

## Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD)

### PROGRAM DETAILS

In pursuing the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD), you move towards becoming eligible for a license to practice as a pharmacist. Subjects studied in pharmacy include the pharmaceutical sciences (pharmaceutics), pharmacokinetics, pharmacology, pharmacy practice, etc. Students gain experience through a coordinated experiential program in clinical and research work. A Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree takes four years of full-time study to complete. This does not include the required pre-professional study.

**Quota:** 140 Students

**Minimum Standards:** Typically, competitive applicants apply with a Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 3.3. To be ranked highly, students should aim for GPA of 3.5 or above:

Please note: meeting the minimum standards does not guarantee admission.

### Recommended Alberta High School Prerequisites (or equivalent):

- English Language Arts 30-1
- Biology 30
- Chemistry 30
- Mathematics 30-1

### PRE-PROFESSIONAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum requirements for admission to the Pharmacy Program are the satisfactory completion of 60 units of transferable work, including:

- General Chemistry (6 units) – Choose CHEM 101 and CHEM 102
- Organic Chemistry (6 units) – Choose CHEM 261 AND CHEM 263 **OR** CHEM 264 + CHEM 265
- English (which may include up to 3 units in Writing Studies) (6 units)
- Biology (Cell Biology) (3 units) – Choose BIOL 107
- Biochemistry (3 units) – Choose BIOCH 200
- Mathematics (Algebra or Calculus) (3 units)
- Statistics (3 units) – Choose STAT 151
- Microbiology (3 units) – Choose MICRB 265
- Human Physiology (6 units) – Choose PHYSL 210A/B or PHYSL 212/214

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The remaining units can be made up by successful completion of a combination of university level course work.

## ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

1. **Letter of Intent:** You will be invited to submit a letter of intent after the March 1st application deadline to provide an opportunity for you to convey career goals, knowledge of the profession, employment or volunteer experience, and other personal attributes.
2. **Pharmacist Consultation:** Students are required to speak with a practicing pharmacist that you have no conflict of interest with (e.g. familial connections) to find out first-hand about the profession. Please have the pharmacist fill out the [Pharmacist Consultation form](#) and upload to your application portal once you apply and before the March 1st application deadline.
3. **Personal Interview:** A web-based interview is required as part of the admission process. You will be invited to complete this after the March 1st application deadline.
4. **Language Proficiency:** Some students are required to meet the spoken English requirement (see the [University of Alberta Calendar - English Language Proficiency](#)). This will be added to your checklist if it applies to you.
5. **Course Descriptions:** It is your responsibility to ensure that Course Descriptions are provided for any post secondary coursework completed outside of Canada. The course descriptions checklist can be found [HERE](#).

## SELECTION PROCESS

Students are ranked based on a combination of the following:

- **Overall GPA:** This will be calculated using your most recent two years of full course load (defined as at least 18 units or more during Fall/Winter only). This applies to students applying after more than two years of study. However, students applying in their second year of study will need to complete all 60 units including prerequisites by the June 15th transcript deadline.
- **GPA in the foundational biological science prerequisite courses:** These include Cell Biology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Human Physiology.
- **GPA in your highest unit-weight year (Fall/Winter only).**

Once applicants are ranked on the above criteria, the web-based interview is used to assess the candidate's ability to formulate a cohesive and logical response to the interview questions, and their ability to convey their ideas in an effective manner. The response in the Letter of Intent is also carefully reviewed for grammar, content, and completeness. It is required that the Letter of Intent be written solely by the applicant, and an attestation to this is required upon submission.

The Admissions Committee has the responsibility of selecting the applicants who have demonstrated the greatest promise to successfully complete the program, and gain licensure as pharmacists. The Pharmacy program has a limit on the number of applicants it can accept, and admission is competitive.

## ALTERNATE ADMISSIONS PATHWAYS

### Rural Applicants:

Ten seats have been reserved for students who meet the following criteria:

- Meet the minimum entrance requirements
- Have lived in a community at least 50 km outside of Edmonton or Calgary for at least three years between the ages of 12 and 18 (proof of status is required)

### Indigenous Applicants:

Nine seats have been reserved for students who meet the following criteria:

- Meet the minimum requirements
- Are First Nations, Métis, or Inuit ([proof of Indigenous status](#) is required)

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Application Deadline:** March 1, 2025

**Document Deadline:** June 15, 2025

## CONTACT

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Contact us with questions at [uab.ca/portal](http://uab.ca/portal)

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