



**PRE-PHARMACY INFORMATION**  
**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS**  
**COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES**  
**GENERAL ACADEMIC BUILDING 220**

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There are ninety-nine colleges within the U.S. reported by American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. All U.S. colleges of pharmacy are regular or affiliate institutional members of the AACP and are accredited by the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE). The American Pharmaceutical Association (APhA) and the American Society of Health System Pharmacists (ASHP) are two of several national professional societies of pharmacists.

The Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree is generally obtained after completing a four year professional pharmacy program. There are six colleges of pharmacy located within Texas: Incarnate Word Feik School of Pharmacy, Texas A&M Kingsville, Texas Southern University, Texas Tech Health Science Center, University of Houston and University of Texas at Austin.

A student is usually a pre-pharmacy or pre-health professions student prior to applying to the programs. **A strong background in science and mathematics is essential.** However, a student can be *any* major as long as all pre-pharmacy requirements are met. Most students take an average of 2 ½-3 years to complete the course requirements for pharmacy college. A prior degree is not required, although the applicant pools are revealing that over half of the applicants have a degree in some field of study.

The **PCAT** (Pharmacy College Admission Test) is required by all Texas pharmacy colleges. In addition to the chemistry, biology, quantitative analysis, verbal ability and reading comprehension areas, a writing component is now required. The student should take the PCAT the summer or fall *prior* to the year they plan to apply.

All Texas colleges admit students only in the fall semester and all are not a part of the PharmCAS, a centralized application service except University of the Incarnate Word (UIW). The student who wants to apply to UIW or other state programs should visit the website, [www.pharmcas.org](http://www.pharmcas.org) to determine which colleges require the centralized process.

**Profile of a strong applicant:**

3.4 GPAScore at least 70% on all sections of the PCAT

Pharmacy experience is helpful, as is community service. The pharmacy technician certification is not a requirement for admission. Essential traits and skills: strong verbal and written skills, attention to detail; sound decision-making ability, being conscientious

Licensure: The graduating Pharm.D. student must pass a state licensing exam.

(This information provided by the six Texas colleges of Pharmacy at the annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions annual meeting in 2007.)

General information about pharmacy programs throughout the United States may be obtained from:

**American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy**  
[www.aacp.org](http://www.aacp.org)

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Texas 1 pharmacy schools.

Texas Southern University  
College of Pharmacy  
[www.tsu.edu](http://www.tsu.edu)  
Average GPA for accepted 2009 students: N/A

Texas Tech Health Science Center  
College of Pharmacy  
<http://www.ttuhsc.edu/sop/prospective/>  
Average GPA for accepted 2009 students: unknown

University of Houston  
College of Pharmacy  
<http://www.uh.edu/pharmacy/>  
Average GPA for accepted 2009 students: 3.5

University of Texas at Austin  
College of Pharmacy  
[www.utexas.edu/pharmacy](http://www.utexas.edu/pharmacy)  
Average GPA for accepted 2009 students: 3.6

Texas A&M Kingsville  
College of Pharmacy  
<http://pharmacy.tamhsc.edu>  
Average GPA for accepted 2009 students: 3.49

University of the Incarnate Word  
Feik School of Pharmacy  
[www.uiw.edu/pharmacy](http://www.uiw.edu/pharmacy)  
Average GPA for accepted 2009 students: 3.4

**It is imperative that you keep in contact with schools of your choice to keep up-to-date on any changes to the Pre-Pharmacy curriculum.**

All Texas colleges admit students in the fall semester of each year. The selection process involves many factors including academic background, PCAT scores, experience working in a pharmacy, recommendations, a personal interview, writing and verbal proficiency, community service and extracurricular activities. Pharmacy experience is very important.

**The competitive student has an average GPA of 3.4 or above and a PCAT score of at least 70%**

\* **Texas Southern University** offers the Doctor of Pharmacy (six years) degree as a first professional degree and as a post B.S. degree. Applicants should complete at least 77 semester hours before being admitted and take the Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT). *The PCAT cannot be more than one year old & must apply to parent institution.*

\* **University of Texas at Austin** offers the Doctor of Pharmacy (six year) degree as a first professional degree. The PCAT is required. Applicants should complete at least 60 semester hours before being admitted.

\***Texas Tech University** offers the six-year Doctor of Pharmacy degree. The PCAT is required. (Students who have a Bachelors Degree or above are exempt from the English and Humanities/Social Sciences prerequisites.) Applicants should complete at least 60 semester hours before being admitted.

\***The University of Houston** offers the Doctor of Pharmacy (six year) degree as a first professional degree. The PCAT is required. Applicants should complete at least 66 semester hours before being admitted.

\***Texas A&M Kingsville** College of Pharmacy curriculum is designed to provide the student with the foundation to be a general practitioner who possesses the core knowledge and skills needed for the provision of pharmaceutical care. The minimum total instructional time for the curriculum requires six academic years: two years of college-level pre-pharmacy followed by four years in the College of Pharmacy.

**PCAT Information:**

The following is a list of information on the PCAT and study guides:

1. [www.pcatprepinfo.com](http://www.pcatprepinfo.com) - This is a comprehensive list of sites and materials that will assist in the exam; an excellent site.
2. [www.testpreparationsecrets.com](http://www.testpreparationsecrets.com) - You can purchase a very comprehensive and useful guide for the vocabulary section
3. [www.pcatprofessor.com](http://www.pcatprofessor.com) - At least 300 old PCAT questions and comprehensive learning resources too. One student said it was definitely worth the money!
4. Barron's PCAT Study Guide - A report from one student: "The best guide that you can find at the bookstore, it's not that great though."

Other helpful information:

5. [www.uspharmd.com](http://www.uspharmd.com) : lists all pharmacy schools in the U.S. and prerequisite course

\*Shown below is a composite list of requirements for the pharmacy programs in Texas. Please be aware that program requirements may change without notice and can vary with each school.

### Pre-Pharmacy Prerequisites– Texas Pharmacy Schools

PRE-PHARMACY PREREQUISITES	UNIV. OF HOUSTON	TEXAS A&M	TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIV.	TEXAS TECH	UT AUSTIN	UNIV OF THE INCARNATE WORD
BIOL 1710/1730	X	X	X	X	BIOL 1710 only	X
BIOL 1720/1740	X	X	X	X	BIOL 1720 only	
BIOL 2041/2042	X	X	X	X	X	X
BIOL 2301/2311			X			X
BIOL 2302/2312			X			X
BIOL 3451/3452		X			BIOL 3451 only	
BIOL 3500			X			
Computer Class			COSC 1010			
CHEM 1410/1430	X	X	X	X	X	X
CHEM 1420/1440	X	X	X	X	X	X
CHEM 2370/3210	X	X	X	X	X	X
CHEM 2380/3220	X	X	X	X	X	X
COMM 2040	X	X	X	X		
Economics				ECON 1110		
English Composition	ENGL 1310/1320	ENGL 1310/1320	ENGL 1310/1320	ENGL 1310/1320	ENGL 1310 only	ENGL 1310/1320
Literature (2000+)	X	X	X	X	<sup>d</sup> X	X
Foreign Language					<sup>d</sup> LANG 1010 & 1020	
HIST 2610 & 2620	X	X	X	<sup>b</sup> X	X	Any history course
MATH 1680	X	X	X	X	X	X
MATH 1650 (prereq for MATH 1710)	X	X	X	X	X	X
MATH 1710	X	X	X	X	<sup>d</sup> MATH 1710 & 1720	X
PHYS 1410/1430	X	X	X	X	PHYS 1410/1430	PHYS 1710/1730 only
PHYS 1420/1440						
PSCI 1040 & 1050	X	X	X	<sup>b</sup> X	X	
Psychology	X		X	<sup>b</sup> X		X
SMHM 1450			<sup>c</sup> X			
Social Science	PSYC 3620	X	X			
Vis. & Perf. Arts	X	4-6 hrs	X			X
PHIL 1050						X
Religion (3 hrs)						X

#### \*\* Check individual schools for final Application Deadlines

<sup>b</sup>Texas Tech: Humanities/Social Sciences: Courses may be selected from any mix of Anthropology, Communications (excluding public speaking prereq course), Economics (excluding Econ prereq), Ethnic Studies, Family Living/Human Dev Geography, History, Journalism, Philosophy, Political Sci, Psychology and Sociology. **Please note:** Performing and Fine Arts (including Music, Physical Ed, Foreign Languages, Computer courses or similar courses will not meet this requirement. Prerequisite grouping for Humanities/Social Sciences, e.g., 6 hours of history and 6 hours of political science, are not required at the TTUHSC School of Pharmacy.

<sup>c</sup>Texas Southern University: requires 2 hrs. Pharm. Orientation and Pharm. Application (hr) – no equivalent @ UNT. SMHM 1450 (Nutrition) at UNT may substitute for Phar 111, 112 and 211 at TSU.

<sup>d</sup>University of Texas: Engl 2210, 2220, 2322, 2323, 2328; calculus must include differential and at least an intro to integral calculus. You must have 2 years of high school foreign language or 2 college level semesters.

University of the Incarnate Word: any 1 hour physical education course (PHED).

**Additional information of interest to Pre-Pharm students:**

**Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT)** info at [www.pcatweb.info](http://www.pcatweb.info) . The **PCAT** is offered three times per year. Make certain you take it one of the two “early” dates it is offered.

University of the Incarnate Word is the only Texas school that participates in the **Pharmacy College Application Service (PharmCAS)**: [www.pharmacas.org](http://www.pharmacas.org)

Important note regarding **Criminal Background Checks**: some Pharmacy schools now require a criminal background check. Consult with each school to which you are applying for additional details.

Get information on **Pharmacy Technician** Certification at [www.ptcb.org/exam/schedule.aspx](http://www.ptcb.org/exam/schedule.aspx) .