Pre-Pharmacy

Westmont’s Pre-Pharmacy Program Prepares You for Pharmacy School

To prepare for a career as a pharmacist, follow Westmont’s pre-pharmacy track and complete a major such as biology, chemistry or kinesiology. Choose the subject you most enjoy, as pharmacy schools express no preference regarding majors. Your professors will guide you through the process of completing the appropriate prerequisites, maintaining a high GPA, taking the Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT), participating in appropriate extracurricular activities and completing applications. You’ll find many resources available at Westmont, including pre-health advising, pre-health information sessions and workshops and the Pre-Health Club.

STANDARD PRE-PHARMACY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

See the courses generally required for admission to any pharmacy school and the corresponding classes at Westmont that satisfy each requirement.

GENERAL BIOLOGY (1 YEAR)
- BIO 5 with BIO 5L (1 semester)
- BIO 6 with BIO 6L (1 semester)

GENERAL CHEMISTRY (1 YEAR)
- CHM 5 with CHM 5L or CHM 5H with CHM 5HL (1 semester)
- CHM 6 with CHM 6L or CHM 6H with CHM 6HL (1 semester)

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY (1 YEAR)
- CHM 101 with CHM 101L (1 semester)
- CHM 102 with CHM 102L (1 semester)

GENERAL PHYSICS (1 YEAR)
- PH 11 or PH 22 with PH 23 (1 semester)
- PH 13 with PH 14 or PH 23 with PH 24 (1 semester)

OTHER COMMON REQUIREMENTS
Many pharmacy schools require additional prerequisites, including one year of English (often including composition) and one year of mathematics (often including calculus and statistics). Some additional advanced biology courses may also be required, such as anatomy, physiology, microbiology and biochemistry. Many schools encourage applicants to take humanities courses, such as economics, speech, psychology and sociology.
FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

KRISTI CANTRELL, PH.D.
Kristi Cantrell helps biochemists understand neurodegenerative diseases and students make wise choices about pharmacy school. Her research focuses on protein aggregation.

STEPHANIE COWELL, M.S.
Stephanie Cowell is an expert at orienting new students to experimental chemistry and advising them about pre-health opportunities.

YI-FAN LU, PH.D.
Yi-Fan Lu is a researcher who has contributed to Zika antiviral drug development and modeled neurological diseases.

STEVE JULIO, PH.D.
Steve Julio’s team’s discovery and characterization of a genetic switch in the bacteria that causes whooping cough may lead to better therapies.

OPPORTUNITIES OFF CAMPUS

- Westmont’s Global Health in Uganda Program
- Potter’s Clay Medical/Dental Team in Ensenada, Mexico
- Westmont Downtown
- Westmont in Mexico
- Westmont in San Francisco

WESTMONT ALUMS HAVE GRADUATED FROM THESE LEADING PHARMACY SCHOOLS

- Albany College of Pharmacy of Union University
- Creighton University
- Loma Linda University
- Midwestern University (IL)
- Touro University
- UCSF
- University of Colorado
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- University of the Pacific
- University of Southern California
- University of Washington

ALUMNI WORKING AS PHARMACISTS

Emily Moore Mooney ’00 graduated from University of California, San Francisco School of Pharmacy. She is a pharmacist in the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System.

Kimberly Moore ’12 graduated from University of Southern California Pharmacy School. She currently works in the Global Health Economics and Reimbursement group at Edwards Lifesciences. She also works part time as a per diem pharmacist.

Amanda Saedi Avey ’13 graduated from Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy. She is currently employed as a pharmacist at Costco in Orange County, California.

Harmeet Takhar Khaira ’14 graduated from Midwestern University Chicago College of Pharmacy. She is currently working as a pediatric pharmacist at Lucile Packard Hospital (Stanford Children’s) in Palo Alto, California.

Megan Korff Fetters ’16 graduated from University of Colorado School of Pharmacy. She is doing a residency focused on critical care at St. Anthony Hospital in Lakewood, Colorado.