Admission to pharmacy school is a highly selective process. Besides the prerequisite courses listed below, pharmacy school admissions committees consider scores on the Pharmacy College Admission (PCAT), grades, letters of recommendation, experience in the field, and interviews. Students considering a career in pharmacy are strongly encouraged to get some experience with a pharmacist. The application for admission to pharmacy school is submitted through the Pharmacy College Application Service (PharmCAS).

**Prerequisite courses for Pharmacy School**

Pre-pharmacy students may major in any academic area, as long as they successfully complete the standard science prerequisite courses. While students should be careful to choose the courses specifically required at each school of pharmacy to which they plan to apply, the general science prerequisites include:

- 2 semesters of inorganic chemistry
- 2 semesters of organic chemistry (a biochemistry course is sometimes accepted in substitution for organic II)
- 1 semester of biochemistry
- 2 semesters of physics
- 2 -3 semesters of biology or zoology (many pharmacy schools specifically require courses in microbiology, anatomy, and physiology)
- 1 semester of calculus
- 2 semesters of English (writing)
- 1 semester of speech
- 1 semester of psychology or sociology
- 1 semester of statistics
- 1 semester of economics

Other suggested courses include business, computer science, foreign language, fine arts, humanities, and the social/behavioral sciences.
A sample schedule for a pre-pharmacy student with a major in biochemistry

All courses are 4-credit hours unless otherwise marked

First Year

Fall
CH 111. General Chemistry I
MA 133. Intro. to functions
First Year Seminar
CO 101 Speech Fundamentals

Spring
CH 112. General Chemistry II
PS 101, Intro. to Psychology
EN 121, Prin. of Writing
BI 110 Biological Investigation

Second Year

Fall
CH 203 Organic Chemistry
BI 207 Genetics
Foreign Language I
MA 213, Calculus I

Spring
CH 204 Organic Chemistry
BI 245 Microbiology
Foreign Language II
BLUEPrint Connected Course

Third Year

Fall
CH 309 Biochemistry I
PY 181 General Physics I
EN 205 Intermed. Expository Writing
EC 105 Principles of Economics

Spring
CH 310 Biochemistry II
Physics 182, General II
BI 310 Immunology
BLUEPrint elective

Fourth Year

Fall
CH 341 Physical Chemistry
*CH 441 Senior Seminar I
BI 315 Anatomy and Physiology I
MA 123 Statistics
*2 credit hours

Spring
BI 307 Cell/Molecular Biology
*CH 442 Senior Seminar II
BI 316 Anatomy and Physiology II
BLUEPrint elective

Where have Illinois College graduates studied pharmacy?

In the past fifteen years Illinois College students have attended pharmacy schools as follows:

University of Illinois-Chicago (2)  University of Iowa (2)
Southern Illinois University--Edwardsville (2)  Midwestern University College of Pharmacy (3)
University of Colorado (1)  Creighton University (1)
University of Wisconsin-Madison (1)  University of Minnesota (1)
University of Tennessee-Memphis (1)  Samford University (1)

IC students have also been accepted at
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, St. Louis College of Pharmacy, University of Cincinnati,
Drake University, Butler University, and Regis University