

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

PCOM Georgia

Department website: <https://www.pcom.edu/academics/programs-and-degrees/doctor-of-pharmacy/>

Philosophy

The PCOM School of Pharmacy curriculum emphasizes patient centered care, a model consistent with the applied emphasis of PCOM's graduate and medical programs. PCOM School of Pharmacy (SOP) is dedicated to promoting the health and well-being of diverse communities in society by training students to become collaborative healthcare team members, advocates and leaders in pharmacy. The SOP achieves its mission through advancement of contemporary pharmacy practice, interprofessional education, patient-centered care, innovative research, commitment to service, and lifelong personal and professional development. The program also responds to the need for pharmacists in the nation, the state of Georgia and the southeastern region. The program educates pharmacists who prepare and provide drug products and assume responsibility for the rational use of drugs by contributing to the design, implementation, monitoring and modification of therapeutic plans that will achieve defined goals and improve therapeutic outcomes.

School of Pharmacy Goals

The PCOM School of Pharmacy defines operational goals to achieve its Mission through the following metrics of success:

1. Attraction and recruitment of student learners with the commitment and capability to advance the profession of pharmacy
2. On-time graduation of learners enrolled in the PharmD program
3. Graduates are employed in the field of their choice immediately upon graduation
4. Faculty and staff are committed and motivated to the success of PCOM
5. Continued growth of community partnerships with the capacity for shared contributions in human health and wellness
6. Evidence of leadership and innovation in the advancement of the pharmacy profession and human health
7. Graduates are engaged alumni and leaders of the pharmacy profession who would choose PCOM again

Graduate-Level Educational Outcomes (GLOs)

The PCOM School of Pharmacy curriculum has been designed to prepare students with the knowledge, skills and values for successful careers in an expanding healthcare environment. Specific outcomes of the curriculum are:

Foundations for Practice

- Foundational Knowledge – Integrate, and apply knowledge from biomedical, pharmaceutical, social/behavioral/administrative, and clinical sciences to evaluate scientific literature, explain drug action, solve therapeutic problems, and advance population health and patient-centered care.
- Self-Directed Learner – Take initiative in diagnosing learning needs, formulating learning goals, identifying resources for learning, choosing appropriate learning approaches, and evaluating learning

outcomes as part of a personal program of continuous professional development.

Practice Essentials

- Patient-Centered Care – Provide patient-centered care as the medication expert.
- Medication-Use Systems Management – Manage patient healthcare needs to optimize the safety and efficacy of medication use systems.
- Health and Wellness – Design prevention, intervention, and educational strategies for individuals and communities to manage chronic disease and improve health and wellness.
- Population-Based Care – Describe how population-based care influences patient-centered care and influences the development of practice guidelines and evidence-based best practices.
- Evidence-Based Pharmacy Practice – Integrate evidence-based medicine principles by valuing input from patients, families and communities.

Practice Approach

- Problem Solving – Identify problems; explore and prioritize potential strategies; and design, implement, and evaluate a viable solution.
- Educator – Educate all audiences by determining the most effective and enduring ways to impart information and assess understanding.
- Patient Advocacy – Assure that patients' best interests are represented.
- Interprofessional Collaboration – Actively participate and engage as a healthcare team member by demonstrating mutual respect, understanding, and values to meet patient care needs.
- Cultural Sensitivity – Recognize social determinants of health to diminish disparities and inequities in access to quality care.
- Communication – Effectively communicate verbally, nonverbally and paraverbally when interacting with an individual, group, or organization.

Self Development

- Self-Awareness – Examine and reflect on personal knowledge, skills, abilities, beliefs, motivation, biases, and emotions that could enhance or limit personal and professional growth.
- Leadership – Demonstrate responsibility for creating and achieving shared goals, regardless of position.
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship – Engage in innovative activities by using creative thinking to envision better ways of accomplishing professional goals.
- Professionalism – Exhibit behaviors and values consistent with the trust given to the profession by patients, healthcare providers, and society.

Our program incorporates active learning, interdisciplinary education and problem solving skills, affording our students the ability to practice in an ever-changing and lifelong learning profession. Students will also be exposed to and encouraged to gain specialized training in residency or fellowship programs to prepare them for careers in other areas such as specialized clinical practice, research, pharmaceutical industry or academia.

The program is configured in a curricular format in which students complete:

- the pre-professional phase (three or four years) of general education,
- biomedical and sciences instruction at undergraduate colleges the last four professional years of pharmaceutical sciences, and

- pharmacy practice instruction at the PCOM GA facility, as well as
- clinical experiences at clinical sites throughout Georgia and the southeast.

Most terms are 13 week period, corresponding to the academic calendar used by PCOM academic programs in both Philadelphia and Georgia. The extension of coursework over the three terms of each academic year provides the opportunity for the across-the-curriculum development of skills.

The curriculum is composed of courses in:

- biomedical,
- pharmaceutical,
- social/behavioral/administrative, and
- clinical sciences.

A number of elective specialty track concentrations are available to allow students to enhance their knowledge of pharmacy related topics in specific areas.

There are four Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences (IPPEs) in which students are given exposure to pharmacy practice in a variety of different specialty areas and begin their hands-on experiences. The final year of the program consists of the Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPEs) in which students are required to complete eight different rotations. These rotations consist of five weeks in a particular pharmacy practice site.

Required rotations are:

- General Medicine
- Ambulatory Care
- Hospital Practice
- Community Practice

Elective rotations will include rotations such as (but not limited to):

- Community Management
- Cardiology
- Infectious Diseases Pediatrics
- Compounding Pharmacy
- Pharmaceutical Industry Management

A milestone progression examination will be given during the first, second, and third professional years. These examinations assess knowledge and skills acquired during the curriculum. Students that do not pass the milestone progression exam will be allowed to take a remediation exam. Failure to pass the remediation examination will prevent a student from progressing to the next professional year or graduating late and may result in dismissal from the program.

This curriculum, including active learning skills development time, is designed to develop the knowledge, professional skills, professional attitudes and values that are required for an entry-level pharmacist.

Requirements for Graduation

Each candidate for the degree of Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) must be of good moral character and have completed satisfactorily all academic requirements in the program of study. All requirements for the degree must be completed within **six years** from the date of initial matriculation.

PharmD graduates must demonstrate that they have acquired competency in six basic areas of:

- knowledge,
- skills,
- abilities,
- behaviors and attitudes:
 - pharmacy knowledge and practice skills,
 - patient care skills,
 - communication/interpersonal skills,
 - professionalism,
 - understanding and skills in the use of information and empirical evidence, and
 - skills in systems-based practice.

Licensure

In general, in order for candidates to take the pharmacist licensure examination, state boards of pharmacy will require successful completion of the requirements for the Doctor of Pharmacy degree from an accredited institution. In Georgia, applicants for pharmacist licensure must be at least 18 years of age, have graduated from an ACPE-accredited school/college of pharmacy. PCOM Schools of pharmacy allow students to claim credit for 1,440 hours obtained during experiential rotations (IPPES and APPEs). An applicant may register with the Georgia Board of Pharmacy as a pharmacy intern if he or she is registered in an accredited school/college of pharmacy. All students at the PCOM School of Pharmacy – Georgia Campus are required to obtain their Georgia intern license during the first term, and the School will assist with the application process. Any student found to be ineligible to be licensed as a pharmacy intern in the state of Georgia, at any time during his or her tenure at the PCOM School of Pharmacy – Georgia Campus, will be dismissed from the program. PCOM students must maintain their intern license in order to legally participate in the experiential pharmacy rotations. The licensure requirements for pharmacists and pharmacy interns vary by state, and it is recommended that applicants inquire with the board of pharmacy in the state where they intend to practice if they have any questions.

First Year

Term 1		Hours
PHAR 120G	Pharmacy Practice I: Foundations in Therapeutics and Clinical Reasoning	2
PHAR 110G	Anatomy Physiology and Pathophysiology I	4
PHAR 150G	Biochemistry with Clinical Correlations	4
PHAR 117G	Principles of Drug Action I	2
PHAR 109G	Personal and Professional Development I	1
PHAR 118G	Integrated Case Studies I	1
PHAR 041G	Professionalism Portfolio I	0
INDP 100G	Inter Professional Approach to Caring for the Communities	0
	Hours	14

Term 2

PHAR 134G	Biostatistics	2
PHAR 115G	Anatomy Physiology and Pathophysiology II	4
PHAR 145G	Pharmaceutical Calculations	2
PHAR 137G	Principles of Drug Actions II	4
PHAR 161G	Patient Skills Lab I	1

PHAR 122G	Integrated Case Studies II	1
PHAR 041G	Professionalism Portfolio I	0
INDP 100G	Inter Professional Approach to Caring for the Communities	0
Hours		14
Term 3		
PHAR 133G	Health Information Retrieval & Informatics	1
PHAR 132G	Integrated Case Studies III	1
PHAR 138G	Principles of Drug Actions III	5
PHAR 141G	Pharmaceutics	4
PHAR 162G	Patient Skills Lab II	1
PHAR 139G	Self-Care and Holistic Wellness I	2
PHAR 041G	Professionalism Portfolio I	0
PHAR 199G		
INDP 100G	Inter Professional Approach to Caring for the Communities	0
Hours		14
Term 4		
PHAR 173G	Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience, Community	0
Hours		0
Second Year		
Term 1		
PHAR 208G	Research Methods	1
PHAR 214G	Integrated Case Studies IV	1
PHAR 221G	Health Care Systems and Policy	2
PHAR 231G	Pharmacotherapy I	5
PHAR 256G	Patient Care Skills Lab III	1
PHAR 269G	Biopharmaceutics	4
PHAR 042G	Professionalism Portfolio II	0
INDP 200G	Inter Professional Approach to Caring for the Communities	0
Hours		14
Term 2		
PHAR 228G	Pharmacy Administration and Management and Entrepreneurship	2
PHAR 224G	Medical Microbiology and Immunology	3
PHAR 232G	Pharmacotherapy II	5
PHAR 251G	Integrated Toxicology and Patient Safety	2
PHAR 253G	Personal and Professional Development II	1
PHAR 215G	Integrated Case Studies V	1
PHAR 042G	Professionalism Portfolio II	0
INDP 200G	Inter Professional Approach to Caring for the Communities	0
Hours		14
Term 3		
PHAR 209G	Public Health and Pharmacoepidemiology	1
PHAR 241G	Integrated Infectious Disease	3
PHAR 229G	Pharmacotherapy III	5
PHAR 233G	Pharmacy Practice II Topics in Patient Care	3
PHAR 254G	Patient Care Skills Lab IV	1
PHAR 216G	Integrated Case Studies VI	1

INDP 200G	Inter Professional Approach to Caring for the Communities	0
PHAR 042G	Professionalism Portfolio II	0
PHAR 299G		
Hours		14
Term 4		
PHAR 263G	IPPE Clinical	0
PHAR 265G	IPPE Community	0
Hours		0
Third Year		
Term 1		
PHAR 308G	Literature Evaluation and Evidence Based Practice	1
PHAR 327G	Integrated Basic and Applied Pharmacokinetics	3
PHAR 333G	Advanced Pharmacotherapy I	5
PHAR 352G	Patient Care Skills Lab V	1
PHAR 315G	Integrated Case Studies VII	1
INDP 300G	Inter Professional Approach to Caring for the Communities	0
PHAR 043G	Professionalism Portfolio III	0
Elective Track, take two 1-credit electives in area of Ambulatory Care/Acute Care Medicine/Managed Care		2
PHAR 174G. Take once only. Offer fall and winter.		0
Hours		13
Term 2		
PHAR 309G	Pharmacoeconomics and Health Outcomes	1
PHAR 318G	Self Care and Holistic Wellness II	3
PHAR 334G	Advanced Pharmacotherapy II	5
PHAR 353G	Personal and Professional Development III	1
PHAR 316G	Integrated Case Studies VIII	1
INDP 300G	Inter Professional Approach to Caring for the Communities	0
PHAR 043G	Professionalism Portfolio III	0
Elective Track, take two 1-credit electives in area of Ambulatory Care/Acute Care Medicine/Managed Care		2
PHAR 174G. Take once only. Offer fall and winter.		0
Hours		13
Term 3		
PHAR 368G	Pharmacy Law and Ethics	3
PHAR 314G	Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Medicine	1
PHAR 335G	Advanced Pharmacotherapy III	5
PHAR 354G	Patient Care Skills Lab VI	1
PHAR 317G	Integrated Case Studies IX	1
INDP 300G	Inter Professional Approach to Caring for the Communities	0
PHAR 399G		
Elective Track, take two 1-credit electives in area of Ambulatory Care/Acute Care Medicine/Managed Care		2
Hours		13

Fourth Year**Term 1**

Students take two 4 Credit Advanced Pharmacy Practice
Experience Courses (APPE) PHAR 4XXEG 8

Hours 8

Term 2

Students take four 4 Credit Advanced Pharmacy Practice
Experience Courses (APPE) PHAR 4XXEG 16

Hours 16

Term 3

Students take two 4 Credit Advanced Pharmacy Practice
Experience Courses (APPE) PHAR 4XXEG 8

PHAR 499G 0

Hours 8

Total Hours 155