



**PHARMACY**  
Is Right For

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“I grew up loving science and decided to pursue a Pharm.D.! Once I complete my degree, I hope to combine my clinical knowledge with business experience to help lead a unit within a pharmaceutical company like the one I started in as an intern!”

*Camille Schrier, Miss America 2020*



## Why Choose Pharmacy?

### **An exciting career choice**

Pharmacy combines science, healthcare, computer technology, business and math, offering a rare blend of teamwork and direct interaction with patients.

### **A trusted profession**

Pharmacists are consistently ranked as one of the most highly trusted professionals because of the important care and health-related services they provide to patients.

### **Room to grow**

Pharmacists can often move easily between different practice areas and explore many interesting opportunities over the course of their career.

### **Excellent earning potential and job satisfaction**

Pharmacy is a professionally and financially rewarding career with strong salaries and work-life balance.

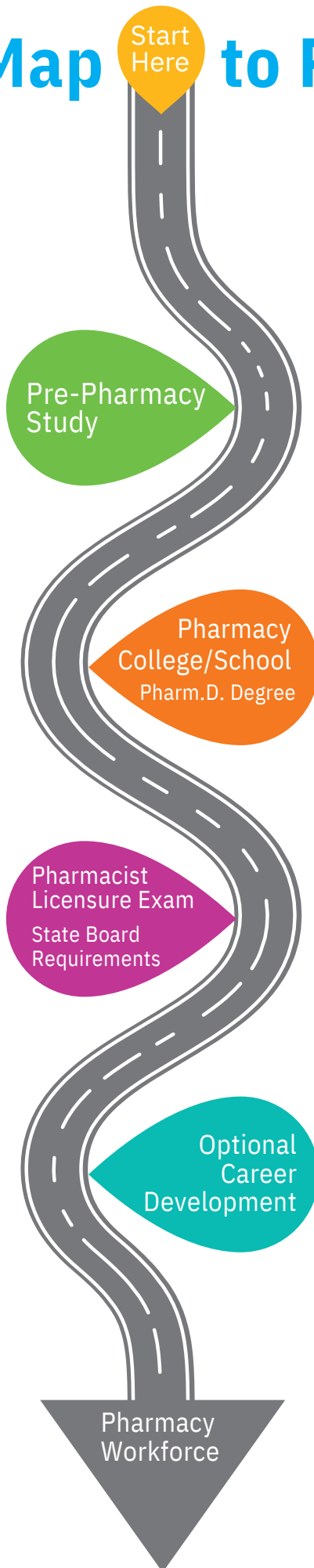
# A Road Map to Pharmacy

**2–4 years:** Students enter the professional Pharm.D. curriculum after two to four years of college and often without having to complete a bachelor's degree. Some pharmacy schools offer pathways for high school graduates.

**Licensure:** All Pharm.D. graduates must complete the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) and other licensure required by a state board of pharmacy.

**Hundreds of pharmacy career pathways are available!**

**[Click to Learn More](#)**



**3–4 years:** All Pharm.D. curricula require a total of nine semesters of study, most occurring over four years, and some condensed into three years of intensive study.

**Residency:** One to two years of paid postgraduate training.

**Fellowship:** Postgraduate training with a focus in academia, research, or industry.

**Board Certification:** Licensed pharmacists may choose to become board certified in a specialty area of practice.

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# 100+ Pharmacy Career Pathways

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When people consider a career in pharmacy, they may think of their local community pharmacist dispensing medications and providing healthcare advice. While community pharmacy is a common and rewarding career pathway, it isn't the only option for pharmacists! In fact, according to a recent resource published by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), there are 100+ career pathways that pharmacists can pursue. Here's a look at their expansive list broken down by category. Some pharmacy career pathways may require additional work experience, education, or training beyond a Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree.

## Pharmacy Practice & Specialty Roles

The career pathways in this category are among the most common career options for pharmacists. They generally offer opportunities for direct patient care in a variety of clinical settings.

- Ambulatory Care Pharmacist
- Aseptic Infusion & IV Manufacturing Pharmacist
- Bariatrics Pharmacist
- Biologics & Biosimilars Pharmacist
- Chief Clinical / Medical Officer
- Chief Pharmaceutical Officer
- Clinical Director
- Clinical Pharmacist
- Clinical Programs Leader
- Community Pharmacist
- Compounding Pharmacist
- Cosmeceuticals / Cosmetics Pharmacist
- Critical Care Pharmacist
- Director of Clinical Solutions
- Emergency Care Pharmacist
- Functional Medicine Pharmacist
- General Practice Pharmacist
- Geriatrics Pharmacist
- Home Care Pharmacist
- Home Health Equipment
- Hormone Medicine Pharmacist
- Hospital Pharmacist
- Immunization Pharmacist
- Infectious Disease Pharmacy / Antimicrobial Steward
- Infectious Disease Testing Pharmacist Management Roles
- Internal Medicine / General Medicine Pharmacist
- Long-Term Care Operations Pharmacist
- Managed Care Pharmacist
- Mental Health & Addictions Pharmacist
- Natural Supplements & Herbal Medicine Pharmacist
- Nutraceutical Pharmacist
- Oncology Pharmacist
- Outpatient Pharmacist
- Pain Management / Opioid Steward
- Pediatric Pharmacist
- Pharmacy Manager / Pharmacy Operations Manager
- Regulatory Health Project Leader
- Sexual Health Pharmacist
- Surgical Care Pharmacist
- Systemic Therapy Pharmacist
- Travel Medicine Pharmacist
- Veterinary Pharmacist

## Pharmaceutical Industry Roles

Pharmacy careers in this category are great for those with medication expertise and a strong interest in business or research.

- Biomedical Researcher
- Clinical Research Associate
- Digital Diagnostics Researcher
- Digital Therapeutics Researcher
- Drug Safety Associate
- Forensic Scientist
- Industrial Manufacturing
- Marketing & Medical Strategy
- Medical / Drug Information Associate
- Medical Science Liaison
- Medicinal Chemist
- Pharmaceutical Modeler (Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics, Physiologically-Based Pharmacokinetics, & Quantitative System Pharmacology Modelling)
- Pharmaceutical Sales Representative
- Pharmaceutical Scientist
- Pharmaceutical Study / Research Lead
- Pharmacist Clinical Pathologist
- Pharmacologist
- Pharmacovigilance Specialist
- Product Development
- Quality Assurance
- Quality Control Chemist
- Regulatory Affairs Pharmacist
- Regulatory Affairs Specialist
- Research Scientist
- Toxicology Pharmacist

## Academic Pharmacy Roles

Pharmacy careers in academia are typically focused on the teaching and training of future pharmacists. These roles require both pharmacy knowledge and a passion for education.

- Clinical Rotations Preceptor
- Education & Training Pharmacist
- Lecturer / Professor
- Licensing Exam Preceptor / Moderator
- Pharmaceutics Professor
- Pharmacodynamics Researcher / Professor
- Pharmacokinetics Researcher / Professor
- Pharmacology Researcher / Professor
- Pharmacy Practice Researcher / Professor
- Pharmacy Student Mentor / Preceptor
- Research & Development Pharmacist
- Residency / Fellowship Coordinator
- Teacher Practitioner
- Teaching Assistant / Lab Assistant
- Teaching Fellow
- Therapeutics Professor

## Technology & Health Informatics Pharmacy Roles

Those with an interest in healthcare records, data or systems may be interested in pharmacy roles in the technology and health informatics category.

- Automation Pharmacist
- Clinical Applications Pharmacist
- Clinical Data Analyst
- Clinical Software Development Specialist
- Clinical Software Integration Specialist
- Clinical Solutions Pharmacist
- Digital Health Specialist
- Electronic Health Record Training Pharmacist
- Health Informatics Specialist
- Information Technology Pharmacist
- Pharmacy Informatics Specialist
- Social Media Engagement / Communication
- Specialist Telehealth Service Provider
- Virtual Clinical Pharmacist

## Government & Regulatory Roles

Those in government and regulatory pharmacy roles may use their medication expertise to inform government regulations, develop policies and protocols, ensure patient safety, and more.

- Clinical Inspection Pharmacist
- Consumer Safety Officer
- Correctional Facility Pharmacist
- Drug Advertising Reviewer
- Drug Pricing Reviewer
- Drug Reimbursement Expert
- Drug Safety Data Reviewer
- Medicines Advisor
- Military Pharmacist
- Nuclear Pharmacist
- Patient Advocacy Board Member
- Pharmaceutical Services Commissioner / Negotiator or Drug Reimbursement Reviewer
- Pharmacoeconomics Specialist
- Pharmacy Advocacy Member
- Pharmacy Education Accreditation Reviewer
- Poison Control Pharmacist
- Public Health Service Pharmacist
- Regulatory Board Member
- Specialist Pharmaceutical Advisor to Local, Regional, or National Government

## Non-Traditional Pharmacy Career Roles

It's amazing the number of industries in which pharmacists play an active role. Here's a list of other non-traditional pharmacy career pathways.

- Academic Detailer
- Aerospace / Space Health Pharmacist
- Business Adviser / Investor
- Career Development Coach
- Central Fill Pharmacist
- Continuing Education Provider
- Digital Therapeutics Specialist
- Drug Information Pharmacist
- Estate & Tax Planning Consultant
- Geospatial Pharmacist
- Health / Life Coach
- Medical Writer / Editor (In Medical Communications Agencies) Medication Safety Management Specialist
- Pharmacogenomics Specialist
- Pharmacy Financial Consultant
- Pharmacy Programs Coordinator
- Pharmacy Research Coordinator
- Pharmacy Strategy Consultant
- Start-Up Developer / Innovator
- Supply Chain Pharmacist / Warehouse Manager / Distribution Manager / Wholesaling Manager

## Want to Learn More About Pharmacy Career Pathways?

As you can see, there are endless opportunities for careers in pharmacy! If you're interested in learning more about some of the pharmacy career pathways from the list above, visit [PharmacyForMe.org](http://PharmacyForMe.org)

