

Pharmacy Pre-Professional Program 2025-2026

General Areas of Service: Pharmacists mix and dispense drugs for prescriptions and advise physicians about selection, dosages, interactions, and side effects of medication. They council patients about drug therapy programs, try to ensure that patients understand the instructions on their prescription, and order and maintain supplies of drugs and chemicals. This job requires good numerical and verbal abilities as well as attention to detail. Most pharmacists work in pharmacies. Others are employed by hospitals, the government, or companies that manufacture drugs and medicines.

Professional Training: A Doctor of Pharmacy degree and success on board examinations are required to practice as a pharmacist. Many pharmacy schools require a bachelor's degree before entering, but some require only three years of undergraduate work before entering. Upon entering a pharmacy school, a student studies four years to complete the Doctor of Pharmacy degree. Students should consult with the college of pharmacy of their choice about exact course requirements. The following subjects are usually part of the college level courses required before entrance into a pharmacy school: mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, and English. Many pharmacists are now completing residencies following pharmacy school.

Job Outlook: According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), "Employment of pharmacists is projected to increase 3 percent from 2022 to 2032. During this period, there is an expected 13,400 openings each year for pharmacists. (See www.bls.gov)

Earnings: In the May 2023 salary survey, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports the median annual wage for pharmacists as \$136,030, with the lowest 10 percent earning less than \$76,840 and the lowest and highest 10 percent earning \$89,980 and \$168,650 respectively. (See www.bls.gov)

Note: Walla Walla University does not offer the clinical portion of this degree.

Entry requirements vary according to the professional school; it is the students' responsibility to contact the school of their choice & to meet the requirements for that school. While academic advisors assist with this, it is ultimately the student's responsibility.

While a bachelor's degree isn't always required, working toward one is generally wise. At WWU, undergraduate degrees in Biochemistry, Biology, Chemistry, or Health Science best align with the pre-requisite courses for professional schools in pharmacy. Other majors are acceptable, but may expand the overall coursework.

PRE-PROFESSION: PHARMACY

Rigby Hall Room 157
(509) 527-2040

Websites

[Walla Walla University](#)
[University Bulletin](#)

[Pre-Profession: Pharmacy](#)

Faculty

Advisor
[Melvin Roberts](#)

Professional Organizations

[American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy](#)

Additional Sources

[Loma Linda School of Pharmacy](#)

[Pfizer Guide to Careers in Pharmacy](#)

Suggested Degree Path

Although a bachelor's degree is not required, Loma Linda University states that a bachelor's degree is highly recommended in order to be a competitive applicant. [See the Undergraduate Bulletin for Details](#)

The chart below details one suggested path a student may take to complete the requirements for entry into the Pharmacy Program at Loma Linda University. Cognates are listed in *italics*.

Freshman Year

Fall Courses	Hours
*General Biology (BIOL 141)	4
^ Pre-calculus I (MATH 121)	4
Intro to Analytical Writing (ENGL 121)	3
General Studies	5
Total	16

Winter Courses	Hours
*General Biology (BIOL 142)	4
^ Pre-calculus II (MATH 122)	4
Intro to Research Writing (ENGL 122)	3
General Studies	5
Total	16

Spring Courses	Hours
*General Biology (BIOL 143)	4
General Studies	12
Total	16

Sophomore Year

Fall Courses	Hours
*General Chemistry & Lab (CHEM 141 & 144)	4
General Physics & Lab (PHYS 211 & 214)	4
Research Writing (ENGL 223)	3
General Studies	5
Total	16

Winter Courses	Hours
*General Chemistry & Lab (CHEM 142 & 145)	4
General Studies	12
Total	16

Spring Courses	Hours
*General Chemistry & Lab (CHEM 143 & 146)	4
General Studies	12
Total	16

Junior Year

Fall Courses	Hours
Organic Chemistry & Lab (CHEM 321 & 324)	5
General Studies	11
Total	16

Winter Courses	Hours
Organic Chemistry & Lab (CHEM 322 & 325)	5
General Studies	11
Total	16

Spring Courses	Hours
Intermediate Organic Chemistry & Lab (CHEM 383 & 386)	4
General Studies	12
Total	16

Senior Year

Fall Courses	Hours
Science Option (BIOL 381 OR CHEM 431)	4
General Studies	12
Total	16

Winter Courses	Hours
Science Option (BIOL 382)	4
General Studies	12
Total	16

Spring Courses	Hours
General Studies	12
Total	16

+ Offered even years only

- Offered odd years only

*AP & CLEP credits do not meet Loma Linda University or most pharmacy schools' requirements for science courses

^ Pre-requisite Courses

Other recommended courses:

- Cell Biology ([BIOL 381 & 382](#))
- Vertebrate Histology ([BIOL 449](#))
- Anatomy & Physiology OR Animal Physiology ([BIOL 122 & 123 OR 464](#))
- Foundations of Biochemistry ([CHEM 432 & 433](#))
- Microbiology or Advanced Microbiology ([BIOL 222 OR 445](#))