



School of Pharmacy

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About the School of Pharmacy

The LLU School of Pharmacy opened its doors to its first class of students in Autumn quarter of 2002. Years of planning and development have preceded the achievement of this milestone. The School of Pharmacy fills an important niche in the offerings of Loma Linda University as a health-sciences university. The specific objective of the proposed doctor of pharmacy (PharmD) program is to educate pharmacists in a Seventh-day Adventist Christian setting. Graduates will be able to provide high quality pharmacy care as fully participating members of health-care teams committed to whole-person care.

The four-year program leads to the PharmD degree and is the first offering of the professional doctorate in pharmacy degree program by a Seventh-day Adventist institution of higher learning. Entering students are expected to have completed a minimum of two to four years of undergraduate work in the biological and chemical sciences as well as general education areas prior to application to the program (see full list of [prerequisites and admissions information](#)). A bachelor's degree is preferred.

The School of Pharmacy faculty and administrative offices are located in West Hall on the LLU campus. A wide variety of experiential education sites will be utilized. These include the exceptional resources of the [LLU Medical Center](#) and the Jerry L. Pettis Memorial VA Medical Center as well as a number of other locations in the surrounding area.

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Accreditation

The curriculum has been developed in accordance with the standards and guidelines of the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). ACPE is the professional accrediting body for pharmaceutical education within the

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United States. Their offices are located at 20 North Clark Street, Suite 2500, Chicago, IL 60602-5109. They can be contacted at (312) 664-3575, (800) 533-3606; Fax (312) 664-4652, or at their web site: <http://www.acpe-accredit.org/>.

At the current time, LLU's School of Pharmacy has received Candidate status with ACPE. Candidate status, as defined by ACPE, is: "A new program that has students enrolled but has not had a graduating class may be granted Candidate status. The granting of Candidate status denotes a developmental program, which is expected to mature in accord with stated plans and within a defined time period. Reasonable assurances are expected to be provided that the program may become accredited as programmatic experiences are gained, generally, by the time the first class has graduated. Graduates of a class designated as having Candidate status have the same rights and privileges as graduates of an accredited program." The granting of Candidate status indicates that a school's planning for the doctor of pharmacy program has taken into account ACPE standards and guidelines and suggests reasonable assurance of moving to the next step, that of full accreditation.

Full program accreditation (movement from candidate to accredited status) does not occur until such time as the first class has graduated. Information is made available to all prospective and enrolled students regarding ACPE's decisions on each intermediate step and the progress toward full accreditation.

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School of Pharmacy mission & goals

The **mission** of the Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy is to continue the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ by:

- Educating competent caring pharmacists who will serve as integral members of the health-care team;
- Expanding through research the development of therapeutic regimes that will advance the knowledge and technology available for the treatment of disease; and
- Providing high quality pharmaceutical care to all those within the global sphere of influence of Loma Linda University.

Read the [LLU mission statement](#).

The School of Pharmacy is committed to the education of pharmacists of the highest ethical and professional standards to deliver competent and compassionate pharmaceutical care. A diverse and dynamic educational environment produces students who are practitioners, health professionals, and providers of humanitarian service to a global community. Graduates will be dedicated to lifelong learning, developing new knowledge, advancing standards of practice, and integrating physical, mental, social, and spiritual dimensions of health.

The **goals** of Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy

are to:

- Provide pharmaceutical care in a global community;
- Expand and disseminate pharmaceutical knowledge through research and scholarly activities;
- Promote integrity and high ethical standards in conjunction with empathetic attitudes that contribute to the well-being of patients and society;
- Engender and nurture the desire to serve mankind;
- Create an educational environment supportive of diverse populations and learning styles;
- Demonstrate pharmacy leadership within the University and the region;
- Encourage cultivation of self-education habits that foster lifelong learning;
- Instill positive personal health lifestyles that promote wholeness, wellness, and spiritual values;
- Incorporate educational techniques and technologies that best serve student learning; and
- Promote responsible management of health-care resources and the environment.

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Profession of pharmacy

While pharmacists continue to provide traditional services as dispensers of prescriptions and advisors on over-the-counter medications, their roles have expanded significantly in the last 25 to 30 years. Pharmacists working in community, ambulatory, long-term care, and hospital settings are increasingly called to work in close concert with physicians, nurses, and other health professionals as important members of the health-care team. Other pharmacists work within pharmaceutical industry, insurance, law, home health, nuclear, public health, and numerous other aspects of the health-care industry. Pharmacist-led research teams are also instrumental in data gathering and drug development and evaluation.

The pharmacist's specialized knowledge of drug actions, interactions, toxicities, alternative treatments, drug level monitoring, and costs are important factors when critical decisions are made concerning patient therapy. This can be especially important in critically ill patients requiring complex treatment regimens or when patients utilize several independent practitioners.

Pharmacists also serve as educators to their health-care colleagues through their abilities to evaluate the medical literature, put new "claims" into perspective, and communicate that information. The patient is also a key recipient of such educational activities as pharmacists counsel them on proper medication dosing, side effects, and toxicities. Increasingly, pharmacists are also involved in disease prevention and health-care enhancement activities.

The pharmacist is often the most accessible member of the health-care team and will frequently be the first person with whom a patient will confer on a health question. They are also likely to be the final professional providing information and advice on medication use and

other interventions. It is, therefore, vitally important that today's training of pharmacists for tomorrow can be accomplished in a high level health-care facility such as exists at Loma Linda University.

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Last Revised: Thu, Dec 15, 2005