

# Application Resources Pharmacy

- Pharmacy Admissions Process:** <http://www.pharmcas.org/preparing-to-apply/>
- PharmD School Directory:** <http://www.pharmcas.org/school-directory>
- PharmCAS application:** The 2017-18 application cycle will open on July 18, 2017. Application fees are \$175 for the first school and \$55 for each additional school selected. Individual schools also charge fees to complete supplemental applications.
- Fee Assistance:** A limited number of PharmCAS fee waivers are available, on a first-come, first serve basis. Federal Income Tax Return forms can be submitted electronically to determine eligibility. More information is available at [www.pharmcas.org](http://www.pharmcas.org).
- Social media:** Follow PharmCAS on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/PharmCAS](http://www.facebook.com/PharmCAS)
- Pharmacy College Admissions Test (PCAT):** [www.pcatweb.info/](http://www.pcatweb.info/) The PCAT is offered via four test windows in July, September, October-November, and January. Registration opened March 1st for the July test dates. The fee is \$210. Unofficial scores are provided to test takers immediately after they complete the test at the testing center, and official scores are available within five weeks. Select PharmCAS Code 104 to have official scores sent to PharmCAS. PCAT also offers practice tests (fees apply).
- Transcripts:** Order your Illinois transcripts in person or online through the Office of the Registrar (<http://registrar.illinois.edu/transcripts>). Submit your transcript request form(s) (available in the PharmCAS application) the same day that you place your order. Transcripts are required from the institution where the course was taken, even if the courses appear on your Illinois transcript (exceptions apply for Study Abroad programs offered through University of Illinois).
- Letters of Reference:** Applicants may send up to four letters through PharmCAS. Most schools require only two or three letters of reference, though they may have different requirements regarding acceptable letter writers (i.e. some schools will accept letters from T.A.s and others will not). Research each school using the Programs Directory to determine requirements. Letters should be written by individuals who have directly evaluated or observed your work. Schedule a meeting with potential letter writers and provide them with information about you (resume, personal statement, etc.) prior to leaving campus for the summer. Make sure to share the process for submitting the letter and provide them with a link to the information for evaluators on the PharmCAS website. The University of Illinois does not provide a committee or composite letter.



## Application Tips

- Verification:** After submitting your application, it goes through verification, where the application service staff match manually entered coursework to official transcripts and calculate GPA. Until you have a “complete” application, you do not enter the verification process, which will take up to four weeks.
- Supplemental/secondary applications:** Some programs may ask you to complete additional essays. *Make sure to answer the questions asked.* Secondary applications are often how admissions committees will distinguish which applicants have researched their programs, and how well they can communicate—beyond what has already been shared. Applicants may have applied early with primary applications, but holding onto secondary applications can have an impact, especially with schools that have a rolling admissions process.
- Coursework:** Use your academic history or unofficial transcript. Do not use DARS. Classify courses based on the content of the course.
- Proofread your entire application.** Print out a hard copy and review it for any errors or omissions.
- Demonstrate professionalism:** Your qualifications as an applicant are not solely based on official application materials—communication via email, over the phone, on interview day (even during informal interactions) can be a part of your evaluation as an applicant.
- Continue your preparation:** Keep your motivation going by continuing to be involved inside and outside of the classroom. This will allow you to have more to share in secondary essays, interviews, letters of update, or possibly in a reapplication. Keep in contact with your letter writers—they’ll want to know how you’re doing, and this will help them if you need updated letters for any reason.

## Health Professions Advising & Services

- April is Application Month:** Attend these workshops to learn more about the application process. We even help you write a personal statement. Visit [www.careercenter.illinois.edu](http://www.careercenter.illinois.edu) for calendar of events.
- Personal Statement Reviews:** Submit your personal statement online to be reviewed. [www.careercenter.illinois.edu/service/personal-statement-reviews](http://www.careercenter.illinois.edu/service/personal-statement-reviews)
- Health Professions Advisors:** HP Advisors are available, even over summer, to assist you throughout the application process. Schedule a 30 minute appointment or visit us during Health Professions Advising Drop In Hours. [www.careercenter.illinois.edu/service/health-professions-advising](http://www.careercenter.illinois.edu/service/health-professions-advising)
- Mock Interviews:** Schedule a mock interview (not available over summer.) [www.careercenter.illinois.edu/service/mock-interviews](http://www.careercenter.illinois.edu/service/mock-interviews)