

Pharmacy



Promoting well-being through the quality use of medicines

Pharmacists play an important role in primary health care and the development and distribution of medicines. UniSA's Bachelor of Pharmacy helps students develop the scientific knowledge, clinical experience and communication skills needed to succeed in the profession.

Careers

Pharmacy graduates enjoy a range of career options working in community pharmacy, hospital pharmacy, government and regulatory agencies, the pharmaceutical industry, research and academia. Many graduates go on to own their own pharmacies, and some work as private consultants. Internationally, UniSA graduates are working in the United Kingdom, Canada and the USA, Malaysia, Hong Kong and China.

Starting salary range

Registered pharmacists can expect to earn around \$50,000-\$70,000 per year depending on performance and level of responsibility. (During their pre-registration year, graduates earn a training wage starting around \$33,000)

Pharmacy at UniSA

UniSA's Bachelor of Pharmacy is the only undergraduate pharmacy degree available in South Australia, taught at City East campus in the heart of Adelaide's premier medical research and training precinct.

Professional recognition

Successful completion of the program will satisfy the academic requirements for registration as a pharmacist under the Pharmacists' Act of South Australia. Eligibility for registration in South Australia is determined by the Pharmacy Board of South Australia and includes a suitably recognised and appropriate period of training under the supervision of the SA Board. Pharmacists registered in South Australia can work in other Australian states and New Zealand, but should contact the relevant registering body if they intend to work in other countries.



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"I enjoy working as a pharmacist because you're in a unique position where you can make a difference to people's lives by helping them improve their health. It's also a profession that's in much demand – I was fortunate enough to be offered a pre-registrant position during my final year of study"

Cath Leggett
Graduated 2007



"The role of the pharmacist is changing, and one of the great strengths of UniSA's program is the way it has kept up with industry developments. With its emphasis on clinical expertise and communication skills, the Bachelor of Pharmacy produces graduates who are well-equipped to meet the challenges of modern pharmaceutical practice."

Grant Kardachi
President, Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, SA Branch

Students have access to state-of-the-art facilities, including new purpose-built laboratories and a model pharmacy equipped with systems similar to those used in real pharmacies. Dedicated staff and an active pharmacy students' association help to create a supportive environment where each student is encouraged to do their best.

The program begins with broad training in physical and biological sciences in the first year, followed by more advanced studies in pharmaceuticals, medicinal chemistry, pharmacology, pharmacotherapeutics and pharmacy practice in the latter years.

Graduate skills

By the time you graduate you will have a thorough knowledge of medicines and their place in the treatment of illness and the prevention of disease. You will have the skills to prepare prescriptions and the ability to provide drug information to consumers and other health care professionals. The degree equips graduates with the confidence and communication skills to counsel patients from all walks of life, as well as an awareness of the business and regulatory issues relevant to pharmacy practice.

Industry experience

An extensive clinical placement program provides UniSA pharmacy students with a solid foundation of practical experience upon which to build. Each student takes part in a range of work-based placements in pharmacy and pharmacy-related settings during the program.

Research opportunities

High achieving students may be eligible to undertake Honours as part of the four-year program, which can lead on to PhD and research opportunities at UniSA's Sansom Institute and other research organisations and universities.

Entry requirements

For information on entry requirements, see:

- The program website at www.unisanet.unisa.edu.au/programs/program.asp?Program=IBPH
- UniSA's Medical and Health Sciences booklet
- The School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences website at www.unisa.edu.au/pmbs

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