



PHARMCAS

Pharmacy College Application Service

Early Decision

1. When is the Early Decision Deadline?

A. The Early Decision deadline for applicants is September 4, 2018.

2. If I apply for Early Decision, by which date should I know whether I was accepted?

A. Pharmacy schools must submit an admission decision for all of their Early Decision applicants by the PharmCAS “verdict” date on October 19, 2018.

3. Should we include classes we are scheduled to take during this upcoming Fall semester in the transcript entry, if we are applying Early Decision?

A. Yes. You will have the option to list in-progress coursework.

4. Can you apply Early Decision to one school and also apply as a regular applicant for other schools at the same time?

A. If you are applying Early Decision, you can only apply to one Early Decision school. If you are not accepted by your Early Decision school, you will then be released and will be able to apply other schools as a regular applicant by the “verdict” date on October 19, 2018.

5. Does applying Early Decision to a program put you at a disadvantage for the other programs (timing-wise, since your application won’t be available until after the Early Decision deadline)?

A. Many pharmacy schools operate on a rolling admissions process and make offers to applicants throughout the cycle. While uncommon, it is possible that a school with a limited number of seats available may fill its next entering class before Early Decision verdict date on October 19. You are encouraged to apply early in the admissions cycle as regular applicant, if you’re considering multiple schools. If you do apply through Early Decision and not accepted for any reason, your PharmCAS application will already be complete and verified, so you will not need to wait for your application to be processed again. At that time, you will be able to submit to any program you would like. Additional school-specific admission requirements and fees may apply.

6. Can you apply as Early Decision before taking the PCAT?

A. Yes. PharmCAS does not require the PCAT score to have the application submitted to the schools you are applying to. However, the schools you are applying to may require the official report/scores by the Early Decision deadline. Visit the PharmCAS School

Directory and click the “Required Tests” tab to view school-specific PCAT requirements. If the school requires the PCAT for admission and your PCAT scores will be available after the Early Decision deadline in September, contact the school directly for guidance.

- 7. If you apply as Early Decision, but do not get accepted, do you need to wait for the following year or can you reapply after October?**
 - A. You would be able to apply to additional programs as a regular applicant after the Early Decision Verdict date on October 19, 2018. You do NOT need to wait until the next cycle to apply to additional schools.

- 8. For Early Decision, do you need to have your transcripts sent by the Early Decision deadline or does the transcript need to be received by the deadline?**
 - A. All transcripts must arrive at PharmCAS by the Early Decision deadline of September 4, 2018. PharmCAS is not responsible for mail or delivery delays.

- 9. If deferred from Early Decision, will the fee be \$175.00 to apply again regularly to the same school?**
 - A. No, the base fee to apply to one school is \$175.00. You will pay \$55.00 for each additional program after the first.

- 10. My school requires a PCAT score, however, it has noted that the application can be submitted before my scores are received by PharmCAS. How can we add PCAT scores to our application?**
 - A. Please contact Pearson and request your official scores to be sent to the PharmCAS code 104. Be sure to add your PCAT CID to your application, so your official scores can be matched to your application.

- 11. Is the Early Decision process rolling admission? Or does it vary by school?**
 - A. Early Decision has a firm deadline of September 4, 2018. Pharmacy schools may begin to review completed Early Decision applications before the September deadline has passed.

- 12. Are letters of recommendation for Early Decision due on September 4?**
 - A. PharmCAS will not hold your application for missing letters of recommendation (evaluations). However, the pharmacy school may not review your application until your evaluations are received, if evaluations are required by the school. If your evaluations will be late, still arrange for them to be submitted to PharmCAS as soon as possible and contact the school for guidance. Visit the PharmCAS School Directory for school-specific evaluation requirements.

- 13. How many times does the GPA update during the Early Decision cycle? If I finish summer school should I sent it in and it recalculates my GPA?**
 - A. If you submit your application before your summer grades are available, PharmCAS will verify your courses and calculate a set of GPAs for you through the end of your spring 2018 term. You can update your summer 2018 grades, as well as any newly completed

fall 2018 grades, during the Fall Academic Update period that will open in December. PharmCAS will calculate a new set of GPAs during the Academic Update, once your updated courses and fall grades are received and verified.

PCAT and Standardized Tests

- 1. How do I make sure my PCAT scores will be linked to my PharmCAS application?**
 - A. Arrange for Pearson to send your official PCAT scores to PharmCAS using School Code 104. Pearson will send your most recent set of PCAT scores and test results from up to four other previous attempts in the last five years. Also, enter your test information on the Standardized Tests page in the application. Be sure to enter your PCAT CID number.
- 2. How do you get your PCAT CID?**
 - A. Pearson will provide you with a CID when you register for the exam.
- 3. Am I able to submit my application before I take my PCAT?**
 - A. Yes! PharmCAS does not hold your file for missing PCAT scores. Under the Standardized Test section of the application, you can report the date that you plan to take the test. Once you have your PCAT CID number, log back into your application and add the CID to the planned PCAT test date that you previously entered.
- 4. Can I apply Early Decision if I take my PCAT in September or do my scores need to be in before I apply?**
 - A. You can apply to Early Decision without your PCAT Scores. PharmCAS does not require PCAT scores to submit. Please check directly with the program you are applying to regarding their admission requirements.

Transcripts and Official Documents

- 1. If I received College credit in high school through a different College, am I required to enter that College on the application?**
 - A. Yes, you must report all college credit on the application, including those credits earned while you were in high school. The coursework must be listed under the college that originally granted you the credit. You must also arrange for an official transcript for that college to be sent directly to PharmCAS, even if those credits transferred to another college.
- 2. Do I have to send the transcript request to my registrar or can I request transcripts electronically?**
 - A. If you are requesting a paper transcript, you are strongly encouraged to submit a completed PharmCAS Transcript Request form to your college registrar's office. You will be able to download the PDF form after you complete the Colleges Attended section. If PharmCAS receives your official transcript without the form enclosed, it may take longer to match the transcript to your application. PharmCAS also accepts electronic transcripts through 3

companies: Credentials Solutions, Parchment and National Student Clearinghouse. Read the PharmCAS instructions for more information.

- 3. Am I required to submit an official record of my transcript and enter my classes myself?**
 - A. Yes, you must have an official transcript sent to PharmCAS from every college attended. You also must enter all of your coursework in the Transcript Entry section of your application exactly as it appears on your official transcript.
- 4. Do I need to enter non-graded courses, like those that were withdrawn?**
 - A. Yes, you must enter every course that appears on your official transcript, including, but not limited to, incomplete, pass/fail and withdrawn courses.
- 5. If I want to send my updated transcript to pharmacy schools (Fall 2018 and Spring 2019), do I need to send the transcript to PharmCAS or to the school directly?**
 - A. Please have your updates fall 2018 and spring 2019 transcripts sent to PharmCAS. We will make them available to your schools. PharmCAS will verify your Summer and Fall 2018 grades during the Fall Academic Update. Spring 2019 coursework is not verified by PharmCAS, but the updated coursework will be made available to your schools. Send summer 2019 transcripts directly to the pharmacy school where you will matriculate (if required by the school) and not to PharmCAS.

GPAs and Verification

- 1. Does PharmCAS work with +/- grades?**
 - A. Yes, PharmCAS takes +/- grades into account when they calculate your GPAs. When entering your completed coursework, enter the grades exactly as they appear on your official transcript. The PharmCAS grade value table can be found in the PharmCAS instructions. Individual schools may calculate additional prerequisite GPAs and choose to ignore +/- grades in their local GPA calculations.
- 2. How does PharmCAS calculate grades for repeated courses?**
 - A. All grades from repeated coursework will be calculated into the GPA, even if they are later repeated for a higher grade or excluded from the GPA on the transcript.
- 3. How do withdrawn courses get calculated into the PharmCAS GPA?**
 - A. Withdrawn courses are not calculated into the PharmCAS GPAs.

Reapplicant

- 1. Where can I find information for reapplicants?**
 - A. If you were a reapplicant last cycle, you will have the ability this cycle to be a reapplicant. When you set up your new application, the system will ask if you would like

to be a reapplicant or start a new application. Once you choose an option, you cannot change your reapplicant status. Review the PharmCAS instructions for more information.

2. Will letters of recommendation be used for all applications if you apply to multiple schools?

- A. Yes. All Letters of Evaluation are submitted to every program you apply to through PharmCAS. They're not program specific. Therefore, advise your evaluators not to personalize their comments in the evaluation for a particular pharmacy school.

3. I created an account in the 2017-2018 cycle, but I never submitted the application. Would I need to reapply?

- A. Upon cycle opening, you will have the option to create a new application, or sign in as a reapplicant and carry certain sections over from your 2017-2018 application

4. If I already have an account in PharmCAS, can I start by ordering my transcripts from the colleges I attended? I did not know much about PharmCAS and happened to create an account in June 2018.

- A. The 2017-2018 PharmCAS cycle closed on June 28, 2018. You will need to wait until the 2018-2019 cycle opens to either start a new application, or initiate a reapplicant account. PharmCAS will not accept any application materials for the 2018-19 cycle until the application opens on July 18, 2018.

Account Creation

1. I created an account before but never applied to any school. If I create a new account this year, will my PharmCAS ID be different than the old one?

- A. If you decide to apply as a reapplicant and carry certain information over from last cycle (2017-18 cycle only), then your PharmCAS ID will remain the same.

2. The PharmCAS cycle opens on July 18, 2018, but is that the first day we can create an account? We cannot create an account before that date and begin filling out information?

- A. Yes, that is correct, July 18th is the first day you can create an account.

3. If I have already created a PharmCAS account, but did not complete an application, do I fall into the reapplication category?

- A. If you created a PharmCAS application in the 2017-18 cycle, you can be considered a reapplicant this year, even if you never submitted the 2017-18 PharmCAS application. However, you can choose to start a fresh application, if desired. *See also the "Reapplicant" FAQs above.*

Standardized Tests

1. I want to apply for Early Decision, but I don't want to send the first attempts for my PCAT score. Should I wait to apply until I retake it in November?

- A. You will need to decide whether to apply as an Early Decision or regular applicant based on your individual goals and situation. If you apply as an Early Decision applicant and do not submit PCAT scores (if required by the school), the school may choose to move your application to regular status until your revised PCAT scores arrive. You have the ability to add updated PCAT scores to your application at any time. Any official PCAT scores you send to PharmCAS code 104 will be made available to the school(s) you apply to, as long as you include your PCAT CID number on the application.

2. How do I send my official PCAT scores?

- A. If your designated programs require the PCAT, arrange for Pearson to send your official scores directly to PharmCAS-code 104. You are encouraged to select this code when you take the PCAT, but can also arrange for Pearson to send your scores to PharmCAS at a later date. Once done, Pearson will electronically transmit your scores for the most recent test date and up to four previous dates during the past five years to PharmCAS. Enter your PCAT information on the Standardized Tests page in the application, including your PCAT CID number. If your PCAT CID number is missing from your application, your official PCAT scores will not be matched to your application. Once your scores are matched, you can view the score status in the Standardized Tests section of the Check Status tab.

3. Can I submit my application before I take my PCAT test in September?

- A. Yes, you may submit your PharmCAS application before PharmCAS has received your official PCAT scores on your application. You will be able to report your planned test date. Please be advised some schools may require the official test score to be received by their application deadline date. In the application you have the ability to list the date of any future PCAT test. After you submit your application PharmCAS will continue to submit your application and will continue to accept and process any new official PCAT scores received.

Letters of Evaluation

1. How many letters of recommendation are recommended?

- A. You can submit a maximum of 4 Letters of Evaluation through PharmCAS. Visit the PharmCAS School Directory to view program-specific evaluation requirements. The number and type of evaluations required vary by program. All programs will receive the same set of evaluations, regardless of requirements.

- 2. What kind of evaluation is it? Is it like a letter of recommendation or is it like a ranking system that must be completed by the recommender?**
 - A. The PharmCAS evaluations are both a letter of recommendation your evaluator can upload and short Likert rating scale your evaluator must complete.

- 3. How are letters of evaluation submitted?**
 - A. In the PharmCAS application, there is an “Evaluation” section. In this section you report your references name and email address. PharmCAS will then send an automatic email to the reference’s email address with information on how to submit a PharmCAS letter of evaluation to your application for you electronically.

- 4. Who can be my reference?**
 - A. Anyone you choose can be your reference for a letter of evaluation. PharmCAS strongly encourages you to select individuals who are outside of your family. Pharmacy schools most commonly request evaluations from a licensed pharmacist, a professor in your major or the sciences, and a supervisor. Visit the [PharmCAS School Directory](#) to view program-specific evaluation requirements. The number and type of evaluations required vary by program.

- 5. Can I put down 5 people to send the letter of recommendation to? I know PharmCAS only allows 4, but just in case something goes wrong with the submission of 1 of the letters, I will still have 4.**
 - A. On the PharmCAS application, you will only have the ability to enter 4 electronic evaluation requests. If you need to submit more than 4 references for any reason, send the additional references directly to your designated programs (and outside of PharmCAS), if the program requires them. Unless they are required, programs may not consider extra references.

- 6. Where should I submit the community service and the online recommendation forms?**
 - A. You can list your community service under the Experiences section of your PharmCAS application. Applicants can self-report these and other types of activities in the Experiences section of the Supporting Information box. Enter the information for the evaluators who will submit letters of recommendations on your behalf in the Evaluations section of Supporting Information quadrant.

- 7. Are evaluators able to view your full application or they are only given a portion to write their recommendation?**
 - A. Beyond your name, email address, and the evaluation they write on your behalf, your selected evaluators will not have access to any information on your PharmCAS application.