

PHARMACY, DOCTOR OF (PHARM.D.)/PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES, DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PH.D.) [DUAL DEGREE]

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Program website: [pharmacy.vcu.edu \(http://www.pharmacy.vcu.edu/\)](http://www.pharmacy.vcu.edu)

The VCU School of Pharmacy offers a Pharm.D./Ph.D. dual degree program for outstanding Pharm.D. students to obtain both a Pharm.D. and a Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences. The dual degree program provides curricular efficiencies in both the Pharm.D. and Ph.D. programs, opportunities for summer research and elective advanced pharmacy practice experiences, which allow dual degree students to graduate with their Pharm.D. after four years and with efficiencies to complete the Ph.D. degree after approximately two to three additional years.

Credit efficiencies. In the P-3 and P-4 years (corresponding to the G-1 and G-2 years), the student will be enrolled full-time in the Pharm.D./Ph.D. dual degree program. The students will take core or elective graduate courses as Pharm.D. electives, which are also applied toward six credits of their didactic Ph.D. credits. Additionally, students may take up to two elective advanced pharmacy practice experiences, which are also applied toward 10 credits of their Ph.D. research. In order to be eligible for the Pharm.D. degree, students must earn a minimum number of 155 credits, which includes a maximum of 16 credits that may also be applied toward the Ph.D. degree (six didactic credits and 10 APPE/directed research credits). In order to be eligible for the Ph.D., dual degree students must earn a minimum of 30 didactic credits and 30 directed research credits.

Apply online today. (<https://www.vcu.edu/admissions/apply/graduate/>)

Admissions process

The program is developed for VCU School of Pharmacy Pharm.D. students to apply during their P-2 year, but applications from P-3 students will be considered. Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Pharm.D. GPA: ≥ 3.0 (required).
- Personal statement/essay
- Personal interview by two Pharm.D./Ph.D. subcommittee members
- Required research experience (SRF or equivalent)
- Three letters of recommendation that comment on research accomplishments/experience/potential, including at least one letter from a prospective graduate faculty sponsor in the School of Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Engineering Program or Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology

Application deadline: Jan. 15

Students admitted into the Pharm.D./Ph.D. dual degree program will receive acceptance letters during the spring semester of the P-2 year (or P-3 year in special cases).

Contact