



University of Washington School of Pharmacy PharmD Program Admissions Process

What to Expect When You Visit Us for Your Interview

The PharmD Admissions Committee of the University of Washington School of Pharmacy looks forward to meeting you at your scheduled interview in Seattle. The following information is provided to assist you in planning for your interview. The interview is an important part of our Admissions Process. You will feel more comfortable if you plan for adequate time to prepare for your interview and try to get a feel for the community, school, etc. before you come for the interview. This may require arriving the evening before or several hours ahead of time.

Please contact the UW School of Pharmacy Office of Professional Pharmacy Education at uwpharmd@uw.edu or 206-543-6100 to cancel or reschedule your interview, if necessary.

Where to Stay When You Come for Your Interview

The University of Washington Information & Visitors Center website <http://www.washington.edu/discover/visit/> has Quick links to “Places to Stay, Area Dining and Seattle Tourism” while in Seattle. The website also provides a link to local accommodations in the University District.

Getting to the Interview:

The School of Pharmacy is located in the new H-wing of the Magnuson Health Sciences Building. Please come to the School of Pharmacy Office of Academic and Student Programs, on the third floor in room H-362 to check in for your interview. Directions to the Magnuson Health Sciences Building and the School of Pharmacy are as follows:

Directions to the Magnuson Health Sciences Building

A map of the University of Washington campus can be found at <http://www.washington.edu/maps/#!/hst>

The Magnuson Health Sciences Building is located on the South-end of the University of Washington campus and is bordered on the west by the Montlake Cut and Lake Union.



Driving Directions:

From the north:

From I-5: Take Exit #169 (N.E. 45th Street). Turn left (east) onto N.E. 45th Street, follow this for about ¼ mile to 15th Avenue N.E. and turn right (south) onto 15th Avenue N.E. Continue on 15th Avenue N.E. for about ¾ mile and follow the curve left just after crossing N.E. Pacific Street. Proceed to the Parking Services Booth for directions and parking information.

From the south:

From I-5: Turn right (east) onto N.E. 45th Street, follow this for about ¼ mile to 15th Avenue N.E. and turn right (south) onto 15th Avenue N.E. Continue on 15th Avenue N.E. for about ¾ mile and follow the curve left just after crossing N.E. Pacific Street. Proceed to the Parking Services Booth for directions and parking information.

From the east:

From SR 520 (Evergreen Point Bridge) take the Montlake Boulevard exit and move in to the left-hand lane to prepare for a left turn after crossing the Montlake Bridge. Just after crossing the bridge turn left onto N.E. Pacific Street. The UW Medical Center/Hospital and Magnuson Health Sciences Building will be on your left. Pass the entire complex (one very long block) and turn left onto 15th Avenue N.E. Follow as it curves left. Proceed to the Parking Services Booth for directions and parking information.

Parking on Campus:

Parking currently costs \$15.00/day. (Partial refunds at exit if parked less than 4 hours)

For information about parking on campus:

<http://www.washington.edu/facilities/transportation/park>

Directions to the School of Pharmacy

From the north side of the Magnuson Health Sciences Building (the N.E. Pacific Street side):

Enter the building through the Rotunda Café entrance which is near (just southeast of) the westernmost pedestrian bridge over N.E. Pacific Street. After you enter the building, walk to the left of the café seating, pass the café and proceed to the new H-wing elevators. Take the elevator up to the third floor. The School of Pharmacy Office of Academic and Student Programs, H-362, will be across and to the left of the elevator doors.

From the south side of the Magnuson Health Sciences Building, (the S-1 Parking lot side):

Proceed up the large stairway northeast of the Parking Services booth. Enter the new H-wing through the door on your right at the top of the stairs. Take the elevator immediately in front of you up to the third floor. The School of Pharmacy Office of Academic and Student Programs, H-362, will be across and to the left of the elevator doors.



Preparing yourself for the Interview

Before you arrive

Review the application materials you submitted in your PharmCAS application and the UW School of Pharmacy Supplemental Application. Your applications and essays provide information about you as a person as well as a prospective applicant. You may be asked questions about your applications, essays, etc. during the interview.

Do not bring additional application materials.

The PharmD Admissions Committee is unable to accept research papers, additional recommendations, etc., that were not included in the original application.

What to Wear

Dress professionally and comfortably – the interview is an important part of the Admissions Process. If you plan to participate in a tour of the School of Pharmacy and the Health Sciences Building, wear, or bring along to change into, comfortable walking shoes – there is quite a bit of distance to cover.

Bring a Photo ID (Required)

Several kinds of identification can be used, such as a driver's license, military or state ID, Husky Card, or passport.

Day of Interview

Meeting with Student Admissions Ambassadors & Tour

Each interview day, applicants will be taken on a tour by current students who are selected as Student Admissions Ambassadors. The 25 minute tour will be done after the interview.

Additional information regarding the Magnuson Health Sciences Building at the end of this document stated as a "Paper Tour" of the Magnuson Health Sciences Building & School of Pharmacy.

The Interview

The interview is an extremely important part of the PharmD Admissions Process. During the interview, applicants are evaluated in a variety of areas. Highly considered qualities are integrity, maturity, responsibility, humanitarianism, compassion, leadership and the ability to overcome personal or social adversity.

Applicants will be interviewed by a team of two members. Each interview lasts approximately 25 minutes. The Admissions Committee Interview Team attempts to adhere to this time limit in order to preserve the interview schedule.



Applicants are interviewed in comfortably-sized rooms in the School of Pharmacy in the Health Sciences Building and in the Office of Professional Pharmacy Education suites in the South Campus Center Building. Refreshments will be provided.

Interview Questions

We use an “open file” method of interview. Interview Team members will have read parts of the applicant file prior to the interview. Interview Team members recognize that applicants may be apprehensive or anxious about the interview. Our interviews are conducted in a personalized/individualized, conversational and informal manner.

As both applicants and the Interview Team will be making important decisions about admission to the UW PharmD Program, we will attempt to create an atmosphere that is comfortable and most conducive to this process. As noted above, your applications and essays provide information about you as a person as well as a prospective applicant. You may be asked questions about your applications, essays, etc. or about topics completely unrelated to pharmacy practice or health issues. These questions will help us “get to know you” as an individual and help to maintain a comfortable atmosphere during the interview.

Additionally, you can expect to be asked general questions related to current health issues covered in the media and you may be placed in scenarios that may be related to issues typical of pharmacy practice. We do not expect you to have specific legal, diagnostic, drug or clinical knowledge. These scenarios are opportunities for you to demonstrate problem-solving and decision-making skills. Often, there may be no “one specific right or wrong” response. It is the process of reaching a response that we are interested in.

Answering Your Questions about the PharmD Program

Due to the importance of maintaining the interview schedule, you will have a limited opportunity after your interview to ask questions of the Interview Team. If you have additional questions, you can address these to the staff of the School of Pharmacy Office of Professional Pharmacy Education or via e-mail to uwpharmd@uw.edu.

When Will You Hear From Us After Your Interview?

Interviewed applicants are ranked competitively on criteria that include academic preparedness, excellent oral, written and interpersonal communication skills, a high level of motivation and aptitude for the PharmD Program and the profession, and strong critical-thinking ability and decision-making skills.

We will attempt to notify you of your post-interview status within 7-14 days after completion of the interview. We aim to admit a class of 105 students. A ranked wait list interviewed applicants will be established. Applicants placed on the wait list will be notified of an offer of admission as space becomes available. The wait list will remain active until sometime in September. Due to limits on enrollment, the School of Pharmacy cannot admit all qualified applicants.



Successful applicants will be notified by e-mail and will receive a packet of acceptance materials which will be sent via email. Applicants placed on the Wait List will be notified by e-mail.

Applicants who are not selected for an offer of admission will be notified by email.

Confidentiality of Application Materials, Interview and Admissions Process

The School of Pharmacy maintains strict confidentiality with regard to applicants to the PharmD Program. Information about applications, status of offer of interview, interview outcome and offer of admission will not be disclosed to anyone other than the applicant.

The Admissions Committee is unable to accept information about an applicant which was not submitted as part of the application. This includes additional comments from recommenders, employers, etc., further answers or comments to questions posed at the interview.

A Final Note

The PharmD Admissions Committee of the University of Washington School of Pharmacy appreciates the time and consideration you have put into application to our Program. We hope that the information provided here will be useful to you in preparing for your interview. We look forward to meeting you and answering any further questions you may have about our Program.



A Paper Tour of the Magnuson Health Sciences Center and the School of Pharmacy

The University of Washington School of Pharmacy does not occupy its own dedicated building. Like all of the Health Science Schools on the UW campus (with the exception of the School of Social Work and the Information School which are located on upper campus), the School of Pharmacy is part of the larger Magnuson Health Sciences Center. Physical space is a tight commodity in the Health Sciences Center. The Health Sciences Schools share access to the Health Sciences Library and all classrooms. While challenging from a physical space perspective, these shared resources promote integrated opportunities for interprofessional Health Sciences education and collaboration.

Magnuson Health Sciences Center

The Magnuson Health Sciences Center is an internationally recognized teaching, research and patient care facility. In addition to administrative, office and research space for all of the Health Sciences Schools (Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health), the Magnuson Health Sciences Center provides space for the Health Sciences Library, classroom teaching, and a variety of support services for Health Sciences Administration and academics.

University of Washington Medical Center and Harborview Medical Center

The Magnuson Health Sciences Center is located physically adjacent to one of two major teaching hospitals for UW Medicine, the University of Washington Medical Center (UWMC). The other major teaching hospital, Harborview Medical Center, is located in downtown Seattle. Shuttle buses run frequently between these sites.

The University of Washington School of Pharmacy

The UW School of Pharmacy is an integral part of the Magnuson Health Sciences Center. The School of Pharmacy is physically located in the new H-wing of the Magnuson Health Sciences Center. The School of Pharmacy consists of three departments: Pharmacy, Pharmaceutics and Medicinal Chemistry.

The Department of Pharmacy, Dean's Office, and the Office of Professional Pharmacy Education are located on the third floor. The Department of Pharmacy houses faculty and administrative offices in addition to limited faculty research facilities. The Pharmacy faculty is responsible for teaching the practice-related portion of the professional pharmacy or PharmD curriculum. The Department of Pharmacy has an established graduate program in Pharmaceutical Outcomes Research and Policy (PORPP). The Department of Pharmacy supports general and specialized pharmacy residencies, and research fellowships in select areas of pharmacotherapeutics. The mission of the Department of Pharmacy is to prepare pharmacists to provide optimal pharmaceutical care, and to prepare graduate and postgraduate students for leadership in teaching, research, practice and service. The Department of Pharmacy faculty



generates and disseminates knowledge to promote safe, clinically effective, and cost-efficient use of medications.

The Department of Pharmacy graduate program in Pharmaceutical Outcomes Research and Policy (PORPP) is specifically recognized as a leading center for the economic evaluation of pharmacogenetic and other diagnostic innovations, as well as related policy issues. PORPP is a major participant in federal and regional government-funded studies of medication prescribing errors, and in developing solutions through health systems technology enhancement and is an influential voice in pharmaceutical risk-benefit analysis in both industry and regulatory sectors

Faculty in the Department of Pharmacy conduct Pharmacotherapeutic research in the following areas: Clinical Pharmacokinetics, Immunosuppressive Drug Therapy, Maternal-Fetal Pharmacology, Women's Health and Medications, Drug-drug and Drug-herb Interactions, Anticancer drugs and pain medications, Antiepileptic drug therapy and Medication Safety in Geriatric Patients.

The Bracken Pharmaceutical Care Learning Center (PCLC) is located on the fourth floor, T-wing of the Magnuson Health Sciences Center. The PCLC is named for L. D. Bracken and Jim L. Bracken, longtime leaders of the pharmacy profession in Washington. The PCLC provides an optimal environment for students and practitioners to learn the technical and clinical skills needed for patient-focused care. The PCLC consists of six integrated learning areas: sterile products and biotechnology preparation room, automated dispensing equipment area, technology-supported learning center, patient education/nonprescription products, patient assessment room, and conference room. The laboratory components of drug information, compounding, dispensing, communications and therapeutics coursework are all offered in the PCLC, and are supported by state-of-the-art computer, video and telecommunications equipment. The PCLC is used throughout the Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum, and is also available to pharmacy practitioners for skill development programs and special projects.

The Department of Pharmaceutics and the Pharmaceutics DNA Sequencing and Gene Analysis Center are located on the second floor. The Department of Pharmaceutics houses faculty and administrative offices in addition to faculty research facilities. **The DNA Sequencing and Gene Analysis Center** provides UW investigators access to high-quality automated DNA sequencing on a cost-sharing basis. In addition to automated DNA sequencing, the Center specializes in genotype analysis of drug metabolizing enzymes and drug transporters.

The Department of Medicinal Chemistry is located on the first floor. The Department of Medicinal Chemistry houses faculty and administrative offices in addition to faculty research facilities. The **Department of Medicinal Chemistry Mass Spectrometry Center** is located in the I-Court of the Health Sciences Building. The Mass Spectrometry Center provides a variety of mass spectral services to the University and research community-at-large.

School of Pharmacy off-campus research sites: In addition to UWMC and Harborview Medical Center, faculty from all three departments of the School of Pharmacy also have opportunities for clinical research affiliation with a number of sites including the Seattle Veterans Administration Hospital, Children's Hospital Regional Medical Center, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Institute and others.



*Updated: 9/2018