UConn’s Special Program in Pharmacy (SPiP)

A pharmacy-focused curriculum for freshmen
Special Program in Pharmacy (SPiP)

UConn’s Special Program in Pharmacy (SPiP) offers talented incoming freshmen who are interested in pharmacy, the opportunity to combine pharmacy instruction and training with a broad liberal arts-based education. This unique program is designed to nurture highly motivated students, giving them the opportunity to explore diverse interests and succeed in pharmacy.

SPiP students join the prestigious UConn Honors Program and those who meet program expectations are accepted into the School of Pharmacy.

SPiP curriculum begins with two years (freshman and sophomore years) of prerequisite and liberal arts education coursework which then leads to four years of professional pharmacy education. The result is two degrees: a BS in Pharmacy Studies and Pharm.D., Doctor of Pharmacy.

Within SPiP’s curriculum and the professional program, students can select powerful combinations of courses and experiences that will further their professional advancement. They may also decide to take extra time for pharmacy enrichment (travel, internships and more) prior to entering the four year professional program.

While enrolled in SPiP, students will be connected with experiential opportunities as well as seminars, research opportunities, and health-profession events, all aimed at supporting the achievement of curricular and career goals. Students are continuously supported and advised throughout the program. UConn School of Pharmacy’s unique mentorship program also enriches the undergraduate experience by providing educational opportunities that strengthen the student’s preparation while building connections and experience.

New England regional students in SPiP are eligible for reduced tuition. Please find more detail on the New England Regional Student Program at admissions.uconn.edu/cost-aid/tuition/rsp

Degree Time Frame

Students completing the undergraduate program receive a BS in Pharmacy Studies after four years. This degree requires the completion of university and program degree requirements and includes two professional years in the pharmacy program. The professional doctorate degree of Pharm.D is conferred after an additional two years of professional pharmacy education.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Can I be considered for SPiP with a major other than pre-pharmacy?
A. The only major that allows for early assurance is pre-pharmacy. You can major in STEM fields but will need to be sure to take pharmacy prerequisites and take the PCAT for entry into the School of Pharmacy.

Q. Can I transfer into SPiP after the freshman year?
A. No

Q. Are international students eligible for admission to SPiP?
A. Yes, English competency is based on SAT verbal scores and/or graduation from an English speaking high school outside of the US and the rigor of their English curriculum.

Q. What are the advantages to being in SPiP?
A. It is expected that students in SPiP will be accepted into the professional Pharmacy program. SPiP is an honors level program which allows you to reside in the Honors Living Learning Community. SPiP students also have access to a variety of enrichment programs and elective courses normally open only to students already in the School. Additionally, students in specific neighboring states are eligible for New England regional tuition.

Degree Time Frame

Students completing the undergraduate program receive a BS in Pharmacy Studies after four years. This degree requires the completion of university and program degree requirements and includes two professional years in the pharmacy program. The professional doctorate degree of Pharm.D is conferred after an additional two years of professional pharmacy education.

Our alumni work in:
- Clinical pharmacy practice
- Community pharmacy
- Pharmaceutical industry
- Academia - pharmacy education
- Consulting - legal, government, managed care
- Public administration
- Research
- And more

Careers after Pharmacy School

90%+ of students exiting the UConn School of Pharmacy program have jobs/residencies

$75,000–$110,000 Starting salaries range depending on the chosen field of focus.

Visit pharmacy.uconn.edu for early assurance detail.
**SPiP Admission Requirements and Deadlines**

To apply to SPiP, a student must be entering UConn as a first-semester freshman. In general, students must have demonstrated exceptional performance in academics, including advanced preparation in mathematics and laboratory sciences, and other fields. There are no state residency requirements. The University is committed to attracting candidates from populations under-represented in pharmacy.

**SPiP is looking for students who have:**

- an overall high school grade point average of 3.4 (4.0 scale).
- SAT combined score of 1350 (New SAT) or an ACT composite score of 29. SAT II Subject Tests are not considered.
- a completed application to the University with all supporting documents (to include two letters of recommendation*) received by December 15. A high school profile should also be submitted along with the high school transcript.
- essay questions specific to the Special Program in Pharmacy by December 15.
- Skype interviews may be required with the School of Pharmacy in late January — by invitation only
- Extracurricular activities and commitment to the health profession are considered.

It is anticipated that applicants will matriculate into the School of Pharmacy upon completion of undergraduate course pre-requisites and upon meeting the following additional criteria:

- Completion of PharmCAS application
- Completion of math science prerequisites by spring semester in the year of application
- A college cumulative grade point average of 3.4 (4.0 scale).
- A prerequisite math science grade point average of 3.4 (4.0 scale)
- Participation in clinical, research, and/or community services activities.
- Favorable admission interview during the Pharm.D. application phase (not during the freshman application phase.)

If a student does not maintain enrollment in SPiP, he/she will remain a part of the pre-pharmacy applicant pool and can apply to the School of Pharmacy. The PCAT is required for those students who do not meet early assurance criteria.

**Supplemental Program Application**

Incoming freshman applicants who want to apply to SPiP must indicate their interest in the program on their application to the University as well as complete the program’s online supplemental application questions and submit two letters of recommendation by December 15.

*Essay questions specific to the Special Program in Pharmacy can be found on the supplemental application. Essays must be saved in a single Word or PDF document and uploaded onto the supplemental application.*

*Recommendation letters should address the student’s current academic status, extra-curricular achievements, personal qualities, and potential for future success in and contributions to the field of pharmacy practice/healthcare and community.*

---

69 North Eagleville Road, Unit 3092, Storrs, CT 06269-3092

pharmacy.uconn.edu | 860.486.2129

UConn School of Pharmacy

T 69 NORTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD, UNIT 3092, STORRS, CT 06269-3092

pharmacy.uconn.edu | 860.486.2129