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Pharmacy School Application Process

Check your email regularly and make sure your spam filters are not putting communications into your spam box

PharmD Directory: Provides information about each school including prerequisites, application deadlines, and more. <https://www.pharmcas.org/school-directory/pharmd-directory>

Admissions Test: Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT)

PCAT Candidate Information Booklet:

<https://www.pearsonassessments.com/content/dam/school/global/clinical/us/assets/pcat/pcat-cib.pdf>

Registration Timeline: You must create a web account through Pearson to register for your exam (www.PCATweb.info) following the creation of your web account, you will schedule a test date. PCAT Test Dates for 2020-2021 are as follows:

Feb 1-5, 2021 (Registration opens 12/21/20)	October 18-29, 2021 (registration opens 4/15/2021)
March 29-April 3, 2021 (Registration opens 12/21/20)	January 5, 2022 (registration opens 4/15/2021)
July 8-9, 2021 (registration opens 4/15/2021)	February 1-5, 2022 (registration opens 4/15/2021)
September 9, 2021 (registration opens 4/15/2021)	March 28-April 1, 2022 (registration opens 4/15/2021)

Release Scores: Prior to signing up for the test, you have the option of releasing your scores to an undergraduate pre-health advisor. If you miss this step, please share an official score report with your pre-professional advisor at GVSU.

Fee: \$210 per test [late fee: \$49] Paid by credit card

Fee includes official scores to be sent to 3 schools; PharmCAS counts as 1 school; additional schools are \$20 each

Know your schools BEFORE your test date

You cannot reschedule an exam to a different testing window than you originally registered for.

Fee Assistance: There is no fee assistance available for the PCAT Exam

Limit: Five tests allowed before restrictions are placed on account.

PCAT Subtests	
Writing (1 prompt)	30 minutes
Biological Processes (48 items: 50% General Biology, 20% Microbiology, 30% Anatomy & Physiology)	45 minutes
Chemical Processes (48 items: 50% General Chemistry, 30% Organic Chemistry, 20% Basic Biochemistry Processes)	45 minutes
Rest Break (optional)	15 minutes
Critical Reading (48 items: 30% Comprehension, 40% Analysis, 30% Evaluation)	50 minutes
Quantitative Reasoning (48 items: 25% Basic Math, 25% Algebra, 18% Probability & Statistics, 18% Precalculus, 14% Calculus)	50 minutes
Total Test Time (192 multiple choice items, 1 writing prompt)	220 minutes
*each test includes 8 experimental test items for future tests that do not affect score; however, experimental items are not marked so try your best in all areas.	

Scoring: Scores are reported as scaled scores (SS) and percentile ranks (PR); writing is scored on a 6-point scale and a mean score. Scores will be available online on your PCAT Profile 5 weeks following the end of the testing window. Unofficial scores available upon completion of test (exception of writing).

Practice Tests: www.PCATweb.info \$50 for one, \$70 for two, or \$90 for three. A PCAT Study Guide is also available for \$25.

Application Service: PharmCAS – Follow them on Facebook and on Twitter @PharmCAS for news and updates

Call 617-612-2050 or email info@pharmcas.org with questions and provide your PharmCAS ID Number in your message.

PharmCAS Instructions: [https://help.liasonedu.com/PharmCAS Applicant Help Center](https://help.liasonedu.com/PharmCAS_Applicant_Help_Center)

Fee: \$175 for one school; \$55 for each additional school. Fee is non-refundable, can only be paid by credit or debit card. Limited fee waivers are available at the beginning of the cycle and MUST be filled out and processed BEFORE you submit.

Re-applicants: Applicants who created an application in a previous cycle can choose to pull selected sections forward into the current cycle. PharmCAS does not allow applicants to edit courses or colleges attended that were previously verified, or transfer any letters of evaluation, payments, essays or program selections. *Make sure to check carried over information for accuracy and send new transcripts if you have additional coursework.

Transcripts: Transcripts must be sent from EACH school you have attended. GVSU transcripts can be sent electronically (see [Registrar’s Office](#) for info). If sending through mail, a Transcript Request Form (download from PharmCAS) MUST accompany official transcripts. After your PharmCAS application has been verified, you can send updated transcripts during Academic Update Periods (fall/winter). Any transcripts updated after June 30, need to be sent directly to pharmacy schools.

AP, IB or CLEP credit: You must send your official test scores directly to your designated pharmacy degree programs, if required. Please note that not all schools accept AP/IB/CLEP credit for prerequisite courses.

Repeat Grades: Enter ALL attempts of courses, regardless of repeats or grades of W; ALL initial and repeated grades will be included in GPA calculation.

Personal Statement*: Address why you selected pharmacy as a career and how the Doctor of Pharmacy degree relates to your immediate and long-term professional goals. 4500 characters, including spaces.

Related Work and Activities*: Space for extracurricular activities including those in pharmacy or health care settings, paid employment experiences, honors and scholarships, and publications (600 characters are allotted for each description) ***NOTE: PharmCAS uses iThenticate/Turnitin for Admissions for the detection of plagiarism.**

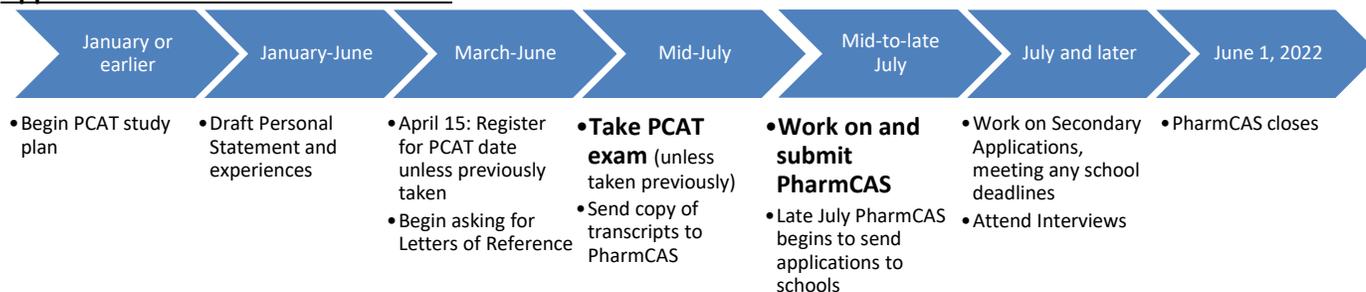
Letters of Reference: Up to 4 letters can be submitted electronically to PharmCAS. MUST be submitted by letter writer and received by application deadline. Look at school pages for specific requirements of number and type of letters (GVSU Committee Letter does not qualify): <http://www.pharmcas.org/school-directory/#/>

Verification: Takes up to 4 weeks once ALL required materials are received; letters and supplemental applications are NOT required for verification.

Supplemental Applications: Secondary applications require additional fees and essays that vary by school; make sure you are meeting any deadlines set by schools (check “School Directory” in link above). Additional materials/fees are sent DIRECTLY to schools, not via PharmCAS. Check status of your Supplemental Apps in PharmCAS.

Acceptances: Make sure you are meeting any university deadlines. **Most schools require that you submit to a background check and a drug screen** as well as pay a deposit fee prior to admission of the year you will be starting. Pharmacy Schools will receive admission offer/acceptance reports for all of their applicants: they will know the number of offers and acceptances you have but cannot see your declines. Abide by Cooperative Admissions Guidelines (CAG) outlined in PharmCAS instructions.

Application Process General Timeline



This form serves only as a guideline to the application process, it is up to you as the applicant to make sure you are meeting any deadlines or requirements outlined by the application and testing services, as well as individual school requirements.