



University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy Doctor of Pharmacy Program Advanced Standing Credits; Course Waiver/Exemption Policy

The School of Pharmacy curriculum is organized and sequenced so that knowledge learned in the first professional year coursework is prerequisite to courses in the second program year, and that knowledge learned in the second professional year coursework is prerequisite to courses in the third program year, culminating in knowledge essential to success in advanced practice professional experiences. The Pitt Pharmacy curriculum will not generally accommodate those who fulfill core pharmacy coursework at other schools or colleges of pharmacy. The PharmD Program does not admit students with advanced standing, regardless of completion of professional course requirements at other colleges or school of pharmacy.

For the following policy and procedure, the term “waiver” applies to courses completed at other colleges/universities and the term “exemption” applies to courses completed at the University of Pittsburgh.

In select circumstances, first professional year students may apply for and receive waiver/exemption from one or both Fall Semester professional courses **Anatomy & Physiology 1** and/or **Fundamentals of Biochemistry 1**. The students must demonstrate satisfactory performance (grade of B or better) in the previous course that is equivalent in content to the courses offered in the Pharm D Program of the School of Pharmacy.

Given the pharmacy-specific content and activities in Anatomy and Physiology 2 and Biochemistry 2, no exemptions or waivers can be made for these courses.

Procedure

An incoming first professional year student requesting a waiver/exemption must petition the PharmD Program Director before the first day of the University’s add/drop period (usually within the first two weeks of the term). Course waiver/exemption is granted only for full-time students enrolled in the professional program.

The written petition should provide clear and convincing evidence of satisfactory performance in a course that is substantially equivalent to the course offered by the school, providing evidence including:

- Evidence of course equivalence
 - Detailed course syllabus
 - Class notes
 - Copies of examinations, papers, laboratory reports and /or other course evaluations

- Evidence of satisfactory performance
 - Transcript with grade
 - Statement from course instructor or department chair

The PharmD Program Director, in consultation with the requested course's coordinator(s), will determine whether a waiver/exemption will be granted and will notify in writing the student, course coordinator(s), and School Academic Records Manager of the decision. Final decisions must be made, and all individuals student informed prior to the end of the University add/drop period for the Fall Term.

It is noted that students with approved waivers or exemptions may be required to attend selected classes in these courses when such sessions are integrated activities with other semester courses.

Students are invited to attend any sessions in the waived/exempted course(s). Course materials are be available to students through Canvas technology. When a waiver/exemption is granted, course grades will

not be included in any class rank or quality point calculation for the PharmD Program.