

College of Pharmacy and Health Professions

Career Readiness Skills

Pharmacy

Employers look for the skills listed below when hiring new graduates. Use the descriptions as a reference to select which skills you feel you have developed. Meet with your academic advisor and faculty mentor to discuss which classes to take and other opportunities to strengthen areas where you are missing or need more experience.

Adaptability:

Develop the ability to adjust one's behavior, mindset, and approach in response to changing circumstances while maintaining productivity and effectiveness.

- Adjust priorities when patient needs or prescription volume change.
- Learn new pharmacy systems and medication protocols.
- Stay calm and productive when workflow or expectations shift.

Career & Self-Development:

Advance your career through continuous learning, self-awareness, exploring opportunities, and networking.

- Explore pharmacy careers in community, hospital, clinical, and industry settings.
- Identify strengths in science, accuracy, communication, and patient education.
- Use rotations, internships, and mentoring to test interests.

Communication:

Clearly and effectively exchange information, ideas, facts, and perspectives with people inside and outside an organization.

- Communicate clearly with patients, caregivers, prescribers, and pharmacy staff.
- Listen actively and respond in understandable language.
- Adapt communication for different ages, cultures, and health literacy levels.

Critical Thinking:

Identify and respond to needs based on an understanding of situational context and a logical analysis of relevant information.

- Analyze patient profiles, medication lists, and data before recommending changes.
- Evaluate evidence and guidelines when resolving drug-related problems.
- Consider safety, efficacy, and patient-specific factors in decisions.

Leadership:

Recognize and use personal and team strengths to achieve shared goals and support positive outcomes.

- Take initiative to improve workflow, patient education, or safety.
- Support peers and staff by modeling professionalism and reliability.
- Help organize tasks and responsibilities in practice settings.

Professionalism:

Exhibit strong work habits, adapt to different organizational environments, and act in the best interest of the workplace and community.

- Arrive prepared, meet deadlines, and follow through on responsibilities.
- Demonstrate integrity, confidentiality, and ethical behavior.
- Adapt to different pharmacy environments and expectations.

Teamwork:

Build and maintain collaborative relationships to work effectively toward common goals while appreciating diverse viewpoints and shared responsibilities.

- Collaborate effectively with technicians, pharmacists, prescribers, and teams.
- Take responsibility for assigned tasks and shared goals.
- Respect diverse perspectives and address conflict constructively.

Technology:

Understand and leverage technologies ethically to enhance efficiencies, complete tasks, and accomplish goals.

- Use pharmacy software and clinical decision-support tools effectively.
- Evaluate digital information for accuracy, relevance, and credibility.
- Use technology responsibly and ethically, especially around privacy and regulations.