Health Careers Fact Sheet – Pharmacy

As a pharmacist, you'll need the patience and compassion to educate patients about prescription and over-the-counter medications, the professionalism to advise other health care professionals on drug decisions for patients, and commitment to lifelong learning necessary to maintain expertise about the composition of drugs and how they interact. You should also be prepared to stand on your feet all day long. Because errors in dispensing medication could have serious and harmful consequences, strict attention to detail and a sense of personal responsibility and accountability are required to succeed. But, for the right person this career offers security and stability, as demand is high and the pay is competitive. While salaries are consistent whether you work in a retail pharmacy, hospital, or long-term care facility, professional duties may vary.

Degree
Pharm.D.

Program Length
3 - 4 years

Professional Schools' Organization
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP)

Application Service
Pharmacy College Application Service (PharmCAS)

Academic Admission Requirements
This document from the American Association of the Colleges of Pharmacy (pdf) contains a two page narrative of each pharmacy program in the U. S. that includes General Information, Curriculum, Admission Requirements, and Further Information for each AACP member institution.

Admission Exam
Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT) or Graduate Record Exam (GRE) depending on specific school admission requirements.

Recommendation Letters
Letters of recommendation should be submitted to the Premedical advising office along with the waiver form. It is encouraged to obtain letters from science faculty, a professional in the field, and employers.