



# Combined Degree Program: PharmD/JD

## INTRODUCTION

The Doctor of Pharmacy and Doctor of Jurisprudence (PharmD/JD) collaborative degree program offers qualified students the opportunity to combine studies and professional training in law, pharmacy, and the pharmaceutical sciences. Successful candidates receive PharmD and JD degrees in an accelerated course of study. Rather than the seven years traditionally required to obtain both degrees individually, the collaborative program is structured to allow completion in six years.

The interdisciplinary nature of the program is responsive to the shifting dynamics in the delivery of health care. Pharmaceuticals are now the primary therapeutic intervention for acute and chronic conditions, and constitute the largest component of healthcare expenditures in the U.S. At the same time, in both the public and private sectors, domestically and internationally, there is heightened concern about safety and access to pharmaceuticals. The collaborative program focuses on the integration of skills and knowledge inherent in the pharmaceutical sciences and pharmacy practice with the legal and regulatory framework governing pharmaceutical research and development, intellectual property, and the laws and regulations that govern the broader healthcare system. The integration of the two disciplines allows students to develop unique areas of expertise and skill that will prepare them as qualified candidates for positions in relevant federal regulatory agencies, the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, private practice, as well as in a range of healthcare and health policy settings. The program provides a base from which to link students with UB's innovative enterprise in bioinformatics and genetics research. It also is consistent with several of the academic strength areas identified as a result of the strategic planning process underway at the university: (1) health and clinical sciences and (2) experimental medicine. The collaborative program introduces a unique offering at the University at Buffalo.

### *The PharmD/JD program prepares students for legal positions in:*

Legal Issues in Managed Care	Food and Drug Law
Law and Mental Health	Intellectual Property
Biotechnology and Patent Law	Criminal Enforcement of Environmental Law
Biodiversity Protection	

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMITTED PHARM D STUDENTS

- Baccalaureate degree
- Cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0/4.0 in the required courses of the PharmD program at the end of the first professional year (P1)
- The Law School Admission Test (LSAT) completed by February of your P1 year and within 5 years of application to the JD program. The LSAT is given four times (June, October, December, and February).
- Application to the Law School by **March 1<sup>st</sup>** of the P1 year, however applications will be considered after the priority deadline.
- Subscribe to the Law School Data Assembly Service (LSDAS) – visit [www.lsac.org](http://www.lsac.org)
- Arrange for all undergraduate and graduate transcripts to be submitted to the LSDAS.
- Personal statement
- Two letters of recommendation from persons who can comment on academic performance. General letters of recommendation from personal or family friends, public officials, law school alumni, or other persons who have a limited basis to evaluate your intellectual ability, academic skills, or potential for law study seldom provide valuable information for the admissions committee.
- For PharmD admission requirements, please visit [www.pharmacy.buffalo.edu/admissions\\_pharmd.shtml](http://www.pharmacy.buffalo.edu/admissions_pharmd.shtml)

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Prospective candidates must submit separate applications and be admitted to the Law School and to the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (SoPPS) according to the procedures and standards of the individual schools. Students admitted first to SoPPS may opt for the PharmD/JD during the first professional (P1) year. Applications and instructions to the Law School can be found at <http://law.buffalo.edu/Admissions>.

## CURRICULUM

The dual degree PharmD/JD program involves the fundamental elements of each program. To meet the requirements for a JD, students must successfully complete 90 credits of course work, 30 in the core first-year program. The remaining 60 credits are earned through elective courses, including one seminar. Four SoPPS courses worth a total of nine credits will be cross-listed with the Law School and attributable as credit toward the JD degree. The Law School also allows students to apply a maximum of 9 non-law credits toward the JD, allowing students additional flexibility in designing their program.



PharmD/JD candidates are required to complete the following Law School courses: Administrative Law; Intellectual Property Law; Food and Drug Administration Law, and Public Health Law, plus 12 additional credits from a selection of health law-related electives. Students also may select a concentration in either Health Law or Technology and Intellectual Property Law, either of which would complement the collaborative program. The maximum period for completion of the JD is 5 years.

To meet the requirements for the PharmD degree, students must complete 139 credit hours, which include 92 credit hours in the required curriculum, 10 credit hours offered through the School of Law, and 37 credit hours in the experiential year. The four three-credit Law School courses cross-listed with the SoPPS constitute the only electives for this component of the collaborative program.

**COURSE SEQUENCING FOR PHARMD/JD COMBINED DEGREE PROGRAMS**

**A. Years One and Two**

Students have the option to initiate the collaborative program in either school. In years one and two, students will complete the first year of Law School and the first year of the PharmD program, beginning in either school. The first year of Law School is 30 credit hours, while the first year of the PharmD program is 33 credit hours.

**B. Year Three**

Law Credit Hours – 18

Pharmacy Credit Hours – 22

Cross-listed – One 2-credit pharmacy course; three 3-credit law courses

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Introduction to Health Law*	3	Law Courses (2)	6
Law Course	3	Health Care Regulation	3
Public Health Law*	3	PHM 508 Pharmacoinformatics**	2
PHC 531 Introduction to PK/BP	4	PHC 532 Introduction to PK/BP II	2
PMY 511 Pharmacology I	4	PHM 532 Professional Practice II	3
PHM 531 Professional Practice I	3	PMY 512 Pharmacology II	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>		<b>20</b>

\* Law School courses cross-listed with Pharmacy

\*\* Pharmacy School courses cross-listed with Law

**C. Year Four**

Law Credit Hours – 18

Pharmacy Credit Hours – 16

Cross-listed – One 3-credit law course; one 2-credit and one 1-credit pharmacy course

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Law Courses (3) including IP Law*	9	Law Courses (3)	9
PHM 510 Pharmacotherapeutics I	4	PHM 511 Pharmacotherapeutics II	4
PHC 533 Applied Clinical PK	2	PHM 509 Patient Assessment**	2
PHM 517 Pharmaceutical Care III	1	PHM 518 Pharmaceutical Care IV	1
PHM 561 IPPE-2a	1	PHM 562 IPPE-2b	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>		<b>17</b>

**D. Year Five**

**NOTE: JD AWARDED ON COMPLETION OF YEAR 5**

Law Credit Hours – 18

Pharmacy Credit Hours – 17

Cross-listed – Two 2-credit pharmacy courses

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Law Course (2)	6	Law Courses (4)	12
PHC 517 Pharmacogenomics**	2	PHM 513 Pharmacotherapeutics IV	4
PHM 506 Biostatistics in Pharmacy**	2	PHM 662 IPPE-3b	1
PHM 519 Pharmaceutical Care V	2	PHM 520 Pharmaceutical Care VI	1
PHM 512 Pharmacotherapeutics III	4		
PHM 661 IPPE-3a	1		
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>		<b>18</b>

\* Law School courses cross-listed with Pharmacy

\*\* Pharmacy School courses cross-listed with Law

Please note: Students May Take IPPE-2a or IPPE-2b during the summer.



**E. Year Six (Experiential Year)**

**NOTE: PHARM D AWARDED ON COMPLETION OF YEAR 6**

Pharmacy Credit Hours – 37

Advanced pharmacy practice experiences are academic learning experiences in patient care settings and are a vital component of the doctor of pharmacy program. The advanced pharmacy practice experiences involve the students in the provision of advanced clinical pharmacy services and provide experience in various medical sub-specialty environments. Major goals are the development of independent judgment and the integration of fundamental knowledge with clinical applications. These advanced pharmacy practice experiences are conducted throughout the Western New York region (Buffalo, Rochester, etc.). Each module of advanced pharmacy practice experiences time is six weeks. Required advanced pharmacy practice experiences include a minimum of six core rotations. Additional time may be spent in any of these areas if the student desires. Courses include:

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| PHM 620 Inpatient Care                | PHM 631 Clinical Research Elective         |
| PHM 621 Inpatient Care Specialization | PHM 640 Professional Experiential Elective |
| PHM 623 Outpatient Care               | PHM 641 Professional Practice Elective     |
| PHM624 Outpatient Care Specialization | PHM 598 Professional Development (1 Hour)  |
| PHM 630 Professional Selectives       |  |

**SUMMARY OF CREDIT REQUIREMENTS**

Credit Hours	JD	PharmD
Curriculum – Individual Programs	Year 1 or 2 – 30 hours Years 3-5 – 60 hours Total: 90 hours	Years 1-3: Required – 92 hours Electives – 10 hours  Year 6: Experiential Year – 139 hours
Curriculum – Combined Program	Year 1 or 2 – 30 hours Years 3-5 – 60 hours Total: 90 hours	Years 1-5: Required – 88 hours Electives – 12 hours  Year 6: Experiential Year – 137 hours

**CURRICULUM AND APPLICATION TIMELINE**

Professional Year 1:

- First professional year of the PharmD program
- Complete the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) by February
- Apply to the Law School by March 1<sup>st</sup>

Professional Year 2:

- Second professional year of the PharmD program
- Select Clinical Research Track
- Must have a GPA of at least 3.0

Professional Year 3 and 4:

- Both PharmD and JD programs

Professional Year 5:

- Both PharmD and JD programs
- JD awarded

Professional Year 6:

- PharmD Experiential Year
- PharmD awarded

**TUITION**

First professional year: Undergraduate Tuition

Second professional year: JD Tuition

Third and fourth professional year: PharmD Tuition

Fifth professional year: PharmD Tuition

For current tuition rates and fees, visit: <http://src.buffalo.edu/studentaccount/tuition.shtml>

**NOTE: Curriculum and all requirements may change.**