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Degree Programs

Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences

The College of Pharmacy research doctoral program grants the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree with a major in Pharmaceutical Sciences. Five concentrations are offered within the Pharmaceutical Sciences major: Medicinal Chemistry, Pharmaceutics, Pharmacodynamics, Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Pharmaceutical Outcomes & Policy.

Satisfactory completion of the Ph.D. program requires at least 90 credits of graduate coursework and the successful completion and defense of a dissertation based on research completed within the field of pharmaceutical sciences.

Our Ph.D. program is categorized as a STEM field for international students when applying for Optional Practical Training (OPT) after completion of the program.

Master of Science in Pharmacy in Pharmaceutical Sciences

The College of Pharmacy grants the Master of Science in Pharmacy (M.S.P.) degree with a major in Pharmaceutical Sciences. The on-campus master's degree is not consistently offered by all five concentrations. Before submitting an application, applicants interested in pursuing the master's degree should contact the [department's graduate coordinator](#) directly to confirm if they will be admitting master's degree students in the upcoming cohort.

The online master's degree program is managed separately from the on-campus graduate program. More information can be found on the [COP Online Graduate Programs website](#).

Satisfactory completion of the M.S.P. program requires at least 30 credits of graduate coursework and the successful completion and defense of a thesis based on research completed within the field of pharmaceutical sciences.

The M.S.P. program is **not** currently categorized as a STEM field for international students when applying for Optional Practical Training (OPT).

Requirements for Admission

The minimum standards for admission to the graduate program align with the UF Graduate School policy, and are as follows:

- Completion of a bachelor's or professional degree from an accredited higher education institution,
- Official [transcripts](#) from every institution attended,
- Upper-division undergraduate [GPA](#) of at least 3.0 on a 4-point system,
- Updated [CV or resume](#),
- Submission of [test scores](#), if applicable,
- Satisfactory conduct record,
- Payment of the non-refundable [UF application fee](#)

A complete application to the Pharmaceutical Sciences graduate program also must include the following:

- [Statement of Purpose](#),
- Three [letters of recommendation](#)

Transcripts

Official transcripts must be submitted from **every** school that you have attended after high school, even if you did not complete the degree there.

Unofficial transcripts can be uploaded through the application portal for the department's initial review, but must be scanned copies of the original version, including all seals, stamps, and/or signatures that appear on the official transcript. Screen shots of grades will not be accepted as unofficial transcripts. All official final transcripts must be submitted before you can enroll in the program.

Transcripts can be sent electronically **or** in paper format through the mail:

Electronic/Digital Transcripts

Request your transcripts to be submitted directly from the institution to the UF Office of Admissions.

- UF accepts electronic transcripts through FASTER, Parchment, National Student Clearing House, ScribbleSoft, e-Scrip Safe, Credential Solutions, SCOIR or Transcripts Plus.
- If you attended UF as one of your previous institutions, your UF transcript will be connected to your graduate application through your UFID number. You do not need to request UF transcripts.

Paper Transcripts

Send the paper transcript in a sealed envelope through the mail to the UF Office of Admissions to the following address,

University of Florida, Office of Admissions
201 Criser Hall, P.O. Box 114000
Gainesville, FL 32611-4000

Do **not** send transcripts directly to the College of Pharmacy or the department. This will only delay the process and could result in documents getting lost.

All academic credentials documents become the property of the University of Florida and will not be returned. For original documents that are only issued once, please send an attested or certified copy for review.

International Credentials

International applicants must submit official transcripts and degree certificates/diplomas for every school attended and degree earned. Transcripts and degree certificates/diplomas not issued in English must be accompanied by a certified, literal line-for-line English translation of the original document. Acceptable certified translations are issued by your institution or a professional translating service.

Digitally uploaded academic credentials must include the **same** information appearing on an official transcript, including biographical information, institution name, signatures, seals and stamps.

Credential Evaluations for coursework completed outside of the US may be submitted, but are not required. Submitting an evaluation on its own will not fulfill the transcript submission requirements. All transcripts and degree certificates still must be submitted during the application process.

GPA

The UF Graduate Application will ask for your upper-division undergraduate GPA. A GPA calculator is provided in the application process, and requires that you enter grades information to compute your upper-division GPA. Be sure to read the directions carefully to complete this requirement.

Curriculum Vitae (CV) or Resume

Florida law requires applicants to disclose all post-high school education and employment, as well as information about any international affiliations and/or research funding. Be sure to include this information in your CV.

Required Test Scores

The College of Pharmacy no longer requires the GRE test for admission. GRE test scores will not be reviewed or considered in the admissions decision-making process for any applicant.

International applicants from countries where English is not the official language are required to demonstrate evidence of English language proficiency by submitting official test scores from one of the following approved English Language tests:

- TOEFL: a minimum score of 80 on the internet-based test
- IELTS: a minimum score of 6
- Duolingo: N/A, **not** accepted by UF

Unofficial test scores may be used for the department's initial review, but official test scores must be submitted before the UF Office of Admissions will approve admission

Exemptions for English Language tests may be granted if the applicant has successfully earned a degree or completed one academic year in a degree-seeking program from an accredited higher education institution located in the US or in a country where English is the official language. More information about exemptions and a list of exempt countries can be found on the [UF Admissions website](#).

Application Fee

All applicants must pay the \$30 application fee with the submission of the UF graduate application. The program cannot access or review your application until the application fee has been paid. The UF application fee is non-refundable and valid for one calendar year.

The College of Pharmacy does **not** have the ability to provide application fee waivers.

Statement of Purpose

You are more than your GPA and previous degrees! Your Statement of Purpose (SOP) should tell us more about you: why are you interested in pharmaceutical sciences research, what experiences led you here, what drives you? Explain how your prior experiences and academic background have prepared you for graduate studies, how your interests align with those of the faculty and/or department, and how earning your degree will allow you to reach your future goals.

The SOP does **not** have a page-length requirement. Remember that the admissions reviewers will be reading a lot of SOPs, so it should generally be between 1-2 pages long, or about 500 words. Do not get hung up on the length, but instead focus on telling your story.

Letters of Recommendation

The College of Pharmacy requires **three** letters of recommendation. These should come from previous faculty members or supervisors who can speak to your research and academic strengths.

Letters will be requested electronically, so you will be asked to provide the email addresses for each of your recommenders. You should contact your recommenders ahead of time to ensure they are willing and able to complete your letter in time for the admissions review. **You cannot add or remove recommenders after your application has been submitted.**

How to Apply

Applicants are strongly recommended to review the [COP Graduate Education website](#) for information about the on-campus graduate program, five concentrations, and the [application process](#). Once you are ready to apply, complete the [UF Graduate Application](#) through the [University of Florida Admissions website](#). Applications are **not** accepted from third-party platforms such as PharmGrad.

Be sure to pay close attention to the instructions and complete all of the steps. Changes cannot be made to your application once you have submitted it!

This section walks through **each step** of the UF Graduate Application in order to provide more detailed information and ensure that the applicant has a clear understanding of the information being requested. If you still have questions about a particular question on the graduate application, please contact GraduateAdmissions@cop.ufl.edu for more guidance.

Deadline to Apply

Applications for the next Fall cohort must be submitted by **December 1** of the previous year.
I.e., Fall 2025 applications are due by December 1, 2024.

Supplemental application documents such as letters of recommendation and official transcripts will be accepted beyond the December 1 deadline, although it is strongly recommended that all materials be submitted as soon as possible.

Personal Information

Provide a professional email address that you will maintain access to for the foreseeable future. Email is the main method of communicating with our applicants, and all admissions decisions will be distributed through email. Do not use an email address that you will lose access to once you graduate from your current educational program!

Location of Intended Program

All applicants to the on-campus graduate program should indicate “Main Campus – Gainesville” as their location. This includes students who wish to study at the COP Orlando (Lake Nona) campus. Do NOT mark Orlando.

Program of Study

ATTENTION REQUIRED: You will need to select the correct degree level and major within the application:
College of Pharmacy > Pharmaceutical Sciences > Degree of Choice > Select Term of Enrollment

On-campus master degree applications are currently only accepted in select concentrations. Contact the [department's graduate coordinator](#) **before applying** to confirm that master's degree applications will be considered. Refunds will **not** be granted for application fees if you apply to a master's degree in a concentration that is not being offered.

Applications will only be considered for **Fall** enrollment. The College of Pharmacy will **not** review applications submitted for Spring or Summer terms.

Concentration

ATTENTION REQUIRED: Select the intended concentration of study. This will allow your application to be routed to the appropriate department for review. If you do not indicate a concentration, we cannot guarantee that your application will be reviewed for admission.

Students interested in studying in the Pharmacotherapy & Translational Research (PTR) department should select the Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences concentration. All other departments' names match their degree concentrations.

Specialization

OPTIONAL: Indicate your research areas of interest to help us ensure your application is reviewed by the appropriate faculty.

Department Contact Name

OPTIONAL: Indicate the name(s) of COP graduate faculty that you are interested in working with for your research and graduate studies.

College Education Background

ATTENTION REQUIRED: List **all** colleges or universities that you have attended and the degree level, regardless of degree completion. Please list the most recent program first, and work backward in time to ensure that all programs are reported.

You may upload unofficial copies of your transcripts for each institution at this point to allow the admissions committee access to this information before your official transcripts are received. Please note that submitting unofficial copies of transcripts does **not** take the place of submitting official transcripts!

GPA Calculator

Follow the application's instructions carefully to ensure you accurately report your upper-level undergraduate GPA. This GPA should only reflect the grades earned **after** the initial 60 credits in your bachelor's degree, typically in your junior and senior years. You should **not** report grades from any courses taken while earning a graduate degree.

Grades from undergraduate degrees earned at international institutions or programs that do not utilize a traditional 4.0 grading system should **not** be reported in the GPA calculator.

Test Score Information

Do **not** report GRE scores. The only test scores accepted and reviewed by the College of Pharmacy are [English Language Proficiency tests](#) for international students.

Additional Questions

This is where you will submit your [Statement of Purpose](#) and [CV/Resume](#). Your CV should reflect **all** of your previous education and work experiences.

Special Programs Application

This subsection will not be applicable to most applicants. You do **not** need to indicate that you are applying for funding/assistantships: **all** College of Pharmacy Ph.D. applicants are considered for funded positions.

If you will receive a third-party sponsorship, such as funding from a government sponsorship program, you should select “Funding Approved” under the “Other (US or Foreign)” dropdown menu.

Letters of Recommendation

This is where you will submit the contact information for your three recommenders, as described [in a previous section](#). The UF application allows for up to five recommenders to be listed, however the College of Pharmacy only requires three and does **not** give preference to those who provide more than three.

Residency Information

Residency refers to whether a student is an in-state Florida resident or an out-of-state resident, and this classification determines the rate of tuition. A Florida resident for tuition purposes is a person who has established and maintained legal residency in Florida for at least twelve (12) consecutive months preceding the first day of enrollment in the graduate program. To qualify as a Florida resident for tuition purposes, you must be a U.S. citizen, a foreign national in certain nonimmigrant visa classifications, or permanent resident.

Students may be eligible to reclassify their residency status after their first year of enrollment. More information about that process can be found on the [UF Registrar Residency webpage](#).

Payment of Application Fees

ATTENTION REQUIRED: Your application is not fully submitted until you pay your \$30 application fee and the payment has been authorized. Once payment is authorized, your application is final, and you can no longer make changes to it.

The College of Pharmacy does not have access to application information until after the [application fee](#) has been paid. Departments will not be able to review the application or make an admissions decision if the application fee is unpaid.

We understand that applying to graduate school can be expensive. Unfortunately, the College of Pharmacy is unable to provide fee waivers for the UF graduate application.

Checking Your Application Status

Approximately 48 hours after submission, you will be able to login to [check your application status](#) by accessing the UF CollegeNet admissions portal and using the same username and password created when you applied.

Documents that have been received but not yet verified by the UF admissions team may be marked as “awaiting” or “pending” while that verification process is being completed. This official review process can take an extended amount of time, especially for international documents. Once the documents have been reviewed and verified, they will be marked with a green check mark to indicate they are complete.

If you have submitted your documentation but the status still shows as “awaiting” or “pending,” the UF admissions office may have received the document but it has not yet been reviewed and verified. During this time, the College of Pharmacy is able to review all submitted documentation, regardless of verification status. In order to be admitted, you will need to ensure all official documents have been submitted.

Decision Timeline

Departments will begin review of completed applications immediately following the December 1 deadline. First round interviews are typically done via Zoom and begin in January. Top applicants may be invited to visit campus for an in-person interview during the COP Annual Research Showcase in early February.

Admissions decisions are dependent on a number of factors, including the availability of funding to support the student. Therefore, it is in the applicant's best interest to submit a complete application by December 1 to be considered in the first round of review.

Decisions for admissions are made on a rolling basis throughout the Spring. Departments may conduct several rounds of admissions offers before finalizing their incoming cohort.

The University of Florida participates in the Council of Graduate School's resolution regarding acceptance of an offer of financial support, which commits that students offered admissions with funding are allowed to take time to consider all offers and provide a formal response to the offer no earlier than April 15. Participating programs are **not** permitted to require applicants to respond to a funded offer of admission before April 15.

Application Process Timeline

