



# Health Careers Fact Sheet

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON

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## 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, have a strict attention to detail and a sense of personal responsibility and accountability to succeed. For the right person, this career offers security and stability, as demand is high and the pay is competitive.

### Degree

Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD)

### 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 the admission requirements of each pharmacy program in the U. S. Please refer to the [PharmCAS School Directory](#) for the most current information.

### Admission Exam

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

### Applications

The PharmCAS application cycle opens in July and closes the following June. [Transcript requests](#) should be sent to the Registrar's office ASAP.

A limited number of [PharmCAS application fee waivers](#) are available to financially disadvantaged applicants on a first-come, first-serve basis.