

Fact Sheet on Application to the Doctor of Pharmacy Program for Students With a Degree

This fact sheet is designed to provide an overview and understanding of the application process for individuals who have attained a Bachelor's degree or an advanced degree (MBA, Masters, MD, JD, DDS, Ph.D.) in other fields of study. In all cases, applicants would need to seek admission through the Office of University Undergraduate Admissions as it is necessary for all students to complete the two undergraduate professional years of study in addition to the two graduate professional years. Ultimately, all students, regardless of prior degrees attained would need to complete four years of full-time study to attain the Doctor of Pharmacy Degree from the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy from a 2- or 4-year College outside of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. **Please keep this fact sheet for future reference.**

Introduction and Overview of the School

Admission to the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy is available for the fall semester of each year for both high school and transfer students into the Entry-Level Pharm.D. Program. The Entry-Level Pharm.D. Program is a six-year academic program leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy degree. Depending upon the courses that can be transferred from another accredited college, the total number of years needed to complete the Program may be as little as four.

Combining course work with clinical clerkships, the goal of the program is to educate health care professionals to practice pharmacy in community, hospital, academic, managed care, and industrial pharmaceutical settings. Students complete a well-balanced curriculum of liberal arts courses, basic sciences, and pharmaceutical, clinical, socioeconomic, and administration sciences. Instruction includes structured clinical experiences in hospitals, nursing homes, community pharmacies, and managed care agencies, as well as in pharmaceutical manufacturing companies.

Currently, the School has an enrollment of 1,260 undergraduates of which 40% are men and 60% are women. 66% of all students at the School reside on campus while 34% commute. All students affiliate with one of the liberal arts colleges at Rutgers for housing, dining, and student activities.

Priority Deadlines

For the 2009-2010 Academic Year, applications are due as follows

	Application Due Date	Approximate Date for Notification of Decision
College Transfer Applicants	January 15, 2009	May 1, 2009

Please note that applications may be accepted beyond these dates, however the University may not make a decision on late applications if all seats are filled for the incoming class.

Applying to the School

Application to the School of Pharmacy can be made on the Web using the following website:

<http://admissions.rutgers.edu>

Students may also use a traditional paper application by calling Undergraduate Admissions at 1 (732) 932-4636.

A Complete Application

A completed application for admission as a transfer student will include the following items:

- A completed application with \$60.00 application fee,
- An official transcript from each prior college and university you have attended,
- An official transcript from your current college or university,
- Your high school transcript showing your date of graduation.

Admissions Review Explained

First and foremost, the admissions review will look at the coursework that has already been completed and those courses that still need to be taken. We would prefer to admit students into the third year of the program, therefore, we ask that all of the courses in the first two years should be completed or in the process of completion when a student applies.

Transfer students are welcome to apply to the School. In order for a student to be considered for admission, the first two pre-professional years of study must be completed. The coursework we expect a student to have completed are as follows:

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Class Name	Rutgers Class No.	Credit Hours
General Biology I	01:119:101	4.0
General Biology II	01:119:102	4.0
General Chemistry I	01:160:161	4.0
General Chemistry II	01:160:162	4.0
Chemistry Laboratory	01:160:171	1.0
English Composition I	01:355:101	3.0
English Composition II or Public Speaking	01:355:201 or 04:192:220	3.0
Calculus I	01:640:135	4.0
Organic Chemistry I	01:160:307	4.0
Organic Chemistry II	01:160:308	4.0
Organic Chemistry Lab	01:160:311	2.0
General Physics I	01:750:203	4.0
General Physics II	01:750:204	4.0
General Physics Lab	01:750:205	1.0
Systems Physiology *	01:146:356	3.0
Introduction to Microeconomics	01:220:102	3.0
Basic Statistics for Research	01:960:401	3.0

* This course content is exclusively physiology. Students who complete *Anatomy and Physiology I* must take *Anatomy and Physiology II* in order to satisfy this requirement.

In addition to the mandatory courses listed above, transfer applicants must complete Five (5) Humanities / Social Science Electives. For information on the requirements that govern Humanities / Social Science Electives, please view the fact sheet. In addition, one (1) course in the field of either Psychology or Sociology must be completed.

Descriptions of each of the courses listed above are available from the Rutgers-New Brunswick Undergraduate Catalog 2007-2009 that is online at the following website <http://catalogs.rutgers.edu>

Secondly, your Cumulative GPA will be reviews relative to the coursework completed. GPAs should be 3.500 or above. The higher the GPA the better a student's chances. However, individual grades in the core sciences, math, statistics, and writing/communications will be considered as well as the multiple core curricular courses taken during each semester. The semester course load should be about 16.0 to 18.0 credits. The fact that students may have finalized their requirements during a semester and did not need to take full-time course loads will be taken into account.

Thirdly, students who have a degree in a related science discipline are strongly recommended to take the Pharmacy College Admissions Test or PCAT. Further information on the PCAT is available from the following phone number: 1 (800) 622-3231. There is no floor for the test scores. Rather, the test scores are reviewed in conjunction with your overall academic record.

Letters of recommendation or personal statements may also be submitted with your application. Neither is required. Obviously, no one is going to write a bad letter of recommendation for you. Therefore, the letter itself is not going to sway an admissions decision one way or the other. However, it may provide a greater background and understanding of you as a student and future professional in the field of Pharmacy. In addition, a personal statement will provide a better understanding of your intentions in applying to the School and your goals and objectives as a student and, ultimately, a professional.

All of these factors are combined and considered in an admissions decision.

Additional Admissions Recommendations

For admissions consideration, prospective transfer students are expected to provide copies of high school and college transcripts. In addition, it is strongly recommended that transfer students complete the Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT). The PCATs are administered by the Psychological Corporation. All requests for information concerning the Pharmacy College Admissions Test (PCAT) need to be directed to: Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT), The Psychological Corporation, 555 Academic Court, San Antonio, TX 78204-2498. The Corporation can also be reached by phone at 1 (800) 622-3231, or fax at 1 (210) 921-8861. In addition, their website is: <http://marketplace.psychcorp.com/PsychCorp.com/Cultures/en-US/dotCom/PCATWEB.INFO.htm>.

Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Central Time. When writing the Psychological Corporation, always include the following information in your letter: your name, address, Social Security Number, and the name and date of the testing program your letter concerns. When you call the Psychological Corporation, you need to keep a record of when you called, the name of the person you spoke to, and the information you were given.

Please note that the School of Pharmacy does not administer the exam for which you sign up. Any questions you may have on the test, the test center, or the grading system for the test must be referred to the Psychological Corporation. There are resources to help prepare you for the PCAT test that can be found by searching the web or chain bookstores. The Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy makes no recommendation about which resources to use.

Because test results are not received for 4-6 weeks after the test date, applicants who are planning to take the PCAT are strongly advised to take the October test. There is no bias against a student who takes the PCAT twice. The best score will be considered.

Foreign Students

Foreign students may be required to have their high school and/or college transcripts translated and evaluated prior to submission to the University. For further information of companies and organizations that provide such service, please review the information at the following website: <http://www.naces.org/members.htm>.

All transfer students are encouraged to look at the program of study they are interested in and to review past course work they have taken.

Evaluation of Credit

In order to provide the most information possible to assist in the evaluation of coursework for credit, it is recommended that each transfer student take time to complete the following steps:

- 1) Gather together the course descriptions of each course you have taken.
- 2) When you apply to the University, submit the course descriptions to the Office of University Undergraduate Admissions. If you apply online, you are welcome to send other documentation via the US Mail. That material will be added to your file when received.
- 3) Gather together the course syllabi from each course you have taken and have it ready to send to the Office of Academic Services here at the School in case we need them for additional review.

In this way, you will be prepared to provide as much information as possible regarding the material covered in each course you have taken.

You can also conduct your own rough evaluation of credits by taking the following steps:

- 1) Start by looking at the course descriptions for each of the courses taught here at Rutgers. This can be done by visiting our online catalog at the following website: <http://catalogs.rutgers.edu>
- 2) Review the course description for the course you have taken that you believe is an equivalent.
- 3) If both descriptions provide a similar overview of the material to be learned, more than likely the course will be recognized as an equivalent by the School.

The Articulation System (ARTSYS)

Students enrolled at a community college in New Jersey should also review the information regarding transferable courses to the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy by accessing the Articulation System or ARTSYS. The website can be found at <http://artsys.rutgers.edu>. To view the Recommended Transfer Program or RTP, you would need to visit this portion of the ARTSYS site: <https://www.njtransfer.org/artweb/chgri.cgi> At this page, you will be able to choose your current community college and Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy. A new page will appear and you would choose "Next>." On the follow page will be a link to "Two-Year Prepharmacy Curriculum." That link will provide you with a listing of the course numbers at your community college that will satisfy our required courses. If a community college course number is not listed, then you would need to find another school where that course is offered. In most cases, the courses would need to be taken at Rutgers University during the Summer Session prior to beginning the First Professional Year.

Websites With Additional Information

This information should provide most of the answers you are seeking. To provide you with the most up-to-date information about the College and the University, we encourage students to review the information on the following web pages:

University Website:

<http://www.rutgers.edu>

New Brunswick/Piscataway Campus:

<http://nbp.rutgers.edu/>

Map of the New Brunswick Campus:

<http://maps.rutgers.edu/maps/default.aspx>

Rutgers-New Brunswick Undergraduate Catalog

<http://catalogs.rutgers.edu>

Tours at the New Brunswick/Piscataway Campus:

<http://admissions.rutgers.edu/tours>

Research Opportunities: <http://pharmacy.rutgers.edu/Depts>
Information on Tuition and Fees: <http://www.studentabc.rutgers.edu/>
Information on Financial Aid: <http://studentaid.rutgers.edu/>
Application for Undergraduate Admission: <http://admissions.rutgers.edu/0201.asp>

School Website:

<http://pharmacy.rutgers.edu>
Curriculum Guide for the School: http://pharmacy.rutgers.edu/curricula/Entry_Level_PharmD_Program.pdf
Explanation of Humanities / Social Science Electives: <http://pharmacy.rutgers.edu/facts/Humanities.pdf>
Tours and Information Sessions at the School: <http://pharmacy.rutgers.edu/infosession.htm>

Further Questions on Admission

Answers to additional questions about the admission process may be obtained from the Office of University Undergraduate Admissions either by visiting the Office's website at <http://admissions.rutgers.edu>, or by calling the RU Info Line at 1 (732) 932-4636.