

PharmCAS Application Tips

- Select which schools to apply to
- Personal info
 - Biographic info
 - Contact info
 - Citizenship info
 - Release statement
 - parent/guardian
 - race/ethnicity
 - Other info
 - Military history
- Academic history
 - High schools attended
 - Colleges attended
 - Transcript entry
 - Must get transcripts from all schools that you've attended, even not for prereqs
 - Most schools have online services to send transcripts
 - pharmCAS notifies you once the transcripts are received and verified that grades are entered correctly
 - NOTE: order an official transcript for yourself; names for classes are different than transcript codes
 - Ordering transcripts through online registrar website
 - Tips for transcript entry
 - Double check your entries
 - To enter a class you have scheduled but haven't taken yet, use the website from the registrar
 - Standardized tests/PCAT
 - Optional for many pharmacy schools in california
 - If you choose to take PCAT and report score, you need to set up score delivery to PharmCAS when you register for the PCAT
 - If you need to submit scores before pharmCAS gets the score, you can self-report
 - pharmCAS will update the application when the score is received
- Supporting info
 - Evaluations
 - Letters of recommendation (allow up to 4, most schools require 3)
 - Select "yes" to waive right to access the evaluation

- Give writers a deadline of at least 2-3 weeks before the application is due
- Who do I ask?
 - Anyone who can write a STRONG letter speaking to your character
 - Professor, pharmacist, research advisor, supervisor, etc
- How do I build relationships?
 - Office hours (talk to profs)
 - Getting involved (participate more, join diff orgs)
 - Being open-minded
- When do I ask?
 - Earlier the better!
 - For those applying this cycle, you can start reaching out to potential letter writers now
- How do I reach out?
 - In person
 - Email
 - Greeting
 - Introduce yourself depending on how familiar you are with the letter writer; i.e. remind the prof what class you were in
 - Say what you learned from the class and how you grew as a person
 - Introduce your plans of applying to pharmacy school and how you would appreciate it if this person could write you a letter because they know you best
 - Mention the deadline, express understanding
- Experiences
 - Add all extracurricular activities here!
 - Job, internship, community service, etc
 - Info needed: supervisor, organization name, dates, description
- Achievements
 - Add any honors, publications, and scholarships
 - Brief description
- Licenses and certifications
 - Add professional licenses or certifications
 - Pharmacy technician license
 - EMT
- Personal essay

- Approximately a page long (4500 characters with spaces)
 - The prompt asks why you selected pharmacy as a career and how the PharmD degree relates to your immediate and long-term professional goals.
- Program materials
 - Each school will look different (supplemental material for the diff schools you chose)
 - Essay questions
 - Document submissions
 - Evidence of practicing hours
 - Supporting authentication
 - Application fees
 - There are a limited amount of fee waivers
 - Schools also have a Supplemental Application fee
 - Ex. UOP - \$60
- Tips
 - Start early (this cycle application opens July 14th)
 - Ask for advice on essay!
 - Have patience
 - Especially with transcript entry
 - Write down all important dates (some schools have diff deadlines)
 - Know each school's application style
 - Rolling (USC, most schools)
 - Tiered (UOP)
 - Non-rolling (UCSD, UCSF)
 - Prioritize what apps you work on first
 - Block off interview dates for pharmacy schools
 - Reach out to HPA or pharmacy students for advice
 - Take advantage of early decision if you are set on one school
 - Proofread app before submitting (read and revise)
 - Practice interview questions (make sure you create a list of questions to ask the school too) - important to show interest
 - Check your email for updates on PharmCAS
- Timeline
 - Freshman-senior
 - Build relationships with profs, faculty, etc for LORs
 - Gain experiences and write them down
 - Update your CV/resume
 - junior/senior year
 - Draft and revise personal statement

- Keep track of deadlines