

American Association of  
**Colleges of Pharmacy**  
*Discover • Learn • Care • Improve Health*

**AAACP**

OFFICE OF  
**INSTITUTIONAL  
RESEARCH &  
EFFECTIVENESS**

# American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Alumni Survey

## 2017 National Summary Report

September 2017

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## **About the AACP Curriculum Quality Surveys**

Graduating Student, Alumni, Preceptor, and Faculty surveys were first released in 2007 based on Standards 2007 with the purpose of helping member colleges and schools gather data for both continuous improvement and accreditation purposes. With the release of the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) Standards 2016, these curriculum quality perception surveys were revised by the AACP Institutional Research and Assessment Committee (IRAC), AACP staff, and ACPE staff in spring 2015 to reflect the changes in Standards 2016. The 2017 results reflect the second administration of these revised surveys.

### **2017 Administration**

The Alumni Survey was made available for online access in the AACP Survey System on May 1, 2017. As of September 2017, 70 out of 130 (53.8%) colleges and schools of pharmacy administered the survey to their 2012 - 2016 alumni classes. A total of 23,104 alumni were invited to complete the survey. Two thousand, eight hundred fifty-seven (2,857) alumni submitted the survey for a total response rate of over 12 percent (12.4%). Response rates per school ranged from 1 percent to 70 percent. For more information regarding this summary report or the administration of the survey, please contact Jamie Taylor, associate director of institutional research and effectiveness ([jtaylor@aacp.org](mailto:jtaylor@aacp.org)).

### **2017 Highlights**

#### ***General Impressions***

Upon reflection, nearly 94 percent (93.8%) of Pharm.D. alumni strongly agreed or agreed that they received a high quality pharmacy education and over 90 percent (90.2%) of alumni strongly agreed or agreed that the curriculum prepared them to enter their first pharmacy job. Additionally, nearly ninety-eight percent (97.8%) of alumni strongly agreed or agreed that they were encouraged to assume responsibility for their own learning.

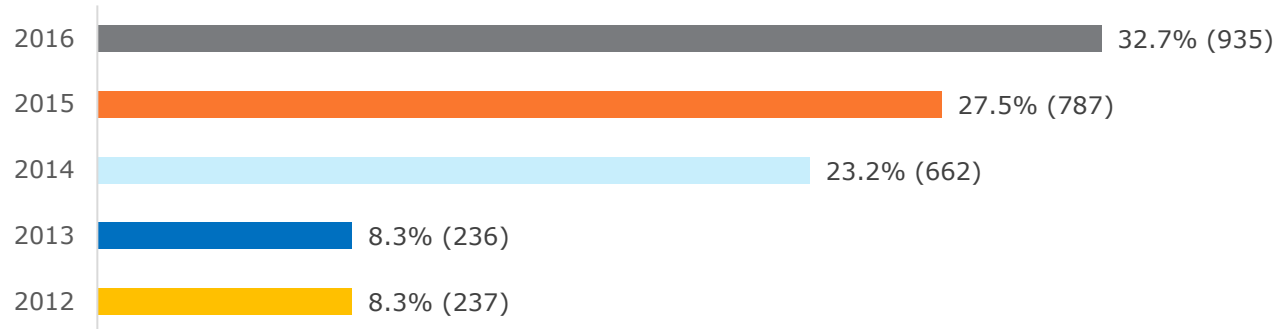
Over seventy-eight percent (78.5%) of Pharm.D. alumni strongly agreed or agreed that they would choose to study pharmacy if they were starting their education over again and nearly 84 percent (83.6%) of alumni strongly agreed or agreed that they would choose the same college/school of pharmacy.

# 2017 Alumni Survey National Summary Report

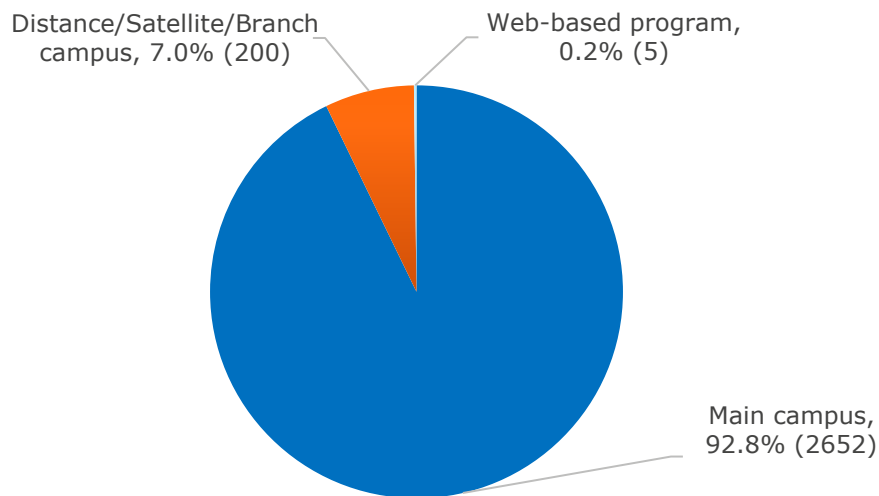
Total number of schools: 70 (24 public, 46 private)  
 Total number of responses: 2,857  
 Response Rate: 12.4%

## Section I: Demographic Questions

### 1. Year of Graduation:



### 2. Please check the option below that best describes the learning environment in which you were enrolled:



### 3. In addition to receiving your Pharm.D. degree, have you completed or are you currently pursuing any type of postgraduate education/training?

	Response Percent	Response Total
Yes	36.0%	1028
No	64.0%	1829

**4. If the answer to Question #3 above is "Yes"; please check all that apply.**

	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Total</b>
Master's; please specify type:	N/A	213
Other Professional Doctorate (JD, M.D., D.D.S.)	N/A	16
Ph.D.	N/A	21
Residency in Pharmacy Practice (any type)	N/A	738
Specialty Residency (e.g., Drug Information, Pediatric, Primary care)	N/A	305
Fellowship	N/A	84
Other; please specify type:	N/A	68

**5. What is your level of involvement with the school or college?**

	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Total</b>
None	33.1%	947
Minimal	44.2%	1263
Moderate	17.7%	506
Heavy	4.9%	141

**6. To what extent are you employed in pharmacy? (Check all that apply)**

	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Total</b>
Part-time	N/A	176
Full time (35 hrs & above)	N/A	2544
Not currently practicing	N/A	100
No longer in pharmacy profession	N/A	12
Student (post graduate education/training)	N/A	142

**7. In which state are you primarily practicing?\***

	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Total</b>
NOT APPLICABLE	3.2%	90
Alabama (AL)	3.2%	90
Alaska (AK)	0.3%	9
American Samoa	0.0%	1
Arizona (AZ)	1.5%	44
Arkansas (AR)	1.8%	52
<b>California (CA)</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>249</b>
Colorado (CO)	1.1%	32
Connecticut (CT)	1.5%	43
Delaware (DE)	0.1%	3
Dist. of Columbia (DC)	0.2%	6
Florida (FL)	3.7%	106
Georgia (GA)	3.0%	85
Guam	0.0%	1
Hawaii (HI)	0.1%	2
Idaho (ID)	0.8%	23
<b>Illinois (IL)</b>	<b>6.2%</b>	<b>177</b>
Indiana (IN)	2.9%	82
Iowa (IA)	0.7%	20
Kansas (KS)	0.2%	5
Kentucky (KY)	1.1%	30
Louisiana (LA)	0.6%	16
Maine (ME)	0.8%	23
Maryland (MD)	1.4%	40

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Massachusetts (MA)	3.5%	100
Michigan (MI)	2.2%	63
Minnesota (MN)	2.3%	66
Mississippi (MS)	0.6%	16
Missouri (MO)	2.5%	70
Montana (MT)	1.8%	51
Nebraska (NE)	0.2%	6
Nevada (NV)	0.4%	10
New Hampshire (NH)	0.5%	14
New Jersey (NJ)	1.7%	49
New Mexico (NM)	0.6%	16
New York (NY)	3.6%	103
North Carolina (NC)	3.2%	90
North Dakota (ND)	0.5%	14
Ohio (OH)	4.6%	132
Oklahoma (OK)	0.1%	4
Oregon (OR)	1.2%	33
Pennsylvania (PA)	3.3%	93
Puerto Rico	0.1%	2
Rhode Island (RI)	0.4%	11
South Carolina (SC)	4.4%	125
South Dakota (SD)	0.8%	24
Tennessee (TN)	4.7%	134
<b>Texas (TX)</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>170</b>
Utah (UT)	0.4%	11
Vermont (VT)	0.2%	6
Virginia (VA)	1.9%	53
Washington (WA)	2.7%	78
West Virginia (WV)	0.7%	19
Wisconsin (WI)	1.8%	51
Wyoming (WY)	0.1%	2

**8. In what type of setting are you primarily practicing or employed?**

	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Total</b>
Chain community pharmacy	N/A	1074
Independent community pharmacy	N/A	266
Hospital	N/A	1008
Clinic-based pharmacy	N/A	244
Consultant	N/A	41
Home care	N/A	17
Nursing home/Long-term care facility	N/A	69
Academia	N/A	129
Association management	N/A	9
Pharmaceutical industry	N/A	81
Managed care	N/A	71
Government or regulatory agency	N/A	73
Other Pharmacy Related Field; please specify:	N/A	146
Non-Pharmacy related field; please specify:	N/A	9
Not currently employed	N/A	56

**9. In which pharmacy organizations are you currently a member? (Check all that apply)**

	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Total</b>
APhA	N/A	934
ASHP	N/A	741
AMCP	N/A	51
AACP	N/A	75
ACCP	N/A	292
ASCP	N/A	34
NCPA	N/A	74
State Pharmacy Association	N/A	837
Other; please specify:	N/A	273
None	N/A	1066

**10. In the pharmacy organization with which you are most engaged, how would you assess your level of involvement?**

	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Total</b>
Minimal (occasionally attend meetings)	76.4%	1368
Moderate (regularly attend meetings, occasionally serve on committees)	16.6%	297
Heavy (regularly serve on committees and/or serve as an officer)	7.0%	126

**11. Are you currently serving, or have you served in the past as a preceptor for any pharmacy students?**

	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Total</b>
Yes	42.2%	1207
No	57.8%	1650

**12. Sex**

	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Total</b>
Male	36.9%	1053
Female	61.7%	1763
Prefer not to respond	1.4%	41

## Section II: Development/Communication

Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each statement.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
13. The college/school communicates effectively with alumni about college/school activities.	25.5% (729)	<b>57.3%</b> <b>(1638)</b>	10.4% (297)	2.5% (72)	4.2% (121)
14. The current Dean is providing leadership in pharmacy.	30.3% (865)	<b>34.6%</b> <b>(988)</b>	3.6% (102)	2.2% (64)	29.3% (838)
15. The current Dean encourages alumni to stay involved.	25.2% (721)	<b>37.7%</b> <b>(1078)</b>	11.2% (320)	3.3% (94)	22.5% (644)

When I was a student...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
16. The faculty displayed respect for their colleagues and students.	<b>50.8%</b> <b>(1452)</b>	43.5% (1242)	3.5% (101)	1.5% (44)	0.6% (18)
17. Faculty, administrators and staff served as positive role models for students.	<b>53.8%</b> <b>(1537)</b>	41.3% (1179)	2.8% (81)	1.3% (37)	0.8% (23)
18. I knew what the program outcomes were.	<b>48.0%</b> <b>(1372)</b>	46.1% (1318)	3.9% (110)	0.8% (23)	1.2% (34)
19. the curriculum provided opportunities to engage in active learning (e.g., laboratories, recitations, student portfolios, problem-based learning).	<b>55.4%</b> <b>(1583)</b>	40.5% (1157)	2.9% (84)	0.8% (22)	0.4% (11)
20. I was encouraged to assume responsibility for my own learning.	<b>58.7%</b> <b>(1676)</b>	39.1% (1118)	1.6% (46)	0.3% (8)	0.3% (9)
21. I was academically prepared to enter my advanced pharmacy practice experiences.	<b>52.0%</b> <b>(1487)</b>	41.9% (1196)	4.5% (129)	1.2% (33)	0.4% (12)
22. The curriculum prepared me to enter my first pharmacy job.	<b>45.5%</b> <b>(1301)</b>	44.7% (1276)	6.4% (184)	1.9% (53)	1.5% (43)
23. Information was made available to me about additional educational opportunities (e.g. residencies, fellowships, graduate school).	<b>49.4%</b> <b>(1412)</b>	42.3% (1208)	6.4% (182)	1.2% (34)	0.7% (21)
24. Elective didactic courses permitted exploration of and/or advanced study in areas of professional interest.	42.7% (1219)	<b>45.1%</b> <b>(1288)</b>	8.3% (238)	2.3% (67)	1.6% (45)
25. My pharmacy practice experiences were of high quality.	<b>49.2%</b> <b>(1405)</b>	43.7% (1248)	4.7% (135)	1.9% (53)	0.6% (16)

## Section III: Curriculum

### Domain 1: Foundational Knowledge

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
26. Apply knowledge from the foundational pharmaceutical and biomedical sciences to the provision of patient care.	43.5% (1244)	<b>51.6%</b> <b>(1474)</b>	3.2% (90)	0.8% (23)	0.9% (26)
27. Apply knowledge from the clinical sciences to the provision of patient care.	<b>48.9%</b> <b>(1397)</b>	47.3% (1352)	2.2% (64)	0.7% (21)	0.8% (23)
28. Evaluate scientific literature.	45.7% (1305)	<b>47.9%</b> <b>(1368)</b>	4.4% (127)	1.3% (38)	0.7% (19)

### Domain 2: Essentials for Practice

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
29. Provide medication expertise as part of patient-centered care.	<b>51.6%</b> <b>(1473)</b>	45.4% (1296)	1.9% (54)	0.6% (16)	0.6% (18)
30. Optimize the safety and efficacy of medication use systems (e.g., dispensing, administration, effects monitoring) to manage patient healthcare needs.	<b>47.7%</b> <b>(1363)</b>	47.6% (1360)	3.3% (93)	0.6% (16)	0.9% (25)
31. Design strategies to manage chronic disease and improve health and wellness.	<b>48.4%</b> <b>(1383)</b>	47.8% (1365)	2.5% (70)	0.5% (14)	0.9% (25)
32. Assess the health needs of a given patient population.	43.8% (1252)	<b>50.6%</b> <b>(1447)</b>	3.6% (104)	0.7% (20)	1.2% (34)
33. Provide patient-centered care based on evidence-based best practices.	<b>51.6%</b> <b>(1474)</b>	45.5% (1301)	1.5% (42)	0.7% (20)	0.7% (20)

### Domain 3: Approach to Practice and Care

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
34. Design, implement and evaluate viable solutions to patient care problems.	43.8% (1250)	<b>51.3%</b> <b>(1467)</b>	3.0% (85)	0.7% (21)	1.2% (34)
35. Use effective strategies to educate patients, healthcare professionals and caregivers to improve patient care.	<b>49.2%</b> <b>(1407)</b>	47.0% (1344)	2.2% (62)	0.6% (16)	1.0% (28)
36. Advocate for the patient's best interest.	<b>51.9%</b> <b>(1484)</b>	44.2% (1262)	2.5% (71)	0.6% (16)	0.8% (24)



37. Engage as a member of an interprofessional healthcare team.	<b>51.5%</b> <b>(1472)</b>	43.8% (1252)	3.2% (91)	0.8% (23)	0.7% (19)
38. Identify cultural disparities in healthcare.	41.1% (1173)	<b>49.6%</b> <b>(1417)</b>	6.3% (180)	1.1% (32)	1.9% (55)
39. Recognize and address cultural disparities in access to and delivery of healthcare.	40.5% (1156)	<b>49.6%</b> <b>(1418)</b>	6.9% (198)	1.1% (30)	1.9% (55)
40. Effectively communicate (verbal, non-verbal, written) when interacting with individuals, groups and organizations.	<b>51.7%</b> <b>(1478)</b>	44.3% (1265)	2.5% (71)	0.6% (16)	0.9% (27)

**Domain 4: Personal and Professional Development**

	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Unable to Comment</b>
41. Examine and reflect on how my behavior and choices affect my personal and professional growth.	<b>48.4%</b> <b>(1383)</b>	45.0% (1286)	4.5% (128)	1.0% (29)	1.1% (31)
42. Accept responsibility for creating and achieving shared goals.	<b>49.3%</b> <b>(1409)</b>	45.4% (1296)	3.4% (98)	0.8% (22)	1.1% (32)
43. Develop new ideas and approaches to practice.	41.7% (1190)	<b>47.5%</b> <b>(1358)</b>	7.7% (219)	1.4% (40)	1.8% (50)
44. Act in a manner consistent with the trust given to pharmacists by patients, other healthcare providers and society.	<b>56.9%</b> <b>(1627)</b>	40.5% (1158)	1.2% (34)	0.7% (19)	0.7% (19)

**Section IV: General Impressions**

Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each statement.

	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Unable to Comment</b>
45. If I were starting my education over today, I would choose pharmacy as a career.	<b>40.0%</b> <b>(1142)</b>	38.5% (1100)	13.3% (381)	4.8% (137)	3.4% (97)
46. If I were starting my education over today, I would choose the same college/school of pharmacy.	<b>52.5%</b> <b>(1501)</b>	31.0% (887)	8.4% (240)	4.9% (140)	3.1% (89)
47. I received a high quality pharmacy education.	<b>59.7%</b> <b>(1705)</b>	34.2% (976)	3.3% (94)	1.8% (50)	1.1% (32)