

## Things to do the year before submitting your application to pharmacy schools

It is recommended you file your application for medical school 14 months before the fall semester you want to start pharmacy school. Below is a checklist of things you would want to have accomplished by the time you file your application. Completing this checklist of activities in the summer will make you eligible to participate in the early admission decision program sponsored by the VCU School of Pharmacy.

	Have a strong academic record with at least three semesters of course work without getting grades below a “B” or developing a pattern of withdrawals on your transcript.
	Complete at least Chem 301 and Biol 152.. It is strongly recommended that leading up to the application process to pharmacy school, you present a portfolio of courses where you are taking at least two sciences together during a consecutive period of two to three semesters.
	If completing a bachelor’s degree, check with your major program advisor to make sure you can finish your bachelor’s degree before you start pharmacy school.
	Have devoted intense preparation time to studying for the PCAT and be registered to take an exam during late spring or early summer of the year preceding your desired entry date into pharmacy school. More information about the PCAT is available on <a href="http://www.pcatweb.info">www.pcatweb.info</a>
	Attend personal statement and interviewing workshops.
	Request from faculty and health care workers individual letters of evaluation and have at least three individual letters on file with <a href="http://pharmcas.org">pharmcas</a> (link to <a href="http://www.pharmcas.org">www.pharmcas.org</a> )
	Arrange with the office of records and registration to have VCU transcripts submitted to <a href="http://pharmcas.org">pharmcas</a> . (link to <a href="http://www.pharmcas.org">www.pharmcas.org</a> )
	Arrange with the registrars from other schools where you have completed course work to have those transcripts sent to <a href="http://pharmcas.org">pharmcas</a>
	File your centralized application with <a href="http://pharmcas.org">pharmcas</a>
	Write your personal statement.
	Build a strong resume of health care experiences involving patient contact.
	Attend pre-pharmacy sponsored events, open houses, and application information sessions.
	Order a copy of the Pharmacy School Admissions Requirements from <a href="http://www.pharmcas.org">www.pharmcas.org</a> and use this publication to select the pharmacy schools to which you will apply.

If you want to apply to VCU Pharmacy School it is recommended you participate in the early decision program. This requires you get a complete application in by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Dedicate a significant amount of time during the summer to completing secondary applications.

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