Go Further with Our Weekend Pharm.D. Program
OUR MISSION

The School of Pharmacy educates and mentors students who advance the profession of pharmacy and pharmaceutical research to improve the health outcomes of patients and their communities.

Are you interested in pharmacy but need a program that can work around your busy schedule? Duquesne might be the right fit for you. Our post-baccalaureate Doctor of Pharmacy program—the first in the nation—combines on-campus weekend courses with online technologies for students who demand flexible schedules.

Since 1925, the Duquesne University School of Pharmacy has excelled in developing student pharmacists into leaders. College graduates seeking a challenging health sciences career can integrate pharmacy studies with family and work schedules in Duquesne’s Pharm. D. weekend program.

Students with a strong background in life science can earn their Pharm.D. in four years. Coursework is offered on Saturdays and Sundays, and the fourth year of the program involves rotations in a variety of practice settings that often lead to job offers before graduation.

Weekend program participants may choose specialized curricular options, including: geriatric pharmacotherapy, pharmacy management, pharmaceutical research, academic, pediatric pharmacotherapy, acute care and entrepreneurial pharmacy.

The future looks bright for our Pharm.D. graduates. Demand for competent pharmacists is booming nationwide. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment opportunities for pharmacists are projected to increase by 25 percent between 2010 and 2020, with annual median salaries of $111,570.
Duquesne’s rigorous curriculum and first-class laboratory facilities offer weekend students a strong foundation for future success. Our faculty of well-known researchers and extraordinary teachers provide exceptional professional preparation. With that in-depth preparation, our graduates achieve impressive results. Graduates’ pass rate for the pharmacy licensure exam (NAPLEX) rank consistently higher than the national average, with job placement rates of 99 percent.

On campus and throughout the region, students team with faculty and professionals. Classes and laboratory work take place on the Duquesne campus in downtown Pittsburgh. A maximum class size of 40 students ensures that students receive individual attention from teachers and advisors. Experiential education experiences take place in a variety of settings throughout the region; Pittsburgh’s reputation as a world leader in health care provides exciting opportunities for developing skills through on-site training.

Fourth-year experiential rotations are the capstones to the Pharm.D. program. Requiring full-time participation, they offer high-level professional preparation.
Students who have earned Bachelor’s degrees from U.S. institutions and completed prerequisite courses and the Pharmacy College Admissions Test (PCAT) are eligible to apply for the Doctor of Pharmacy Weekend Pathway Program. A competitive cumulative G.P.A. and successful performance in biology, chemistry, organic chemistry, physics and calculus are prerequisites.

Our Reputation

Our faculty secures research funding at a high level, standing third in the nation among private pharmacy schools for grants from the National Institutes of Health. Equally important, our professors are dedicated mentors who make an indelible impact on their students. They help Duquesne student pharmacists develop their careers and become leaders in the profession. Our faculty bring their scholarship directly into the classroom, enhancing how students learn about pharmacy. Their professional contacts enhance students’ real-world opportunities through the school’s experiential education program.

Our Commitment:
Rigorous Coursework, Community Service

With a thoughtful mix of programs, services and resources, the School of Pharmacy provides a spiritual and academic foundation for personal and professional growth.

From your first classroom experience, you will be treated as a professional. Duquesne encourages students to become full partners who are accountable for their education. We will challenge you to analyze and synthesize laboratory and classroom information, apply outside learning experiences, and demonstrate your competence.

Duquesne’s student pharmacists begin making a difference early. They put their talents to work through a variety of experiential education opportunities, as well as at Duquesne’s own facilities. One example is The Center for Pharmacy Services, a one-of-a-kind neighborhood pharmacy that improves access to affordable prescription medication, health care counseling and medication therapy management for the underserved. Other school-based opportunities include the mobile Spirit of Health van, which takes wellness services into underserved southwestern Pennsylvania communities, as well as The Center for Pharmacy Care, which offers pharmacist-coordinated disease prevention and disease management services to the public. Student pharmacists also work in camps that help local children control their chronic asthma.
Our Approach: Innovation Starts in the Classroom

It all begins in the classroom. State-of-the-art facilities provide the setting: Bayer Learning Center (including the new Giant Eagle Center for Pharmacy Practice), an entire floor of Mellon Hall, the Center for Pharmacy Care and the community-based Center for Pharmacy Services. Every academic encounter gives you access to the tools and technologies that will help you succeed, including laptops, iPads and SimMan 3G, a patient simulator that provides lifelike training in patient assessment and care.

Weekend pathway students can access lectures, podcasts, presentations and demonstrations 24/7 through the university’s state-of-the-art webcasting service, Mediasite. The online learning technology allows students to review coursework on computers and all mobile devices.

Real-World Experience

Our academic research centers provide focused opportunities for hands-on learning. Students can explore pathways to developing new treatments and delivery methods to advance pharmacy practice, care, services, information and technology.

CENTER FOR PHARMACY CARE

Community wellness, disease prevention and medication therapy management programs, including hypertension, diabetes and osteoporosis.

GIANT EAGLE CENTER FOR PHARMACY PRACTICE

The center creates an environment in which students work together and draw connections between class lectures and pharmacy practice.

THE CENTER FOR PHARMACY SERVICES

Embedded in the nearby Hill District community, the center is the nation’s first faculty-designed, university-operated community pharmacy.

CENTER FOR PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION

This drug information service fields questions from alumni, students, faculty, health care practitioners and the public.

CENTER FOR PHARMACEUTICAL TECHNOLOGY

Working with collaborators and clients including the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Duquesne research improves pharmaceutical manufacturing and quality assurance.
On-Campus Collaborations

Duquesne’s outstanding curricula in the health sciences, including the School of Nursing and the Rangos School of Health Sciences, complement the offerings of the School of Pharmacy. Interprofessional education is emphasized through cross-campus research opportunities, lectures, workshops and other programs that expand students’ professional horizons.

Our Alumni: Connections That Matter

Duquesne student pharmacists have access to our diverse and active alumni network. Alumni mentors work one-on-one with current students, helping with professional decisions, career opportunities and networking.

Our Campus: The Place to Start

Founded in 1878, Duquesne University is a private Catholic university in the Spiritan tradition. A coeducational university with more than 10,000 students from all 50 states and 90 countries, Duquesne provides a diverse and welcoming community.

Our campus is a jewel: a beautiful, safe, self-contained campus with lots of green spaces and a distinctive view of the Pittsburgh skyline. With its vibrant cultural offerings and growing education and medical research institutions, the city has topped the country’s “Most Livable Cities” lists for over a decade.

Students take advantage of superb fitness facilities at the Power Center and enjoy the year-round concert and entertainment schedule on campus. Duquesne athletes compete in the Atlantic 10 conference of NCAA Division I, and more than 20 national fraternities and sororities have chapters on campus.

Ranked #48 on the 2012 U.S. News & World Report “Great Schools, Great Price” list

Come see us.

We invite you to schedule a visit to campus to experience Duquesne for yourself. Call 412.396.6393 to plan your trip.
OUR APPLICATION PROCESS

We welcome applicants who meet the following application requirements:

• A baccalaureate degree from an accredited U.S. college or university. While the major field of study need not be in the life sciences, applicants must have successfully completed prerequisite courses, such as biology, chemistry, organic chemistry, physics and calculus. Visit www.duq.edu/pharmacy/weekend for the complete list. Request that your undergraduate institution(s) send official college transcripts directly to Duquesne.

• Take the Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT) test and have your scores sent directly to the School of Pharmacy.

• Complete the application online by March 1 prior to the fall semester. Send the $100 application fee, by check or money order, made payable to The Duquesne University School of Pharmacy.

Qualified applicants will be invited to interview in February or March, with admission decisions announced by April 1. All accepted students must complete a criminal background check.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.duq.edu/pharmacy/weekend
pharmadmission@duq.edu
412.396.6393