



Fact Sheet on Academic Requirements for Doctor of Pharmacy Program

This fact sheet is designed to give new students information to assist them in understanding the academic requirements of the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy. **Please keep this fact sheet for future reference.**

Basic Requirements for the Pharm.D. Program

Incoming students must meet the following requirements in order to enter the **First Professional (Third) Year of the Program** (RU course numbers are in parentheses):

- Satisfactory completion of *Expository Writing I* (01:355:101) **and** *Research in the Disciplines* (01:355:201). Alternative courses to *Research in the Disciplines* are listed on the Curriculum Sheet but may not always be available.
- Satisfactory completion of Calculus I (01:640:135) (4 credits) and Basic Statistics for Research (01:960:401).
- Satisfactory completion of Microeconomics (01:220:102) (3 credits).
- Satisfactory completion of *all* first and second year courses as listed on the School of Pharmacy Curriculum Sheet.

During the final year, or during the rotational experience, students may not take any other courses other than the rotation courses.

AP Credit

Degree credit will be given for Advanced Placement experience provided that the examination is taken and a score of **4 or 5** is earned. The course equivalency is determined by the department at the University that normally offers the course. AP Credit **will not be granted** for either *Expository Writing*, 01:355:101, or *Research in the Disciplines*, 01:355:201 or other second level writing courses. All students enrolled in any of the Academic Programs offered through the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy are required to take both courses at the University.

No more than 8.0 credits of AP coursework or other advanced standing credit, obtained while in high school, will be permitted to be transferred.

Degree Credit

Degree credit may also be given for a limited number of college-level courses taken while in high school. The following requirements must be met for such credit to be considered for transfer:

1. An official transcript from the college or university where the coursework was taken needs to be submitted to the University for review. Information regarding the method of submission is available upon request from the Office of Academic Services.
2. A grade of "C" or better needs to have been attained.
3. The course needs to have been taught *on the campus* of the college or university sending the official transcript.
4. The course content is reviewed and approved as being equivalent to the *course content and credits weight as offered* by the Department at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey that normally offers the course
5. No more than 8.0 college credits will be accepted from this type of source and will count towards the 8 credits of AP coursework.

General Scholastic Standing Guidelines

Students are expected to meet the academic progression standards listed below at the end of each academic term and by the end of each the academic year. The standards are applied to students based on courses completed and the sequence of courses outlined in the Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum. Below is an overview of the review process and minimum requirements for progression.

Academic Review

Student academic performance is reviewed by the Scholastic Standing Committee, which is composed of appointed faculty of the School. The faculty of the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy must ratify any recommendations made by the committee before a student's academic status is changed. Academic review requires that students attain the Standard listed below.

Standards

Satisfactory academic progression is defined as:

1. Achieving a minimum 2.800 Cumulative GPA at the end of each academic term for the first two years of the pre-professional program.
2. Attaining grades of C or better in the core science courses and labs during the pre-professional years. Core science courses include *General Chemistry and Lab*, *Organic Chemistry and Lab*, *General Biology and Lab*, and *Human Physiology*.
3. Achieving a 2.800 Cumulative GPA at the end of the second term of the second year.
4. Successful completion of all pre-professional coursework by the end of the Spring semester of the second year after admission to the Program.
5. Maintaining a minimum 2.500 Cumulative and Professional GPA throughout the professional portion of the program.

Failure to maintain the school's academic progression standards is grounds for dismissal or placement on academic probationary status. A dismissal recommendation also may be based upon poor academic performance during any single term, regardless of any prior scholastic status, or after a student has spent two prior terms on probation.

Transition Requirements

Students enrolled in the Program need to meet the following requirements to be eligible to enter the First Professional (Third) Year of the Pharm.D. Program in New Brunswick.

1. **Satisfactory completion of *all* first and second year pre-professional courses as listed in the Curriculum by the end of the *Spring semester* of the second year from the semester of admission.** This includes *all humanities / social science electives, the Psychology/Sociology elective, core mathematics, science, and English courses.*
2. Attainment of a 2.800 Cumulative GPA at the end of the Spring semester of the second academic year.
3. Successful completion of an interview with a designated faculty member at the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy during the Spring semester of the second year of admission.

Minimum Grade Requirements

For students admitted to all academic programs at the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, students need to attain a grade of C or better in all core science courses. Core science courses include *General Chemistry and Lab*, *Organic Chemistry and Lab*, *General Biology and Lab*, and *Human Physiology*.

In addition, at the discretion of the Scholastic Standing Committee, a student may be required to repeat a course if it is determined that the grade attained does not show proficiency in the course content. In all cases, *both* the original and new grade will be included in the student's average. Grades in repeated courses must be C or better. Grades of D in any of the core science courses in the pre-professional years must be repeated for a grade of C or better.

Additional academic standards are listed in the Pharmacy section of the Rutgers-New Brunswick Undergraduate Catalog. **Students need to become familiar with these expectations.** If you have any questions concerning these standards, you need to contact the Office of Academic Services at jmdecker@rci.rutgers.edu.

Summer Session Coursework

Students may be allowed to complete course work in the following Summer Session in order to meet the above academic progression standards if the coursework is completed at Rutgers University. Students must have prior approval from the academic dean at the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy before initiating summer course work related to curricular deficiency. Students pursuing course work during the summer are expected to meet the above academic progression standards.

Core science courses, defined as *General Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, General Biology, Human Physiology*, may only be taken during the Fall and Spring semesters. Students who attain grade of D or F in the course during the regular academic year will be permitted to take the failed course during the Summer Session within the Rutgers University System only. Additional information on this option is available upon request from the Office of Academic Services at the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy.

Students are not permitted to use the Summer Session between the second pre-professional year and the First Professional (Third) Year to complete missing requirements. As noted above, all pre-professional coursework needs to be completed by the end of the Spring semester of the second pre-professional year.

Registration Information

Beginning with the registration cycle for the Spring term of the first pre-professional year, you will be allowed to use WebReg (<http://webreg.rutgers.edu>) or the Touch Tone Telephone Registration System to pre-register for courses. Before you plan any selection of courses not specifically prescribed in the program of study, *please seek advice from the Office of Academic Services.*

Further Questions on Academics

Answers to questions on academics may be found by calling the Office of Academic Services at (732) 445-2675 and choosing option 7 from the main menu. Other information may be found at the School of Pharmacy website. Point your browser to <http://pharmacy.rutgers.edu/> for further information.