

## PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

### PREPROFESSIONAL PHARMACY

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

FACULTY OF PHARMACY AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

UPDATED FEBRUARY 2012

This Academic Planning Guide highlights major points only regarding admission and transfer. Students are advised to read the university and RDC calendars, and the Alberta Transfer Guide for other necessary information. Some courses listed may have prerequisites; refer to [Course Descriptions](#). Access this guide online: [www.rdc.ab.ca/academic\\_advising](http://www.rdc.ab.ca/academic_advising).

#### PLEASE NOTE THAT:

- Some professional programs have a limited number of seats available according to province of origin;
- Some professional programs do not accept international students;
- Neither completing preprofessional program requirements nor the GPA received guarantees admission to a professional program;
- Entrance requirements for professional programs vary as per university. It is a student's responsibility to ensure they are taking correct preprofessional coursework for a university other than specified in the title of this guide;
- The information in this guide is a summary only and students are strongly advised to consult the calendar for the university they wish to attend. This guide is for UofA only.

The minimum requirement for admission to the 4-year BSc Pharmacy program is the satisfactory completion of 30 credits (\*30) taken in specific prerequisite courses. This collection of courses is called a preprofessional program. A preprofessional program is not a degree program and therefore students must choose an undergraduate degree to work towards while preparing for admission to BSc Pharmacy. Admission to any professional program is extremely competitive and the university strongly encourages students to enrol in a degree program and take the prerequisite coursework within that degree while preparing for admission. Pursue a degree that is of interest to you, suitable for possible future employment, and flexible enough to accommodate as many prerequisite courses as possible. Program and admission requirements for BSc Pharmacy and the degree program will differ; both sets of requirements must be met.

Application to the BSc Pharmacy degree has two components: (1) pre-Pharmacy courses and (2) a Letter of Intent. A Test of Spoken English (TSE) is also required. The Letter of Intent allows applicants to state career goals, knowledge of the profession, employment or volunteer experience, and other personal attributes that may be relevant for consideration by the Admissions Committee. There is considerable demand for admission to BSc Pharmacy. Selection from the applicant pool is on a competitive basis and thus not all qualified candidates are offered admission. Admission preference is given to candidates who have demonstrated an ability to perform well in a consecutive Fall/Winter session of full-time study (preferably \*30) and who have demonstrated sufficient promise to successfully complete the program and gain licensure as pharmacists. Generally over 600 applications are received for 130 seats.

## PREREQUISITE COURSES FOR ADMISSION TO BSC PHARMACY

REQUIRED COURSES	# OF CREDITS	COURSES TAKEN AT RED DEER COLLEGE
Statistics	3	STAT 251
Biochemistry	3	BIOC 301 or BIOC 393
General Chemistry	6	CHEM 211/212
Organic Chemistry	6	CHEM 351/352
Biology	3	BIOL 217
Calculus	3	MATH 202 or MATH 203
English	6	ENGL 219/220

## SUGGESTED PATTERN OF COURSES YEAR 1<sup>1</sup>

FALL	WINTER
BIOL 217 (3)	CHEM 212 (3)
CHEM 211(3)	CHEM 351 (3)
ELECTIVE (3) <sup>1-3</sup>	ELECTIVE (3) <sup>1-3</sup>
MATH 202 (or 203) <sup>3</sup>	STAT 251 (3)
ENGL 219 (3)	ENGL 220 (3)

1. This **first year suggested pattern of courses** includes eight of the ten prerequisite courses. You are strongly encouraged to follow the academic planning guide for the degree you are working towards while preparing for admission to BSc Pharmacy *and take the prerequisite courses within that program*. If you do not choose a degree you may follow this pattern and choose the electives from the course list below; they may or may not fit your degree choice later.
2. Electives: ANTH, BIOL 218, 317, CLAS, CMPT 201, ECON, FREN, GEOG, HIST, MATH, PHIL, POLI, PSYC, SOCI. For further information about elective courses see the Fact Sheet in [http://www.pharm.ualberta.ca/en/Prospective\\_Students.aspx](http://www.pharm.ualberta.ca/en/Prospective_Students.aspx).
3. Students with 70% or higher in Math 31 should take MATH 203 instead of MATH 202.

The course pattern for the **second year of study** will be determined by the degree program you are working towards. Include any remaining prerequisite courses in year two.

### ALL STUDENTS TAKING THIS PROGRAM ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO:

- Consult [Course Descriptions](#) for any course prerequisites,
- Check the [Alberta Transfer Guide](#) concerning course credit transfer to Alberta universities,
- Consult the university calendar for their destination university, and
- Consult RDC academic planning guides for program and admission requirements for the degree pursued while preparing for admission to the professional program. Academic planning guides are available for university transfer programs to which RDC admits.

## ADMISSION CHECKLIST

1. Grades of 6 or 7 in these IB (higher-level) courses are accepted: IB Chemistry for CHEM 211; IB Biology for BIOL 217; IB English will meet English requirement. See <http://alis.alberta.ca/ec/ep/aas/ta/ibap.html>.
2. **Admission** to the 4-year BSc Pharmacy program is very competitive. A GPA of 3.5 is required to be considered for admission. There is no guaranteed admission GPA. Applicants with more than one year of university study are

admitted on a cumulative GPA taken on their last two years of study. Although students are not required to take all prerequisite courses in one year, a course load of five 3-credit courses (\*15) in each term is expected. Applicants who took five courses per term in an academic year and achieved a competitive GPA are looked at more favourably than those with a light course load and a competitive GPA.

3. Out of the 602 applications received for Fall 11, 131 were accepted.
4. Applicants are ranked primarily on academic achievement in the prerequisite courses. Other factors considered in ranking include overall academic achievement (emphasizing recent academic performance), and a demonstrated ability to perform well in a consecutive Fall/Winter session of full-time study (preferably \*30 units). Other requirements include a Test of Spoken English (TSE) and a Letter of Intent.
5. Applications are accepted from out-of-province students. A minimum 3.7 GPA is suggested for out-of-province applicants.
6. The Faculty may provide one position to an Aboriginal applicant, over the regular quota of 130 students. See [14.1.2.\(2\)](#) and [15.12.2 Aboriginal Applicants](#) for further information.
7. If a student has previously taken prerequisite courses before starting the pre-pharmacy program, additional courses must be added to ensure a course load of five courses per term. Senior level science courses and/or courses to fulfil requirements in the student's preparation degree are recommended.
8. If you did not do as well as you wished in a prerequisite course but received a transferable grade of C- or more, it is recommended you take the next level higher in that subject. Do not repeat a course if a grade of C- or higher was earned. When calculating the admission GPA for the required courses, the better grade in the subject area will be used.
9. **Spring Courses:** Applicants are encouraged to have all their course entrance requirements in place by the end of June in the year they will apply. Contact the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences if you are considering taking a course in the spring term of your year of application. Do this well in advance.
10. See [BSc Pharmacy Admission Requirements](#) for detailed information.  
**Deadline for application and Letter of Intent:** March 1<sup>st</sup>  
**Deadline for transcripts:** June 15<sup>th</sup>  
**Interim transcripts** used for conditional admission evaluations may be submitted to the Faculty by the applicant; contact the Faculty for more information.
11. A minimum grade of C- must be achieved in order for a course to be transferable. However, while courses with grades of D or F will not transfer for credit, they remain on your transcript and will be used in calculation of your admission GPA.
12. **Course Attempts:** UofA will permit *two* attempts only in any transferable course. Attempts include: withdrawal (WD), non-transferable grade (below C-) and a failing grade on courses taken at any college or university. Students should consult with the Faculty if this ruling affects them. Please note that where the applicant has more than one transferable grade for the same course, only the first transferable grade is used in calculating the GPA for admission purposes.
13. **Academic Status:** Applicants who have earned a GPA below 2.0 in any year at a post-secondary institute should consult with the Registrar's Office at UofA concerning their academic status and admission eligibility to the Faculty of Science (if applicable) and the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Consult the academic planning guide for your preparation degree program for important transfer admission information.

## HOW TO FIND MORE INFORMATION

### [Science Department](#)

Warren Elgersma, Chairperson  
Office: 1607-E 403-343-4052  
[warren.elgersma@rdc.ab.ca](mailto:warren.elgersma@rdc.ab.ca)  
[http://www.rdc.ab.ca/about\\_rdc/academic\\_departments/sciences](http://www.rdc.ab.ca/about_rdc/academic_departments/sciences)

### [Academic Advising](#)

Academic Advising Centre Room: 1102  
[advisors@rdc.ab.ca](mailto:advisors@rdc.ab.ca) 403-342-3400  
[http://www.rdc.ab.ca/academic\\_advising](http://www.rdc.ab.ca/academic_advising)

### [RDC Website](#)

<http://www.rdc.ab.ca>

### [RDC Timetable](#)

<http://www.rdc.ab.ca/timetable>

### [Alberta Transfer Guide](#)

<http://www.acat.gov.ab.ca>

### [Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences](#)

Student Services 780-492-3363  
[studentservices@pharmacy.ualberta.ca](mailto:studentservices@pharmacy.ualberta.ca)  
<http://www.pharm.ualberta.ca/>

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

Be aware that you are responsible for ensuring that your registration is complete and appropriate and that your course choices comply with the program to which you have been admitted at Red Deer College and/or to the university to which you wish to transfer.

You are cautioned that any changes to your courses, your major or your transfer destination may adversely affect your transferable credit or admission requirements for future programs. Consult with an academic advisor if you have any questions.

The function of academic advisors is to provide students with information and resources that enable them to make informed decisions relevant to their education. These resources include the Red Deer College Calendar, the Academic Planning Guide for your chosen program and destination university, the Alberta Transfer Guide and the calendar and contact information for your destination university. Academic advisors will assist you in interpreting information from these resources or refer you to your destination university if appropriate. Students in university transfer programs are strongly advised to refer to the calendar of the university to which they wish to transfer and should contact appropriate university departments as required.