



ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

College of Pharmacy
and Health Sciences



GRADUATE PROGRAMS

WELCOME FROM THE DEAN



Dear Prospective Student,

Thank you for your interest in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. The College is home to graduate programs that prepare the next generation of health-care workers who will make a positive impact on people's lives.

Faculty in our College are committed to providing you an outstanding education, both inside and outside of the classroom. You will conduct research in a wide range of pharmaceutical science and public health topics and have access to excellent health-care facilities for clinical rotations.

My team and I are here to support your success. Please contact us if you have any questions as you consider the next step of your educational journey.

Anne Y. F. Lin '84P, '86Pharm.D., FNAP
Dean and Professor
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
St. John's University

For more than 90 years, the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences at St. John's University has trained scholars and practitioners who are respected for the quality of their contributions and compassion for those they serve.

Original research and discovery through rigorous scientific investigation advances our understanding of the world and is the foundation of the master's and Ph.D. programs.

The College prepares students for research, teaching, and administrative positions in industry, academia, and government regulatory agencies.

Programs draw upon the expertise of internationally recognized faculty who specialize in designing and developing new therapeutic agents and tools, evaluating the physiological effects of drugs, and investigating the biological basis of disease.



COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES DEPARTMENTS

Department of Pharmacy Administration and Public Health

In response to the increasing demand for population-based health-care professionals, the Department of Pharmacy Administration and Public Health offers two graduate-level programs to foster leaders in public health and effective pharmacy administrators.

Pharmacy Administration (M.S.), 30–33 credits (nonthesis) and 30–33 credits (thesis), Queens Campus

This program provides you with theoretical knowledge and research skills required to advance your scholarship in pharmacy administration with practice-focused, patient-centered, and outcome-oriented expertise. The Pharmacy Administration graduate program is committed to a student-centered, inclusive, and pedagogical model that supports your personal and professional success.

Pharmaceutical Marketing is a specialized track designed to train you to be better prepared to address issues pertinent to the future of pharmaceutical marketing and patient-centered care. You are expected to complete coursework in the areas of consumer behavior, pharmaceutical marketing research, and pharmaceutical marketing promotion, and work with faculty to conduct research in these areas. The track provides you with the understanding of theoretical concepts and applied techniques of marketing that are used for the efficient delivery of pharmaceutical products and services.

Public Health (M.P.H.), 45 credits, Queens Campus

The Public Health program at St. John's was created to address the urgent need and demand for public health professionals and to meet the challenges of public health in local, state, national, and global communities. This program continues the Vincentian tradition at St. John's to address poverty and social injustice by empowering you to work with local and global communities to improve health and protect the public.

Community Health addresses a wide range of health challenges across diverse communities. This concentration provides you with the knowledge and skills needed to identify social determinants of health. Through coursework and fieldwork practice experience, you apply theory and methods for designing, implementing, and evaluating programs aimed at reducing health disparities and promoting health equity. By utilizing appropriate principles and methods from social and behavioral sciences, you address behaviors of individuals, groups, and communities.



Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

The Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and its programs provide you with fundamentals to advanced knowledge in biomedical sciences, pharmaceuticals, and toxicology. Additionally, these programs focus on the chemical and biological components of pharmacy education.

Biological and Pharmaceutical Biotechnology (M.S.), 33 Credits, Queens Campus

The program gives you a thorough understanding of scientific theory and advanced laboratory research techniques vital to success in pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. You also receive valuable internship experience in this revolutionary field. This program prepares you for an exciting career in a vital, fast-growing field where you gain the scientific and laboratory skills to conduct research that can improve lives and develop the administrative skills to advance in the biotech industry.

Pharmaceutical Sciences (M.S.), 30–33 Credits, Queens Campus

The Master of Science degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences prepares you to master topics in the pharmaceutical and biomedical fields in both educational and industry environments. Graduates are trained to develop skills in critical thinking necessary for positions in research, pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, and academic and government institutions. The program is delivered in a student-centric format that develops the interpretation of clinical research through critical analysis to foster lifelong learning.

The Master of Science degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences is offered with concentrations in

- Industrial Pharmacy
- Medicinal Chemistry
- Pharmacology
- Pharmacotherapeutics

Toxicology (M.S.), 30–33 credits, Queens Campus

Toxicology is the study of the adverse effects of biological, chemical, or physical agents on animals, the environment, and people, with the goal of enhancing the overall safety and health of the public. The program prepares you for a career in academia, industry, regulatory agencies, and research. Coursework covers a broad range of disciplines, including analytical toxicology, environmental toxicology, mechanistic toxicology, regulatory toxicology, and safety assessment.

Graduate students engage in research work closely with faculty who are experts in their respective fields and have active research programs in areas such as analytical toxicology, environmental toxicology, molecular toxicology, neurotoxicology, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, pulmonary toxicology, and renal toxicology.

Pharmaceutical Sciences (Ph.D.), 60 Credits, Queens Campus

The Doctor of Philosophy degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences prepares you for leadership roles in the evolving needs of pharmaceutical and biomedical education, research, and industry. You are trained to respond to the rapidly changing needs in a variety of fields associated with the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries and academic and government institutions. You learn fundamental skills in basic and applied research in industrial pharmacy, medicinal chemistry, pharmacology, and toxicology in a student-centric curriculum within an inclusive and collaborative learning environment.

The program of study consists of a minimum of 60 credit hours. An additional three credits are required for training in ethics that do not contribute to the 60 credits of the degree. Your coursework consists of a core curriculum and a specialization curriculum that is determined in consultation with your faculty mentor. Classes are held in the evenings to accommodate the schedules of working professionals.

You complete your degree within one of four concentrations within Pharmaceutical Sciences:

- Industrial Pharmacy
- Medicinal Chemistry
- Pharmacology
- Toxicology

Department of Health Professions

The Department of Health Professions provides you with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to become an effective practitioner in a clinical setting.

Physician Assistant, M.S., Queens Campus

The Physician Assistant (PA) program is a rigorous course of study, combining didactic and laboratory-based academic instruction with clinical training. The first two didactic years integrate medical, behavioral, and social sciences to develop a comprehensive approach to patient care. The third year of the program is dedicated to providing supervised, hands-on clinical training by physicians and physician assistants at leading New York-area hospitals, medical centers, and private medical practices.

The PA curriculum is offered exclusively in person with no online courses.

You are not permitted to work during the program (outside of peer tutoring/graduate assistantships through the College's Academic Success Center). Working while enrolled in the PA program is strongly discouraged due to the challenging nature of the curriculum.

Program Admission Requirements

Please note admission requirements differ for other programs within CPHS.

To apply to the Physician Assistant program at St. John's University, you must fill out an application with CASPA (Central Application Service for Physician Assistant Programs): <https://caspa.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>. Applications sent directly to the University or PA program are not accepted.

You must submit the appropriate documentation to be considered for admission:

- Official transcripts
- Three letters of recommendation from professionals (academic or occupational, and one must be from a health-care professional)
- Personal statement (500-word minimum) describing why you want to become a physician assistant.
- For students with credits earned outside of the United States:
 - ◆ Transcripts from international universities need to be accompanied by an evaluation from the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) naces.org. The foreign transcript evaluation must include a detailed, course-by-course comparison, including the US degree equivalency and US grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale.

- ◆ You must earn satisfactory TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, or Duolingo English Test scores and supply official scores directly to the Office of Graduate Admission. The school's official testing code is 2799. Applicants from our exempt list of countries do not need to submit an English language test score.
- St. John's requires a \$100 application fee to be submitted through the application portal. You will receive an email with login instructions to the portal after your CASPA application is verified. Applications will not be reviewed if the supplemental fee is not paid by the deadline.

The PA program requires the following minimum requirements for eligibility for admission:

- Completed baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution
- Minimum overall GPA and cumulative science GPA of 3.0 (on a scale of 4.0)
- Completion within five years of the following prerequisites:
 - ◆ General Biology with lab (two semesters or eight credits)
 - ◆ General Chemistry with lab (two semesters or eight credits)
 - ◆ Microbiology (no lab required) (one semester)
 - ◆ Human Anatomy and Physiology with lab (two semesters)
 - ◆ Organic Chemistry with labs (two semesters). Note: A Biochemistry course can be substituted for one Organic Chemistry course.
 - ◆ Behavioral Science courses (six credits) (i.e., psychology, sociology)
 - ◆ Calculus (three credits). Note: this program will consider Statistics (three credits) as a substitute.
 - ◆ English composition course (one semester)

Relevant health-care experience is strongly recommended. The PA program does not give preference to any major or favor any specified individuals or groups.

Application deadline: October 1 for fall admission. The program does not offer a spring start term.



Program ARC-PA Accreditation

At its March 2023 meeting, the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA) placed the St. John's University Physician Assistant program on Accreditation–Probation status until its next review in March 2025.

Probation accreditation is a temporary accreditation status initially of not less than two years. However, that period may be extended by the ARC-PA for up to an additional two years if it finds that the program is making substantial progress toward meeting all applicable standards but requires additional time to come into full compliance. Probation accreditation status is granted, at the sole discretion of the ARC-PA, when a program holding an accreditation status of Accreditation–Provisional or Accreditation–Continued does not, in the judgment of the ARC-PA, meet the standards or when the capability of the program to provide an acceptable educational experience for its students is threatened.

Once placed on probation, a program that fails to comply with accreditation requirements in a timely manner, as specified by the ARC-PA, may be scheduled for a focused site visit and is subject to having its accreditation withdrawn.

Specific questions regarding the program and its plans should be directed to the program director and/or the appropriate institutional official(s).

The program's accreditation history can be viewed on the ARC-PA website at www.arc-pa.org/accreditation-history-st-johns-university/.

Visit www.stjohns.edu/physicianassistant for more information on the physician assistant program.



Scan the QR code to learn more about our department and programs.

RESEARCH FACILITIES

Graduate students have access to the new, state-of-the-art St. Vincent Health Sciences Center, which opened in September 2024. The energy-efficient academic building features active learning classrooms, laboratories, simulation facilities, office space, collaborative spaces, and outdoor terraces.

FACULTY RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Saurabh Agarwal, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

Dr. Agarwal's research group is focused on deciphering the molecular and epigenetic mechanisms involved in pediatric cancer neuroblastoma and cancer stem cells. His laboratory conducts drug repurposing techniques and uses preclinical cancer models to develop effective targeted therapeutic approaches for cancer treatment.

Hyunah Cho, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

The main area of Dr. Cho's current research interest is the development of nanotechnology-based drug delivery systems (e.g., micelles, nanogels, and nanoemulsions) to treat various diseases such as brain cancer and Alzheimer's disease and visualize malignant tissues for real-time, image-guided surgery. Dr. Cho is also interested in combining pharmaceutical technology with skin care/personal care products to develop advanced cosmeceutical products.

Vikas Dukhande, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director, Pharmaceutical Sciences

Dr. Dukhande's research group focuses on developing novel brain cancer therapies by formulating and modifying the lead compound for preclinical efficacy.

Sunil Kumar, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

Dr. Kumar's lab is currently focused on investigating the role of L-PGDS, an unexplored protein in the field of glucose and lipid metabolism, in NAFLD and NASH (Nonalcoholic steatohepatitis). Researchers are interested in dissecting the mechanism of L-PGDS and its metabolite PGD2 receptor modulators, DP1 and D2 receptor agonist and antagonist, in NAFLD using insulin-resistant HepG2 cells and db/db mice subjected to a high-fat diet.

Ketan Patel, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

Dr. Patel's research group is currently focusing on combining novel proteolysis targeting chimeras (PROTAC) molecules with existing chemotherapeutic drugs for enhanced therapeutic efficacy against both pancreatic and lung cancer using preclinical and clinically relevant models.

Sandra E. Reznik, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

The current research focus of Dr. Reznik's laboratory is on developing a localized, intravaginal delivery system for targeted delivery of therapeutics that can be administered at home.

Sabesan Yoganathan, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

In this lab, student researchers gain expertise in the following scientific areas: antibacterial and anticancer drug discovery, chemical synthesis, drug design, microbiology, molecular modeling, and natural products chemistry.

CAREER OUTCOMES

The College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences is a hub of the international biomedical, health-care, and pharmaceutical industries. Extensive industry contacts provide you with abundant internship and job placement opportunities.

The student population is highly diverse and comes from across the United States, as well as several countries abroad. St. John's alumni currently work for Avon Products, Inc.; The Estée Lauder Companies Inc.; the National Institutes of Health; Novartis; Pfizer Inc.; Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; the US Environmental Protection Agency; and the US Food and Drug Administration, as well as medical schools across the US.

92.5%

of graduate students were employed full time or in enrolled in another degree within six months of graduation.*

86%

of graduate students are employed in their desired field.*

96%

of graduate students would recommend St. John's.*



ALUMNI SUCCESS STORIES

"There are many resources available at the University, and it is a great community where you can be involved in a wide range of activities. The physician assistant program is in Queens, near the heart of New York City. I had access to many clinical sites that are directed toward my goal as a health-care provider to increase the provision of health-care services to underserved patients and communities."

—**David Meni '23GP**
M.S. in Physician Assistant



"The Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences offers exciting courses and great faculty. The versatile research happening at the College in novel drug/gene delivery systems in the field of oncology drew me to St. John's."

—**Aishwarya Saraswat '23Ph.D.**
Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences

*The data here is representative of the three graduating classes (i.e., September 2022, January 2023, and May 2023) from the three main campuses (Queens, Staten Island, and Manhattan). It pertains only to the 62% of graduates who responded to the survey and includes graduates who may have been employed prior to graduation.



SCHOLARSHIPS

Merit Scholarships

Students admitted to a master's program (with the exception of the Physician Assistant program) are automatically considered for merit scholarships. Awards range from \$3,000 to \$9,000. The admission application is used to determine merit scholarship eligibility automatically; no additional application is required. Scholarships are awarded based on your academic ability, School/College, and program of study. You are notified of your award in your acceptance letter.

Alumni Scholarships

Alumni scholarships are automatically awarded to students accepted to a master's program who have already earned a bachelor's, master's, or doctorate degree from St. John's University.

Scholarships are stackable, but cannot be combined with assistantships.

ADMISSION

In addition to the online application at grad.stjohns.edu/apply, you should also submit the following:

- Statement of professional goals and résumé
- Official transcripts from all undergraduate, graduate, and professional schools attended
- Two to three letters of recommendation obtained from professional or academic references
- Applicants with credits completed outside of the United States must have a course-by-course foreign credit evaluation with a grade point average calculation completed by a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (www.naces.org/members).
- Applicants who have not completed a degree from our English language-exempt countries must submit a TOEFL, IELTS, Duolingo English Test, or Pearson PTE Academic exam.
- Some programs require applicants to submit a satisfactory Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score. St. John's official testing code is 2799. Waivers may be available for your program. A GRE may also be requested on a case-by-case basis for select programs.

The above criteria applies to all programs, with the exception of the M.S. in Physician Assistant, which can be found on pages six and seven.

ADMISSION CONTACT

Office of Graduate Admission
718-990-1601
gradhelp@stjohns.edu



ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

OFFICE OF GRADUATE ADMISSION
718-990-1601
GRADHELP@STJOHNS.EDU

8000 UTOPIA PARKWAY
QUEENS, NY 11439
WWW.STJOHNS.EDU



SCAN TO REQUEST INFORMATION AND FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

St. John's University does not discriminate on the basis of race; color; national origin; sex; actual or potential parental, family, or marital status; pregnancy and related conditions; disability; age; or any other characteristic protected by law in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Danielle Haynes, Director of Equal Opportunity and Compliance and Title IX Coordinator, Office of Human Resources, 8000 Utopia Parkway, Queens, NY 11439, 718-990-1865, press 4; haynesd1@stjohns.edu.

ANNUAL SECURITY AND FIRE SAFETY REPORT

The University's *Annual Security and Fire Safety Report*, which contains three years of campus crime and fire safety statistics and campus security policy and procedures, is available online at www.stjohns.edu/safetyreport. Upon request, prospective students may obtain a paper copy by contacting the Department of Public Safety at 718-990-1435.

To access key consumer disclosures required under the Higher Education Opportunity Act, visit www.stjohns.edu/Consumer.

Visit www.stjohns.edu/Compliance for the University's information on compliance policies.