

Impact of COVID-19 on Pharmacy Admission Policies

Summary of Pharmacy School Responses

April 8, 2020

Colleges and schools of pharmacy are rapidly adapting to the impact of COVID-19 on undergraduate and professional education. This report reflects how pharmacy admission policies have been modified to date in response to the pandemic. Pharmacy admission policies may change over time. Students and advisors are strongly encouraged to reach out to colleges and schools of pharmacy directly with any questions about admission policies. Visit the [PharmCAS School Directory](#) for contact information and contact cas@aacp.org with general questions about this report.

INTERVIEWS

Prior to the COVID-19 crisis, did the pharmacy institution offer virtual or online interview options?

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	13	11.4%
Yes, but only in certain circumstances	52	45.6%
No	49	42.9%

114 responses in 114 results

For the remainder of the current 2019-2020 cycle, will the pharmacy institution conduct virtual or online interviews?

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	96	84.2%
No	0	0.0%
Not sure at this time	6	5.2%
Not applicable (e.g., deadline has passed)	12	10.5%

114 responses in 114 results

For the upcoming 2020-2021 cycle, does the pharmacy institution plan to offer virtual or online interview options?

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	22	19.2%
Yes, but only if our campus is closed to visitors at that time	16	14.0%
Yes, but only on a case-by-case basis	35	30.7%
No	5	4.3%
Not sure at this time	36	31.5%

114 responses in 114 results

What platforms has the pharmacy institution used for virtual or online interviews? Check all that apply.

Result	Responses	Percentage
Zoom	78	43.8%
WebEx	16	8.9%
Skype	32	17.9%
Microsoft Teams	6	3.3%
GoToMeeting	5	2.8%
Google Hangouts	4	2.2%
FaceTime	5	2.8%
Phone (cell or landline)	16	8.9%
Other	16	8.9%

178 responses in 114 results

What interview format will the pharmacy institution use for virtual or online interviews? Check all that apply.

Result	Responses	Percentage
Individual applicants with one interviewer	31	21.9%
Individual applicants with two or more interviewers	63	44.6%
Multiple applicants with one or more interviewers	10	7.0%
Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI)	21	14.8%
No sure at this time	6	4.2%
Other interview format	10	7.0%

143 responses in 114 results

ONLINE CLASSES

Prior to the COVID-19 crisis, could applicants use online classes to fulfill the pharmacy institution's course prerequisites?

Science Courses with Labs

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	60	52.6%
No	34	29.8%
Varies	20	17.5%

114 responses in 114 results

Science Courses without Labs

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	85	74.5%
No	15	13.1%
Varies	14	12.2%

114 responses in 114 results

Non-Science Courses

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	98	85.9%
No	3	2.6%
Varies	13	11.4%

114 responses in 114 results

Can applicants use online classes taken during the COVID-19 crisis to fulfill the pharmacy institution's course prerequisites for fall 2020 enrollment and beyond?

Science Courses with Labs

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	94	82.4%
No	1	0.8%
Varies	10	8.7%
Not sure at this time	9	7.8%

114 responses in 114 results

Science Courses without Labs

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	103	90.3%
No	1	0.8%
Varies	7	6.1%
Not sure at this time	3	2.6%

114 responses in 114 results

Non-Science Courses

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	108	94.7%
No	0	0.0%
Varies	4	3.5%
Not sure at this time	2	1.7%

114 responses in 114 results

PASS/FAIL CLASSES (*P/F, Credit/No Credit, Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory, etc.*)

Prior to the COVID-19 crisis, could applicants use pass/fail classes to fulfill the pharmacy institution's course prerequisites?

Science Courses with Labs

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	19	16.6%
No	75	65.7%
Varies	15	13.1%
Not Applicable	5	4.3%

114 responses in 114 results

Science Courses without Labs

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	21	18.4%
No	73	64.0%
Varies	16	14.0%
Not Applicable	4	3.5%

114 responses in 114 results

Non-Science Courses

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	29	25.4%
No	58	50.8%
Varies	23	20.1%
Not Applicable	4	3.5%

114 responses in 114 results

Can applicants use pass/fail classes taken during COVID-19 crisis to fulfill the pharmacy institution's course prerequisites for fall 2020 enrollment and beyond?

Science Courses with Labs

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes, but only if school mandated P/F and applicant could not opt to receive a letter grade for the course	31	27.1%
Yes	48	42.1%
No	3	2.6%
Varies	14	12.2%
Not sure at this time	18	15.7%

114 responses in 114 results

Science Courses without Labs

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes, but only if school mandated P/F and applicant could not opt to receive a letter grade for the course	29	25.4%
Yes	50	43.8%
No	3	2.6%
Varies	14	12.2%
Not sure at this time	18	15.7%

114 responses in 114 results

Non-Science Courses

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes, but only if school mandated P/F and applicant could not opt to receive a letter grade for the course	26	22.8%
Yes	55	48.2%
No	1	0.8%
Varies	16	14.0%
Not sure at this time	16	14.0%

114 responses in 114 results

COURSE PREREQUISITE WAIVERS

Will the pharmacy institution consider waiving any course prerequisites for applicants who are unable to complete them prior to enrollment?

Science Courses with Labs

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	3	2.6%
No	57	50.0%
Varies	18	15.7%
Not sure at this time	36	31.5%

114 responses in 114 results

Science Courses without Labs

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	2	1.7%
No	59	51.7%
Varies	16	14.0%
Not sure at this time	37	32.4%

114 responses in 114 results

Non-Science Courses

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	5	4.3%
No	41	35.9%
Varies	23	20.1%
Not sure at this time	45	39.4%

114 responses in 114 results

COURSE PREREQUISITE DELAYS

Will the pharmacy institution consider allowing applicants to delay the completion of any missing course prerequisites for applicants who are unable to complete them prior to enrollment? For instance, could the applicant complete the missing course prerequisite(s) during the summer term between the P1 and P2 year.

Science Courses with Labs

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	11	9.6%
No	42	36.8%
Varies	15	13.1%
Not sure at this time	46	40.3%

114 responses in 114 results

Science Courses without Labs

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	10	8.7%
No	44	38.5%
Varies	15	13.1%
Not sure at this time	45	39.4%

114 responses in 114 results

Non-Science Courses

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	16	14.0%
No	31	27.1%
Varies	22	19.2%
Not sure at this time	45	39.4%

114 responses in 114 results

COURSE PREREQUISITE SUBSTITUTIONS

Will the pharmacy institution consider allowing applicants to substitute other courses for any missing course prerequisites they are unable to complete prior to enrollment?

Science Courses with Labs

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	17	14.9%
No	36	31.5%
Varies	27	23.6%
Not sure at this time	34	29.8%

114 responses in 114 results

Science Courses without Labs

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	16	14.0%
No	37	32.4%
Varies	26	22.8%
Not sure at this time	35	30.7%

114 responses in 114 results

Non-Science Courses

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	23	20.1%
No	23	20.1%
Varies	36	31.5%
Not sure at this time	32	28.0%

114 responses in 114 results

PHARMACY COLLEGE ADMISSION TEST (PCAT)

Does the pharmacy institution currently require the PCAT for admission for applicants applying for the fall 2020 entering class?

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	55	48.2%
No	59	51.7%

114 responses in 114 results

If yes, how will the pharmacy institution handle applicants who were planning to take the April 2020 PCAT?

Result	Responses	Percentage
Waive the PCAT requirement for these remaining applicants	22	19.2%
Allow applicants to submit July 2020 PCAT score for fall 2020 enrollment	20	17.5%
Not sure at this time	4	3.5%
Not applicable	42	36.8%

89 responses in 114 results

MATRICULATING STUDENTS

Given the strain on the health care system, some matriculating students may be delayed in providing student health requirements (vaccine record, personal medical history, CPR certification, etc.), is the pharmacy institution relaxing its health requirements for matriculating students?

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	15	13.1%
No	16	14.0%
Varies	16	14.0%
Not sure at this time	67	58.7%

114 responses in 114 results

BACKGROUND CHECKS AND DRUG SCREENINGS

Does the pharmacy institution plan to allow accepted applicants to delay their criminal background checks because courts or public records are temporarily unavailable?

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	23	20.1%
No	6	5.2%
Varies	14	12.2%
Not sure at this time	65	57.0%
Not applicable	6	5.2%

114 responses in 114 results

Does the pharmacy institution plan to allow accepted applicants to delay their drug screening reports because lab collection sites are temporarily closed?

Result	Responses	Percentage
Yes	19	16.6%
No	2	1.7%
Varies	5	4.3%
Not sure at this time	50	43.8%
Not applicable	38	33.3%

114 responses in 114 results