Graduate Program in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences & How to Apply

• Department:
  • A multidisciplinary department providing expertise in drug discovery, development and evaluation.
  • Dedicated to pursuing scholarship that creates new knowledge, learning that disseminates and preserves knowledge, engagement that exchanges knowledge.
  • One of the most research active departments at Wayne State University.
  • We have distinguished faculty with innovative research programs, such as brain diseases, cancers, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, infectious diseases, liver diseases, etc. Our faculty has high-impact publications as well as prestigious and competitive awards/grants from National Institutes of Health (NIH) & other agencies. Our faculty has made significant discoveries in various diseases and contributed to the fighting of the COVID-19 pandemic.

• Graduate program:
  • We admit PhD & Master of Science (MS) students only, but not professional students (e.g., PharmD).
  • Almost all PhD students graduated in our department in 4-5 years, and MS students in 2 years.
  • It is a RESEARCH-based programs. Students must successfully complete both coursework and defend a research-based thesis/dissertation to be awarded a degree.
  • Students must complete 3 rotations in the 1st semester before they select a lab. At the end of the rotation, both students and faculty rank their preferences (i.e., rank 1-3). The Graduate Director matches the preferences of the faculty and student. No student is guaranteed to work with a specific Faculty member before the completion of the 3 rotations.

• Future career
  • Academic (e.g., Professor/Educator), Industrial (e.g., Research & Development scientist, Professional (e.g., public health, editor, writer), and other (e.g., FDA).

• Financial support
  • Financial assistance, in the form of Graduate Research Assistantships (GRAs), are provided to all students admitted into the PhD program, and if your assistantship performance and academic progress are satisfactory during the year, we will provide you with an additional year(s) of support.
  • GRAs include a stipend (currently $25,000/year before candidacy and $26,000/year after becoming a PhD candidate generally in year 3), medical/dental/vision care insurance, and a scholarship covering up to 10 graduate credits of tuition for each semester of your appointment during Fall and Winter, and up to 2 graduate credits for Spring/Summer.
  • MS students are not provided financial support. Please click the survey link below under “How to apply” (Step #2) for more information regarding the tuition/fees, living expenses, and employment for MS students as well as the transfer from the MS to our PhD program.

• Student peer mentor
  • Each new student will have a student peer mentor to help with the 1st 1 year of the graduate program. Student peer mentors will be students who have been in the program for >1 years.

• Important webpage for MS and PhD students
  • General admission information for the Graduate School
  • Degree requirements and professional development opportunities per the Graduate School
  • General information for the Graduate Program in Pharmaceutical Sciences
    • Policies and Procedures of the Graduate Program in Pharmaceutical Sciences
    • PhD Plan of Work
    • MS Plan of Work
    • Graduate student photos
    • Key contact information
  • Alumni Spotlight

• How to apply
  • Step #1: click the link below to complete the application
    • https://gradschool.wayne.edu/admissions
    • Select “Pharmaceutical Sciences-MS” or “Pharmaceutical Sciences-PhD”
  • Step #2: Click the survey link to learn and submit additional information
    • Additional information for Pharmaceutical Sciences Graduate Program
  • Please note Admission FAQs/Key Requirements on the next page.
Admission FAQs/Key Requirements

- **Application deadlines:** Applications accepted 3 times/year, Fall, Winter, & Spring/Summer (S/S).
  - US citizens/permanent residents: 8/18 for Fall, 12/18 for Winter, 4/18 for S/S
  - Non-US citizens/permanent residents: 6/18 for Fall, 10/18 for Winter, 2/18 for S/S
- **Application fee waiver:** may be granted outside the categories listed in the graduate school website, and please contact Sherry Quinn, Director of Graduate Admissions (313-577-8141, squinn@wayne.edu) regarding this and for general admission questions.
- **Application status:** check the status by logging into your WSU application account. Contact Debra Perrett (313-577-7943, debra.perrett@wayne.edu) and if forgetting your login credentials, contact gradadmissions@wayne.edu. Please do not contact Pharmaceutical Sciences.
- **Application success rate:** Generally, less than 20% of completed PhD applications with GPA≥3.0 are admitted, while more than 70% of completed MS applications with GPA≥2.75 are admitted.
- **CV/Resume:** Applicants must include a CV/resume.
- **Degree requirement:** All applicants should have an undergraduate or MS degree in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math related areas (e.g., life, pharmacy, medicine, nursing, chemical, biological, or physical sciences, etc.). MS degree or professional degree in Pharmacy is not required.
- **General statement:** Applicants must include a general statement (300 -400 words, typewritten) of the reasons for selecting the program, career objectives, and possible research interests.
- **GPA:** PhD applicants must have an overall undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or above (on a scale of 1 to 4). MS applicants must have an overall undergraduate GPA of 2.75 or above. Additional work beyond the baccalaureate may be grounds for an exemption.
- **GRE:** not required
- **Joined degree with MBA:** We don’t have joined degree with MBA.
- **Letters of recommendation:** three are required. Log into your application status page to enter your reference's information. The reference will receive a link to upload their recommendation. If you have difficulty in entering your reference's information, please contact Debra Perrett, Data Analyst, Graduate Admissions, (313) 577-7943 | debra.perrett@wayne.edu
- **Potential faculty members:** Applicants should list potential faculty members that the applicant is interested in working with for their thesis/dissertation. Please don't contact them for admission questions (e.g., admission requirements, application status, etc.).
- **Prior research experience:** not required.
- **Submit transcript(s):** To begin the application, upload unofficial copies of academic transcripts from all post-secondary educational institutions from which you earned a bachelor's degree or higher. If you are admitted, you must submit an official transcript of completed bachelor's degree.
- **Information specific to international students:**
  - [https://gradschool.wayne.edu/admissions/international-process](https://gradschool.wayne.edu/admissions/international-process)
  - **International Students and Scholars (OISS)** for visa or other international student related information and contact them directly if you have any questions: [https://oip.wayne.edu/oiss](https://oip.wayne.edu/oiss)
  - **Proficiency in English:** Applicants whose native language is other than English must demonstrate proficiency in English. [https://gradschool.wayne.edu/admissions/english-proficiency](https://gradschool.wayne.edu/admissions/english-proficiency)
    - Non-native speakers of English must demonstrate English proficiency by meeting the minimum requirements listed in the link above. To begin the application review, upload an unofficial copy of your English proficiency test score(s). Once admitted, an official test score must be submitted to Graduate Admissions, using the school code 1898.
    - Non-U.S. applicants who complete a bachelor's degree or higher from an institution in certain countries are exempt from the TOEFL requirement, which can be found [https://gradschool.wayne.edu/admissions/english-proficiency](https://gradschool.wayne.edu/admissions/english-proficiency)
  - **Submit international transcript(s):** To begin the application review, upload unofficial copies of English-translated international transcripts from all post-secondary educational institutions from which you earned a bachelor's degree or higher, including Mark Sheets, if any. If you are admitted, you must submit an official course-by-course academic evaluation of your bachelor's degree. [https://gradschool.wayne.edu/admissions/international-process-transcripts](https://gradschool.wayne.edu/admissions/international-process-transcripts)
- **Additional questions specific to our Graduate Program of Pharmaceutical Sciences:** If after reading the information and visiting the links above, you still have specific questions to our Graduate Program of Pharmaceutical Sciences, please contact Zhengping Yi, PhD, Professor & Director of the Graduate Program, zhengping.yi@wayne.edu.