




ACPE UPDATE
Assuring Quality In Pharmacy Education

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Meet the Faculty

Jan Engle, PharmD, PhD (Hon), FAPhA, FCCP, FNAP
Executive Director, ACPE
Chicago, Illinois






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Learning Objectives






- Review the structure and functions of ACPE.
- Discuss ACPE activities in the following areas:
 - Colleges/Schools
 - Continuing Pharmacy Education
 - International Services Program
 - and Pharmacy Technician Accreditation.

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Some background...


THE POSSIBILITIES

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ACPE – What do we do?



- **ACPE Accredits:**
 - **Professional degree programs** (1932)
 - US Department of Education recognition, since 1952
 - Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) recognition, since 2004
 - **Providers of continuing pharmacy education** (1975)
 - Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education™ (founded with Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education [ACCME] and American Nurses Credentialing Center [ANCC]) (2009)
 - **Pharmacy technician programs** (2015)
 - Collaboration with the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists
- **ACPE Internationally-Accredits:**
 - Professional degree programs outside the USA and its territories (2011)



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ACPE Board of Directors and Commissions



- Three appointees each by:
 - American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACCP) – educators
 - American Pharmacists Association (APhA) – practitioners
 - National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) – regulators
- One appointee by:
 - American Council on Education (ACE) – non-pharmacy educator, public member
- Three-year terms of office
- Commissions for CPE provider accreditation (12), International Commission (8), Pharmacy technician education accreditation (10 with ASHP)

The Board makes all determinations of compliance with accreditation and certification standards



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ACPE Board of Directors

- Amy Seybert, President (APhA, 2019-2025)
- LuGina Mendez-Harper, Vice President (NABP, 2016-2025)
- Cindy Stowe, Treasurer (ACCP, 2022-2025)
- Susan Buechele (ACE, 2022-2025)
- Kimberly Croley (APhA, 2020-2026)
- Reza Karimi (AACP, 2018-2024)
- John Kirtley (NABP, 2014-2026)
- Winnie Landis (APhA, 2020-2024)
- Michael A. Moné (NABP, 2006-2024)
- Sharon Youmans (AACP, 2020-2026)

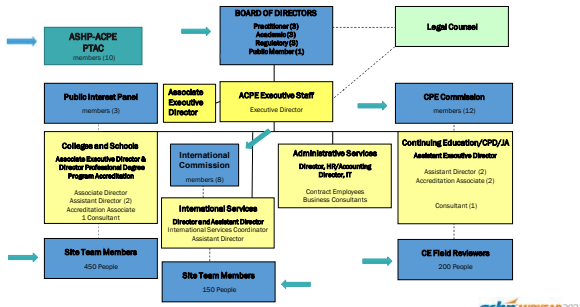


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ACPE Structure



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Current State of College/School Accreditation



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Fall 2023 Status

PharmD Program Accreditation	
141	PharmD Programs hold full Accredited Status
1	PharmD Program holds Candidate Status
0	PharmD Programs hold Pre-Candidate Status
1	New Program Application
15	Comprehensive Evaluations during Fall 2023
6	Focused Evaluations during Fall 2023 that included 5 verification visits
76	Trained Site Evaluators on visits in Fall 2023, supported by 5-ACPE Staff and 1 ACPE Staff consultant
9	PharmD Programs authorized for Online/Distance Learning Pathway, defined as delivering 50% or more of the didactic content via distance learning
25	PharmD Programs offering an accelerated three-year curriculum

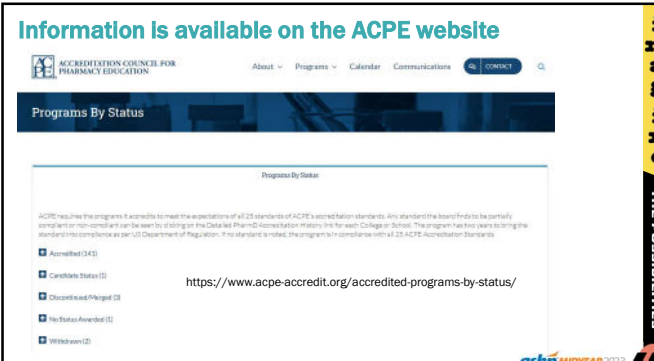
BY THE NUMBERS

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Information is available on the ACPE website



ACPE requires the programs it accredits to meet the expectations of all 25 standards of ACPE's accreditation standards. Any standard the board finds to be partially complete or non-compliant can be noted by listing on the Detailed PharmD Accreditation in many (if not all) Colleges or Schools. The program has not failed to bring the standard into compliance as per US Department of Regulation. If no standard is noted, the program is in compliance with all 25 ACPE accreditation standards.

- Accredited (143)
- Candidate Status (1)
- Discontinued/Merged (0)
- No Status Awarded (1)
- Withdrawn (2)

<https://www.acpe-accredit.org/accredited-programs-by-status/>

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COVID-19: Colleges/Schools and Distance Education

- ACPE is recognized by the US Department of Education (USDE) for the accreditation and preaccreditation, within the United States, of professional degree programs in pharmacy leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy degree
- All USDE guidance is valid for the duration of the national emergency declaration and 180 days following the date on which the COVID-19 national emergency declaration is rescinded
- All flexibilities regarding online education expired as of October 7, 2023.
- As of 10/7 all online/distance education must go through the normal ACPE approval process

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Online Education



- Increase in number of proposed online pathways
 - Many are currently operating under the DOE waiver
 - Requires planning and notification to ACPE
 - 25-49% of didactic courses (do not include APPE credits): substantive change letter with course/credit list indicating what is being taught virtually
 - >50%: substantive change letter with comprehensive academic plan
 - Expectation of total program comparability (an issue in any pathway is an issue for the entire program)



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COVID-19: Colleges/Schools and Distance Education

- ACPE requires one-year advance notice for the addition of a distance campus or the implementation of distance education for an existing college or school
- This notification is required to allow ACPE sufficient time to conduct the evaluation needed to ensure readiness and continued compliance with the accreditation standards.
- Failure to comply with the one-year notice requirement constitutes grounds for review and potential adverse accreditation actions.



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Annual Monitoring



- Doctor of Pharmacy programs are monitoring annually:
 - Changes and trends in NAPLEX® Outcomes
 - Changes and Trends in Enrollment
 - *Old Policy: On-Time Graduation Rate Monitoring including academic dismissals, withdrawals and delayed progression*
 - **New Policy: On-time graduation rate monitoring including total attrition**
 - Financial Resources
 - Job Placement/Gainful Employment (information only – USDE expectation)
 - Other outcome parameters of program choosing (information only)



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Annual Monitoring Change



- At the June 2023 Board meeting, the ACPE Board authorized a change to the annual monitoring policy
- ACPE will no longer monitor dismissals, withdrawals and delayed progression individually
- ACPE will continue to monitor total attrition
 - Total attrition includes the total number of students who did not graduate on time for any reason, which includes delayed graduation, academic dismissal, and withdrawal from the program
 - If total attrition is greater than or equal to 24% of the matriculating class size, a letter will be sent to the program requesting that it identify the cause of and provide an action plan for correcting any negative changes or trends



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What happens if a program falls outside of a benchmark?

- A letter will be sent from ACPE to a program requesting that they identify the cause of and provide an action plan for correcting any negative changes or trends
- Such a letter **may not be required** if the ACPE Board has received prior information provided by the program that adequately addresses the matter (e.g. delayed graduation because unvaccinated students can't be placed on rotation)
- If a program has been sent an annual monitoring letter by ACPE in *three or more years within any five-year period*, the Board may invite representatives of the program to meet with the Board




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Continuing Education Provider Accreditation



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CPD Initiatives



- ACPE developed draft criteria for Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
- Criteria were piloted in 2022
- ACPE was informed that credentialing bodies, regulatory agencies, academic centers, residency programs and others are considering implementing CPD
- Goal is to provide a process for pharmacy professionals to meet, maintain and enhance competencies needed in areas relevant to their practices in an intentional, self-directed manner



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Continuing Professional Development



- The ACPE Board of Directors has approved criteria for organizations to develop CPD programs and a framework to award CPD units for implementation in January 2024
 - ACPE Continuing Professional Development Accreditation Program Policies and Procedures Manual: A Guide for Providers.
 - These policies and procedures will serve as a guide and resource for providers who are seeking CPD program accreditation
- Providers with and without an ACPE-accredited CPE program are eligible to submit CPD programs for consideration
 - Submissions will be accepted starting January 1st, 2024



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Awarding CPD Units




- CPD Units will be documented using the CPE Monitor system, where providers will be assigned a CPD Provider Unit Number for activities
- CPD units are based on activity completion which satisfy the components of a CPD cycle
 - For the Reflect, Plan, Learn, Evaluate, and Apply components within a single CPD cycle, a maximum of 2 CPDUs can be awarded for each component (i.e., Reflection = 2 CPDUs)
- Providers of CPD programs are encouraged to have learners complete all components of a CPD cycle, as the process of identifying learning needs, engaging in learning activities, and documenting how learning has been applied to practice is essential to effective and meaningful CPD




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Awarding CPD Units




- For providers with accredited CPE and CPD programs, CPE activities which include activities or components satisfying the requirements of a CPD cycle component are eligible for CPD units, as determined by the program provider and reflective of the unit process as described above
 - Providers of only CPD programs will not be allowed to offer CPE activities
- Units may be awarded even if a CPD cycle is not completed, and the units should be reflective of the CPD components which were completed (i.e., *Reflect, Plan, and Learn* were completed = 6 CPDUs)
- Webinar on September 12th with more details




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Certificate Programs – Update




- ACPE requirement for hours has been *decreased* from 15 to 8 contact hours – length of certificate program should be determined based on the level of skill required to be achieved (implemented in July 2023)
- Certificate program option available in the Provider Web Tool
- Once the activity is conducted and upon completion of the requirements for credit of the Certificate Program, the provider should:
 - Award ACPE CE credit to the pharmacist and/or pharmacy technician for the UANs (modules) completed via CPE Monitor®, AND, if applicable,
 - Award completion of the ACPE Certificate Program (CPN) via CPE Monitor®




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New CPE Feature on ACPE Website



<https://www.acpe-accredit.org/pharmacist-and-technician-education/>



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ACPE ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR PHARMACY EDUCATION

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Certificate Programs

What is Certificate Program?

Structured and systematic postgraduate educational experiences for pharmacists that are generally smaller in magnitude and shorter in time than degree programs, and that impart knowledge, skills, attitudes, and performance behaviors to meet specific pharmacy practice objectives.

Where can I find active certificate programs?

- The Pharmacy Learning Assistance Network (PLAN) is available to pharmacists who need to find continuing pharmacy education and certificate programs. To use PLAN to search for certificate programs, please click [here](#).
- For more information on PLAN, please click [here](#).

Each certificate program must include the following components:

- A didactic component such as live seminars, home study, internet-based materials, etc.
- A hands-on component such as practice experiences, simulations, and/or such activities to assure demonstration of the skill or application of the stated professional competency.
- Formative and summative assessment for each program.

How many modules does a certificate program include?

- A certificate program may include one module (one UAN) or multiple modules (multiple UANs).
- In order to receive the certificate, you must complete ALL modules of the program. However, if you only complete 2 out of 3 modules, for example, you will still get credit for those activities, but you won't receive the certificate.

View all 11 available certificate programs in the ACPE database. Search for a certificate program.

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PLAN Search

Search Results

Activity Type: certificate program
Click on a UAN to view the detail.

Course Title	UAN/CPE	Contact Hours (CPE)	City	Activity Type	Live Date	Expiration Date	Provider
Advanced Diabetic Certificate Program - Practical Training	0008-21-002-CP	48 (14.8)		Certificate Program		06/01/2024	University of Colorado Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Preceptor Development Certificate	0008-21-003-CP	20 (2)		Certificate Program		09/08/2024	University of Colorado Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Teaching and Learning Practice-based Certificate Program 2021-2024	0009-0000-21-037-804-P	22 (2.2)	Imu.socnm.edu	Certificate Program	08/06/2018	07/15/2024	University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy
Teaching and Learning Practice-based Certificate Program 2021-2024	0009-0000-21-037-804-P	22 (2.2)	Imu.socnm.edu	Certificate Program	07/15/2021	07/15/2024	University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy
Anticoagulation Traineeship	0009-0000-23-003-021-P	0 (0)	Farmington	Certificate Program	03/20/2023	03/16/2026	University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy

Currently >1800 certificate programs in ACPE database

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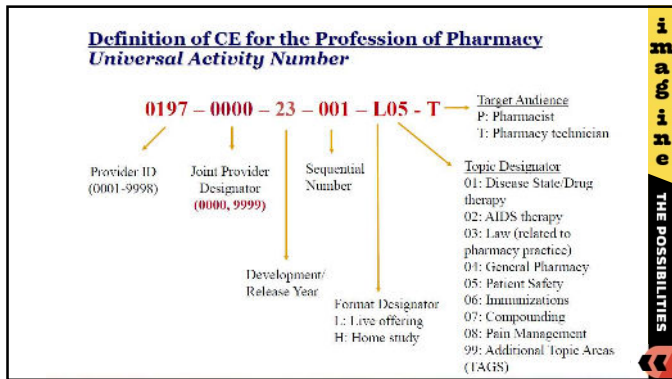
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ACPE Universal Activity Number (UAN) (0197-0000-22-001-L04-P/T)

- Unique identifier assigned to each CPE activity
- Composed of multiple elements that indicate specific information about the nature of the activity
 - Provider, activity format, target audience, topic
- The topic designator options in the UAN has been updated
 - Topic designator 04: Pharmacy Administration (formerly general pharmacy); used when covering economic, legal, social administrative or managerial aspects of pharmacy
 - Topic Designator 99: used to capture topics that relate to the practice of pharmacy but don't fit into any of the 8 topic designator categories

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Topic Designator

The Topic Designator is the last 2 digits of the Universal Activity Number and should be designated as follows:

- 01: Disease State Management/Drug Therapy - activities that address drugs, drug therapy, and/or disease states.
- 02: AIDS Therapy - activities that address therapeutic, legal, social, ethical, or psychological issues related to the understanding and treatment of patients with HIV/AIDS.
- 03: Law Related to Pharmacy Practice - activities that address federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations affecting the practice of pharmacy.
- 04: Pharmacy Administration - activities that address topics relevant to the practice of pharmacy that include the economic, legal, social, administrative and managerial aspects of pharmacy practice and health care.
- 05: Patient Safety - activities that address topics relevant to the prevention of healthcare errors and the elimination or mitigation of patient injury caused by healthcare errors.
- 06: Immunizations - activities related to the provision of immunizations, i.e., recommend immunization schedules, administration procedures, proper storage and disposal, and record keeping. This also includes review for appropriateness or contraindication and identifying and reporting adverse drug events and providing necessary first aid.
- 07: Compounding - activities related to sterile, nonsterile, and hazardous drug compounding for humans and animals. This includes best practices and USP quality assurance standards, environmental testing and control, record keeping, error detection and reporting, and continuous quality improvement processes.
- 08: Pain Management - activities that address any component regarding the treatment and management of pain, including the prescribing, distribution and use of opioid medications, and/or the risks, symptoms, and treatment of opioid misuse/addiction.
- 99: Additional Topic Areas - activities related to topics relevant to the practice of pharmacy not included in the classifications of the topic designators 01-08.

99-Additional Topic Areas

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Topic Designator 99: Activity Audit

- Audited topic designator 99 in July 2023 for period Jan-July 2023
- Total of 3,193 activities were submitted
 - 288 (9%) were labeled as 99 activities when another designator was more appropriate
 - 01: Disease State Management/Drug Therapy
 - 04: Pharmacy Administration
 - 08: Pain Management
- Educating providers on use of topic designators to assure consistency and to meet learner needs

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Pharmacy Technician Accreditation Commission





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Pharmacy Technician Accreditation Commission (PTAC)

- Formed through ASHP/ACPE collaboration
- ACPE Board approved ASHP standards, guidelines, and procedures for PTAC
- PTAC recommendations require approval of both ASHP and ACPE Boards




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PTAC Activity

BY THE NUMBERS	ASHP/ACPE Accredited Pharmacy Technician Programs	JANUARY 2023	JUNE 2023
	Number of ASHP/ACPE Accredited Programs	254	250
	New Applications	12	14
	Voluntary Withdrawals	5	14
	Reaccreditation Reviews	19	10
	Midterm Progress and Special Case Reviews	17	17



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Congratulations to the following programs that were granted initial accreditation or reaccreditation in June 2023:


Initial Accreditation	Reaccreditation
Baptist Health South Florida, Miami Lakes, Florida	Makolm X College, Chicago, Illinois
Carle I Health Pharmacy Technician University, Urbana, Illinois	Walgreen Co., Deerfield, Illinois
College of Southern Maryland, La Plata, Maryland	Delta College, Covington, Louisiana
Gateway Pharmacy, Blomark, North Dakota	MedCentral Livonia, Michigan
ProMedica Health System, Toledo, Ohio	Guilford Technical Community College High Point Campus, High Point, North Carolina
Wondsworth University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee	Pike A&J Pharmacy, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania
Montgomery County Public Schools (Virginia), Christiansburg, Virginia	Chattanooga State Technical Community College, Chattanooga, Tennessee
Hulaski County High School Career and Technical Education, Dublin Virginia	Pocomont Virginia Community College, Charlottesville, Virginia
J.T. Pharmacy Technical Training Program, Richmond, Virginia	Yakima Valley College, Yakima, Washington
UVA Health Department of Pharmacy Services, Charlottesville, Virginia	
Dromo Pharmacy, Richmond, Virginia	
Friedrick County Public Schools Pharmacy Technician Academy, Winchester, Virginia	
Wythwille Community College, Wythwille, Virginia	



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ACCREDITATION COUNCIL
PHARMACY EDUCATION



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International Commission

- Sherief Khalifa, PhD
- Donald E. Letendre, PharmD
- Abeer M. Al-Ghananeem, PhD
- Abdullah M. Alhammad, BSc, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP
- Jannet M. Carmichael, PharmD, BCPS, FCCP, FAPhA
- Michael D. Katz, PharmD
- Shailendra Saraf, MPharm, PhD
- Jenelle Sobotka, PharmD, FAPhA
- Board Liaison: Sharon Youmans, PharmD, MPH, FAPhA




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By the numbers...

International Services Program	
International-Accreditation	23 degree programs
International-Accreditation (* online evaluation)	15 degree programs
Provisional International-Accreditation (* online evaluation)	1 degree program
International-Preaccreditation	3 degree programs
Voluntary Discontinuation of Certification Status – Discontinuation of Program	1 degree program
Initial Evaluation Visit Authorized	2 degree programs

BY THE NUMBERS

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New Terminology – Effective 1/1/23



- International program terminology change
 - From “certification” to “international-accreditation” (International Pre-Accreditation,” and “Provisional International-Accreditation”)
 - All programs have been notified that the new designation does not imply or confer eligibility to graduates of a program with such status to apply directly to sit for the NAPLEX exam for licensure in the United States
 - Safeguards in place include website disclosure, student acknowledgment, etc.



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ACPE International-Accreditation




- The status of public recognition that ACPE grants to a professional degree program in pharmacy *in a country other than the United States* that meets all ACPE’s requirements for such recognition
- Determined on the basis of initial and periodic evaluation





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ACPE International-Accreditation Quality Criteria



- Quality Criteria designed to allow greater flexibility for application in different cultural, educational, political, social, and health systems
- Quality Criteria evaluated in context of national needs and priorities
- *Quality Criteria are not degree specific*
- Quality Criteria serve as a valid point-of-reference for external peer review; developed with globally broad-based input
- *Not intended to imply comparability or equivalence of internationally-accredited programs*

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ACPE International-Accreditation



- Primary purpose is to help countries improve their pharmacy education and practice
 - Strong focus on working with the school on quality improvement
- International-Accreditation is not directly linked to eligibility for licensure (as accreditation is in the USA); not intended to imply or confer eligibility to practice in any jurisdiction




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Programs with International-Accreditation

JORDAN




- Al-Ahliyya Amman University, Faculty of Pharmacy: BPharm Degree Program
- Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan, Faculty of Pharmacy: BSc Degree Program
- Applied Science Private University, Faculty of Pharmacy: BSc Degree Program
- Jordan University of Science and Technology, Faculty of Pharmacy: BSc and PharmD Degree Programs
- Middle East University, Faculty of Pharmacy: BSc Degree Program
- Mutah University, Faculty of Pharmacy: BSc Degree Program
- The University of Jordan (UJ), School of Pharmacy: BSc and PharmD Degree Programs
- University of Petra, Faculty of Pharmacy: BSc Degree Program
- Yarmouk University, Faculty of Pharmacy, BPharm Degree Program




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Programs with International-Accreditation 

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

- Ajman University, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences: BPharm Degree Program
- Al Ain University (AAU) of Science and Technology, College of Pharmacy: BSc. (Pharm) Degree Program
- Dubai Pharmacy College for Girls: BPharm Degree Program*
- Gulf Medical University, College of Pharmacy: PharmD Degree Program
- RAK Medical and Health Sciences University, College of Pharmacy: BPharm Degree Program*
- University of Sharjah, College of Pharmacy, BScPharm*, PharmD (International-Preaccreditation)

* Provisional International-Accreditation (*online evaluation)

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Programs with International-Accreditation 

EGYPT (all International- Accreditation *online evaluation)

- Ain Shams University, Faculty of Pharmacy, BPharm, BPharm (PharmD), and BPharm (PharmD-Clinical Pharmacy) Degree Programs
- Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport, College of Pharmacy, BPharm, BPharm (PharmD), and BPharm (PharmD-Clinical Pharmacy) Degree Programs
- Future University in Egypt, Faculty of Pharmacy, BPharm, BPharm (PharmD), and BPharm (PharmD-Clinical Pharmacy) Degree Programs
- Misr International University, Faculty of Pharmacy, BPharm, BPharm (PharmD), and BPharm (PharmD-Clinical Pharmacy) Degree Programs

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Programs with International-Accreditation 

SAUDI ARABIA

- Batterjee Medical College (BMC), Pharmacy Program: PharmD Degree Program
- Ibn Sina National College for Medical Students, PharmD Degree Program*
- King Faisal University (KFU), College of Clinical Pharmacy: PharmD Degree Program
- King Saud University (KSU), College of Pharmacy: PharmD Degree Program
- Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University, College of Pharmacy: BPS Degree Program
- Qassim University (QU), College of Pharmacy: PharmD Degree Program
- Taif University (TU), College of Pharmacy: PharmD Degree Program



INDIA

- JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research, College of Pharmacy (Mysuru and Ooty Campuses): PharmD Degree Program



INDONESIA

- University of Surabaya, Faculty of Pharmacy: Pharmacy Education Program

* International-Accreditation (*online evaluation)



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Programs with International-Accreditation






- MAURITIUS** (International-Preaccreditation Status)
 - > JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research, Mauritius School of Pharmacy, BPharm PharmD Degree Programs
- NORTHERN CYPRUS**
 - > Near East University (NEU), Faculty of Pharmacy: MPharm Degree Program
- LEBANON**
 - > Lebanese International University School of Pharmacy, Bachelor of Pharmacy Degree Program



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Your Turn – Questions/Comments



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