



Three-Year Curriculum vs. Three-and-a-Half-Year Curriculum

Beginning in the fall of 2019, students have a choice in the length of their curriculum in the Doctor of Pharmacy Program. Each option is specially designed to provide students with the flexibility and opportunities they desire.

- Three-year curriculum** offers a fast-track, intensive program that prepares students to begin their pharmacy careers as quickly as possible while still benefiting from a well-rounded education focused on excellent patient care. Students in this program attend courses year-round, including summers, and graduate in late August.
- Three-and-a-half-year curriculum** offers two summers free of coursework, which may be used for pharmacy enrichment experiences, such as summer internships, research, and/or a pharmacy-related job. Students in this program graduate in early March, which allows them to get a jump start on their job search or prepare for residency training.

	Three-year curriculum	Three-and-a-half-year curriculum
Pre-Pharmacy Requirements	Identical prerequisites. Minimum two years of undergraduate coursework.	
Admissions Process	During admissions process, indicate which curriculum length is preferred.* Three-year curriculum applicants should apply early, as this option has limited enrollment.	During admissions process, indicate which curriculum length is preferred.*
Length of Curriculum	3 years	3 years, plus 2 quarters
Beginning Term	Fall quarter	
Final Term	Summer quarter	Winter quarter
Graduation	End of August/early September	End of February/early March
Curriculum	Identical courses and assessments. Schedules and delivery methods may vary.	
Summers	Required coursework during summers, so students are enrolled in courses for three academic years with no summer breaks.	Two summers free of coursework, which may be used for internships, research, work experiences, rest, and relaxation.
Tuition	Total tuition is identical. Savings in living expenses may be realized if full-time employment begins soon after graduation.	Total tuition is identical.
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graduate earlier than classmates, so enter the job market sooner. Graduate later in the calendar year, so avoid general post-graduation rush to land jobs. Opportunity to work before beginning residency program in the following July. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summers off for pharmacy enrichment experiences. Graduate earlier than other Pharm.D. programs, so earlier start in the job search. Graduate early so can prepare for licensure exam and ensure licensure for residency programs that begin in July.

* Program Selection

For traditional applicants, program selection is made in the Midwestern University section of the PharmCAS application. For Dual Acceptance Program (DAP) or Pre-Pharmacy Advantage (PPA) Program students, curriculum selection will be made after the satisfactory completion of the first year of pre-pharmacy coursework. If demand for the three-year curriculum exceeds the number of seats available, then applicants will be offered seats in the three-and-a-half-year curriculum and placed on the three-year curriculum wait list, which will be managed throughout the application cycle.