Education

Ranked by U.S. News & World Report as the No. 1 pharmacy college in Florida and in the top 10 nationally, the University of Florida College of Pharmacy excels at preparing graduates to practice in an evolving environment where the pharmacist is an interprofessional team member who collaborates to improve patient care. Doctor of Pharmacy graduates have the foundational knowledge and skills to improve medication therapy in an evidence-based manner. They also are prepared to assume leadership roles in the pharmacy profession and the U.S. health care system.

The Pharm.D. program is taught at four Florida campuses: Gainesville, Jacksonville, Orlando and St. Petersburg. UF student pharmacists impact their communities through health care screenings, education about proper medication use, internships in pharmacies and community service. About 50 percent of UF graduates practice in community pharmacy settings, with the remaining graduates choosing a variety of roles, including academia, hospitals, ambulatory clinics, the pharmaceutical industry, the Food and Drug Administration and others.

Future pharmaceutical scientists receive training in one of the college’s comprehensive graduate programs. Under the mentorship of more than 40 graduate faculty, College of Pharmacy Ph.D. students have the opportunity to participate in cutting-edge research and take a lead role in advancing science.
Research

Research activities in the UF College of Pharmacy span a broad range of areas, including medicinal chemistry, pharmaceutics, pharmacology, clinical and translational research, and pharmaceutical outcomes and policy. The college is an integral part of UF Health, and its faculty are highly collaborative with others within UF’s academic health center, with specific areas of focus, including drug discovery, pharmacogenomics and personalized medicine, marine natural products, pharmacokinetics/pharmacometrics, systems pharmacology, pharmacoepidemiology and patient safety. Using these approaches, college faculty focus their research on improving treatment of a variety of diseases.

Three active centers support these diverse research programs:

- Center for Natural Products, Drug Discovery & Development
- Center for Pharmacogenomics
- Center for Pharmacometrics and Systems Pharmacology

Distance Education Graduate & Professional Programs

Since 2000, the college has developed unique master’s programs using distance learning technologies. Working professionals everywhere can access high-quality education in many pharmacy disciplines. Our graduate programs include the Working Professional Pharm.D. program and M.S. degree programs in forensic sciences, pharmaceutical chemistry, clinical toxicology, pharmaceutical regulation and policy, pharmaco economics, medication therapy management and clinical pharmacy for international pharmacists.

The online programs are among the largest and most successful in the world, having received three national awards for excellence in distance education. The programs are fully self-supporting and generate around $12 million annually, which enables the building of support infrastructure for course development and delivery as well as student affairs. Additionally, the success of these programs financially supports the college’s efforts to expand and strengthen its research and education initiatives.

Innovative Practice & Service Models

The UF Medication Management Center provides outreach to more than 75,000 patients and providers each month, and 450,000 unique patients annually, to discuss opportunities for optimizing drug therapy. The centers in Gainesville and Orlando, staffed by a team of pharmacists and technicians, provide comprehensive medication reviews, adherence interventions and other telephonic outreach services in collaboration with health plans, providers and pharmacies nationwide.

Through interdisciplinary and collaborative practice arrangements, the College of Pharmacy is a national leader in the development and evaluation of innovative clinical pharmacy practice models. The shared responsibility model partners clinical pharmacists with academic clinicians to strengthen the education of future pharmacists and increase scholarly activity. A self-funded transitions-of-care practice model along with innovative use of collaborative practice plans creates new training opportunities for pharmacists, generates clinical revenue and serves as a template for other academic institutions.