

You're studying for a Science degree but would like to become a pharmacist...

How do I become a Pharmacist?

According to the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI), to become a pharmacist in Ireland you must:

Complete a four-year accredited pharmacy degree in a school of pharmacy in Ireland.

Complete a period of one year's practical training, approved by the PSI, under the supervision of a practising tutor pharmacist. This is referred to as "pre-registration training".

Pass the Pharmaceutical Licence Examination.

There are currently 3 recognised courses in Ireland – apply through the CAO before February 1st:

University College Cork <http://www.ucc.ie/en/pharmacy/prospectivestudents/> up to 12 places reserved for mature students (this does not mean you have to be a graduate).

Trinity College Dublin www.tcd.ie/pharmacy

Royal College of Surgeons www.rcsi.ie - graduates apply **directly** to the College. Interview. Non-science graduates need Chemistry in the Leaving Certificate.

What other options are there?

According to the PSI "Pharmacists and pharmaceutical assistants must be registered in the registers kept by the PSI in order to practise." "Newly-qualified Irish graduates or pharmacists from other EU/EEA countries must apply to the PSI for first-time registration." registration@thepsi.ie.

UK: [Royal Pharmaceutical Society](http://www.rpspharm.org) accredits UK pharmacy degree courses, supervises pharmacy graduates' pre-registration training and is responsible for the registration examination at the end of the pre-registration year.

Studying in the UK is a 3-step process –

Apply for the MPharm degree at one of the undergraduate schools of pharmacy.

On receipt of your degree complete the pre-registration training of one year.

Pass the registration exams.

There are no fast track or accelerated courses available in Pharmacy but some 'sandwich' courses include the pre-registration training as part of the course. Applications are made online through UCAS

(<http://www.ucas.com/>). Apply between 6th September and 15th January but late applications are accepted up until 30th June. However, it is advisable to apply well before 15th January. Note: many courses listed below mention the requirement of Chemistry at Leaving Certificate honours level. Specific mention of degrees considered are added after the university name.

University of Ulster: <http://www.science.ulster.ac.uk/pharmacy/>

Queens University of Belfast; <http://www.qub.ac.uk/Study/Course-Finder/UG/PharmaceuticalSciences/B210/>

A minimum of an Upper Second Class Honours degree, preferably in a relevant subject. Those with an Upper Second Class Honours degree in a non-relevant subject may be considered if they have the appropriate science background at GCSE and A-level.

Robert Gordon University Aberdeen; <http://tinyurl.com/bvxo5st>

Aston University Birmingham: <http://www.aston.ac.uk/lhs/aston-pharmacy-school/>

University of Bath: <http://www.bath.ac.uk/pharmacy/>

University of Bradford: <http://www.bradford.ac.uk/life-sciences/pharmacy/>

University of Brighton: <http://www.brighton.ac.uk/pharmacy/>

Cardiff University: <http://www.cf.ac.uk/phrmy/degreeprogrammes/undergraduate/index.html>

University of Central Lancashire: <http://www.uclan.ac.uk/schools/pharmacy/index.php>

University of Hertfordshire: <https://www.herts.ac.uk/study/schools-of-study/life-and-medical-sciences/departments/clinical-and-pharmaceutical-sciences/pharmacy>

University of Huddersfield: <https://courses.hud.ac.uk/2018-19/full-time/undergraduate/pharmacy-mpharm>

Keele University: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/pharmacy/undergraduate/>

Kingston University: <http://www.kingston.ac.uk/undergraduate-course/pharmacy/>

De Montfort University (Leicester): <http://www.dmu.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate-courses/pharmacy-mpharm-hons-degree/pharmacy-mpharm-hons.aspx>

Liverpool John Moores University: <https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/search?q=pharmacist>

Kings College London: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/pharmacy-mpharm.aspx>

University of London: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/pharmacy/>

University of Manchester: <http://www.pharmacy.manchester.ac.uk/>

University of East Anglia (Norwich): <http://www.uea.ac.uk/pha/>

Medway School of Pharmacy: <http://www.msp.ac.uk/>

University of Nottingham: <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/pharmacy/>

University of Portsmouth : <http://www.port.ac.uk/courses/health-sciences-and-social-work/mpfarm-hons-pharmacy/>

To be accepted on to this degree you will need a good basic knowledge of chemistry and biology as well as being numerate and having good communication skills in both written and spoken English.

University of Reading: <http://www.reading.ac.uk/pharmacy/>

University of Sunderland: <http://www.sunderland.ac.uk/course/103/pharmacy>

University of Wolverhampton: <http://www.wlv.ac.uk/default.aspx?page=38900>

Where can I get help with the application form?

Apply online ; <http://www.ucas.com/apply>

The [Career Development Centre](#) can give you feedback if you print a draft of the application. The personal statement is extremely important when applying and remember to include details of relevant work experience or shadowing. Showing an interest and knowledge of the career will help your application immensely.

Useful Contacts

Central Applications Office (CAO)

www.cao.ie

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland:

<http://www.thepsi.ie/gns/home.aspx>

Royal Pharmaceutical Society

<http://www.rpharms.com/home/home.asp>

Pharmacy Careers (RPS)

<https://www.rpharms.com/resources/careers-information>

NHS education and training pages.

www.nhs.uk/careers

Career Development Centre

<http://dit.ie/careers/aboutus/ourteam/>

The Career Development Centre offers advice and information in good faith on the basis of the best information available to it. The Centre does not accept any responsibility for decisions made by individuals based on such advice or information. Please check with individual universities before applying for courses.