

Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience Overview

The last year of the curriculum is comprised of Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotations. Students will experience different practice settings, which include Medicine, Ambulatory Care, Institutional Practice, Community Practice, and various Selective Practices.

The primary goal of the APPE experience is to develop students into practitioners competent in the provision of pharmaceutical care. To accomplish this, students should develop the following skills and knowledge:

- **Application of Academic Knowledge**
To provide on-the-job educational experience in pharmacy's equivalent to a "clinical" setting. To provide an opportunity to apply academic knowledge to kinetic learning (learning by doing).
- **Development of Judgment Skills**
To afford the student an opportunity to participate in the decision making process regarding the provision of health care products and information.
- **Development of Managerial Skills**
To provide the student with instruction in all aspects of the operation and management of a pharmacy.
- **Improvement of Communication Skills**
To afford the student an opportunity to communicate with a variety of health professionals--physicians, dentists, nurses, pharmacists, etc. --and with patients, in order to improve this important aspect of professional practice.
- **Improvement of Mechanical Skills**
To provide instruction and kinetic learning opportunities in all aspects of prescription dispensing.
- **Development of Professional Ethics**
To develop in the student an understanding of and appreciation for the services provided by pharmacists, and the intangible rewards associated with the provision of pharmaceutical service.
- **Development of Self-Discipline**
To develop in the student a sense of responsibility to the patient, other health professionals and pharmacy, and to develop the self-discipline necessary to carry out this responsibility.

Students will complete nine (9) required professional experiences each lasting a calendar month. Four rotations will be completed in the Fall semester (Aug-Nov) and five rotations will be completed in the Spring semester (Jan-May). Prerequisite: Fourth professional year standing. The required courses are listed below.

- Pharm 5914 and Pharm 5924 Community APPE's

Each is a full-time practicum conducted for a month in an independent and/or chain community pharmacy. The student applies the knowledge and skills from previous coursework and training to deliver pharmaceutical care to ambulatory patients.

- Pharm 5934 Institutional APPE

This is a full-time practicum conducted for a month. The student utilizes their previous coursework and training to demonstrate the application of pharmaceutical care in an institutional setting. Drug policy management, distribution systems and administrative activities are also covered.

- Pharm 5944 and Pharm 5984 Selective APPE's

Each is a full-time practicum conducted for a month at a pharmacy practice site. Students select from a variety of pharmacy practice experiences including but not limited to: medicine, home health care, consulting practice, nuclear pharmacy, Indian Health Services, specialty compounding pharmacies, managed care, administrative rotations, veterinary practice, or additional community or institutional rotations.

- Pharm 5954, Pharm 5964, Pharm 5974 Medicine APPE's, and Pharm 5994 Ambulatory Care (Medicine D) APPE

Each is a full-time practicum conducted for a month with supervised instruction in a patient care setting, including ambulatory care. Students must demonstrate the application of pharmaceutical care to patients throughout the rotation experience. This is accomplished by Socratic teaching, utilizing low student to faculty ratios and intense problem solving activities.

Students earn both academic credit and State Board of Pharmacy intern hours during their APPE rotations. APPE rotations provide the student with a minimum of 1440 hours of professional experience.