?

All courses must be completed with at least a grade of "C." If a student receives a grade of "D" they must repeat the course for a passing grade of at least a "C."

May I repeat courses?

Yes. However, the number of pre-pharmacy core courses you may repeat is limited to three.

When I repeat a course, which grade do you use?

The grade received during the student's most recent attempt, whether higher or lower, will be used for admission.

If I take a course at NDSU, may I retake it at another university?

To replace a grade for a course taken at NDSU, that course must be repeated at NDSU. The one exception is that NDSU students may register for a Tri-College course to repeat a course previously taken at NDSU.

What if I have courses from years ago?

Selected core courses in biology, chemistry and math must not be more than seven years old at time of application. Current competency must be demonstrated if a student wishes to use older coursework.

How do I demonstrate current competency?

Current competency may be demonstrated by:

1. Retaking a portion of the series in question, i.e. 122 of 121/122 Chem series;
2. Enrolling in a formal audit that is indicated on a student's official transcript;
3. Challenging coursework through the department in question; or
4. Meeting with faculty in the department of NDSU that offers the course and having them determine current competency.

Students who intend to meet current competency requirements using item 3 or 4 must receive approval from the Chair of Pharmacy Admissions Committee prior to undertaking the current competency.

Does retaking selected core coursework that is more than seven years count as a retake?

No. Coursework that is more than seven years old does not fall under the rule of repeats.

Will you accept college level coursework taken while in high school – PSEO (Post Secondary Education Option) or Dual Credit?

When you send an official transcript of the college coursework that you took while in high school, the NDSU Office of Registration & Records will evaluate the coursework. They determine which courses will transfer to NDSU.

Do you use grades from PSEO or Dual Credit?

Yes. We include these grades as part of the overall cumulative GPA when a student applies to our program. If any of these PSEO or Dual Credits transfer as core pre-pharmacy courses, we will include them in our process.

Do you also accept AP (advanced placement) exams?

Yes, if you pass the exam and if there is an equivalent course at NDSU. You must request the scores be sent to NDSU. Please see the NDSU Undergraduate Bulletin for additional information, www.ndsu.edu/bulletin.

Can we CLEP out of pre-pharmacy classes while at NDSU?

There are a few pre-pharmacy courses on the NDSU course equivalent list for the College Level Examination Program (CLEP). Please see the NDSU Undergraduate Bulletin for additional information, www.ndsu.edu/bulletin.

Extracurricular:

Are there pharmacy student organizations?

Yes. The student organizations are listed in our pharmacy handbook under "Pharmacy Student Activities & Organizations." You may contact the student organizations by leaving a message in their mailbox in Sudro 123.

Is there special housing on campus for pre-pharmacy students?

Yes. The Health Professions House is currently located on floors 8 and 9 of Thompson Hall. It is available for pre-pharmacy students and other health profession students who are working to gain admittance into a professional program offered by the College of Health Professions. When you fill out the NDSU room & board contract application, select Thompson Hall as your residence hall preference, www.ndsu.edu/reslife/residence hall applications.