

Admission Criteria for Acceptance to USP's Doctor of Pharmacy Program

A final determination of eligibility to transfer to USP's Pharm.D. Program will occur following completion of prerequisites, completion of Messiah's general education program, and receipt of all completed admissions materials. For students who enter the Cooperative B.A./Pharm.D. Program at the start of their freshman year, this decision will normally be made after completing the fifth semester of enrollment at Messiah. Successful candidates will complete the admission process by applying through the Cooperative B.A./Pharm.D. Program, including utilization of the online Pharmacy College Application Service (PharmCAS).

Admission materials will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Transcript(s) from all completed college/university courses.
- Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT) scores.
- Statement of personal and professional goals.
- Personal interview with a Philadelphia College of Pharmacy faculty member.
- Application submitted through the online Pharmacy College Application Service (PharmCAS).
- Verification of student conduct for transfer students.
- Evidence of having shadowed a pharmacist for a minimum of 40 hours in a community, hospital, or industry setting.

The Chair of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy Pharm.D. Admissions Committee will solicit the perspective(s) of the Messiah Coordinator for the Cooperative B.A./Pharm.D. Program regarding each student in the Program with a completed application. The Messiah Coordinator's perspective(s) will be considered by the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy Pharm.D. Admissions Committee in making admissions decisions.

Admissions decisions will be based on, but not limited to, the following:

- Minimum PCAT composite score of 85 with no less than a 75 on any one category – verbal ability, biology, reading comprehension, quantitative ability, and chemistry.
- Completion of required pre-professional coursework with a grade of "C" or better.
- Minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.50 and a minimum cumulative math/natural science GPA of 3.00, with both GPAs calculated based on all courses taken and for which the student received a final grade.
- Statement of personal and professional goals.
- Successful interview with a Philadelphia College of Pharmacy faculty member.

USP shall annually accept at least 2 (two) students who successfully meet all criteria for admission to the Pharm.D. Program. USP will determine which students who meet the criteria for admission are accepted into its Pharm.D. Program and such admission decisions are final. If there are more than 2 (two) students who successfully meet all criteria for admission to the Pharm.D. Program, the remaining applicants will be considered for admission to the Pharm.D. Program along with other applicants in USP's transfer pool. Students not admitted to USP's Pharm.D. Program for any reason may earn a bachelor's degree from Messiah by remaining enrolled at Messiah until they successfully complete all Messiah degree requirements.