

American Association of
Colleges of Pharmacy
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AAACP



American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Alumni Survey

2015 National Summary Report

September 2015

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About the AACCP Curriculum Quality Surveys

Graduating Student, Alumni, and Faculty surveys were initiated and designed by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy/Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education Task Force on Assessment and Accreditation in 2002. These quality perception surveys were intended to gather information on program issues and curriculum quality. With the release of ACPE's Standards 2007, the AACCP Institutional Research and Assessment Committee (IRAC), AACCP staff, and an external consultant revised the three surveys and created a Preceptor survey. The purpose of the revised surveys is to help member colleges and schools gather data for both continuous program improvement and accountability (accreditation) purposes.

2015 Administration

The Alumni Survey was made available for online access in the AACCP Centralized Survey System on May 4, 2015. As of September 2015, 75 out of 120 (62.5%) colleges and schools of pharmacy administered the survey to their 2009-2014 alumni classes. A total of 26,790 alumni were invited to complete the survey. Three thousand, one hundred and seventy five (3,175) alumni submitted the survey for a total response rate of nearly twelve percent (11.9%). Response rates per school ranged from 1.1 percent to 43.8 percent. For more information regarding this summary report or the administration of the survey, please contact Jamie Taylor, research analyst (jtaylor@aaccp.org).

2015 Highlights

General Impressions

Upon reflection, nearly 94 percent (93.7%) of Pharm.D. alumni strongly agreed or agreed that the overall quality of their education experience was very good and nearly 90 percent (89.9%) of alumni strongly agreed or agreed that the courses they took as a student prepared them to enter their first pharmacy job.

Nearly 79 percent (78.9%) of Pharm.D. alumni strongly agreed or agreed that they would choose to study pharmacy if they were starting their education over again. Nearly 87 percent (86.8%) of alumni strongly agreed or agreed that they would choose the same college/school of pharmacy which is slightly up from 84 percent (83.9%) in 2014.

Improvements in Communication with Alumni

Pharm.D. alumni reported a high level of satisfaction with communication from their alma mater regarding pharmacy school activities. In 2015 over 83 percent (83.3%) of alumni strongly agreed or agreed that their college/school of pharmacy was effectively communicating with alumni about the college/school's activities. This percentage is up slightly from 81.5 in 2014.

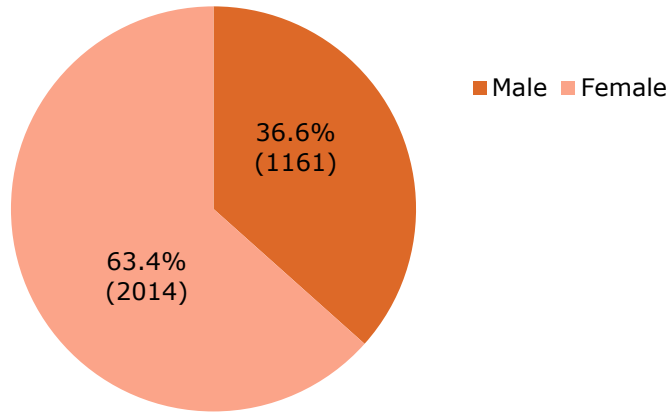
Alumni reported less agreement in regards to the statement concerning the college/school solicitation of alumni input/feedback for programmatic improvement in previous years; however, these perceptions appear to be improving. In 2015, nearly 64 percent (63.9%) of alumni strongly agreed or agreed that the college/school solicits their input and/or feedback for programmatic improvement which is an increase from 56 percent (55.9%) in 2014. Twenty eight percent (28.2%) of alumni strongly disagreed or disagreed with the statement which is down from 34 percent (34.0%) in 2014.

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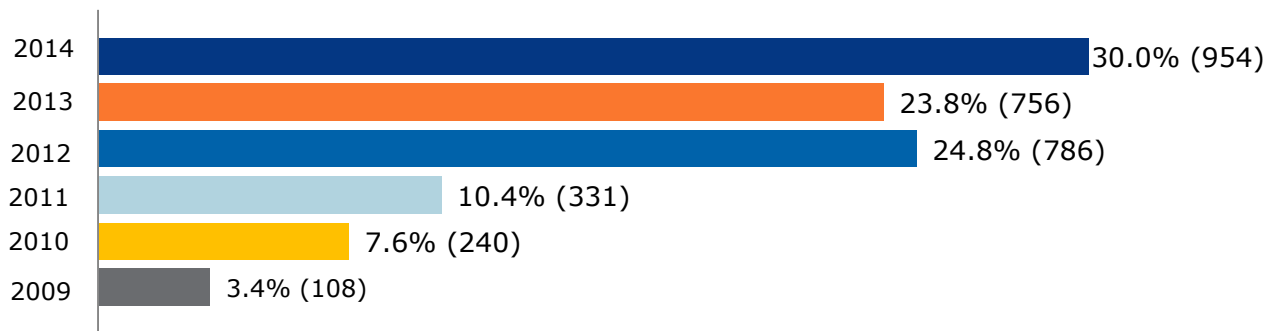
Total number of schools: 75 (35 public, 40 private)
 Total number of responses: 3,175
 Response Rate: 11.9%

Section I: Demographic Questions

1. Gender:



2. Year of Graduation:



3. Please check the option below that best describes the configuration of the curriculum in the Pharm.D. program:

	Response Percent	Response Total
Traditional program (4 professional years)	86.8%	2755
Accelerated program (3 professional years; year-round classes)	13.2%	420

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

	Response Percent	Response Total
Main campus	94.7%	3008
Distance/Satellite/Branch campus (enter city, state)	5.0%	160
Web-based program	0.2%	7

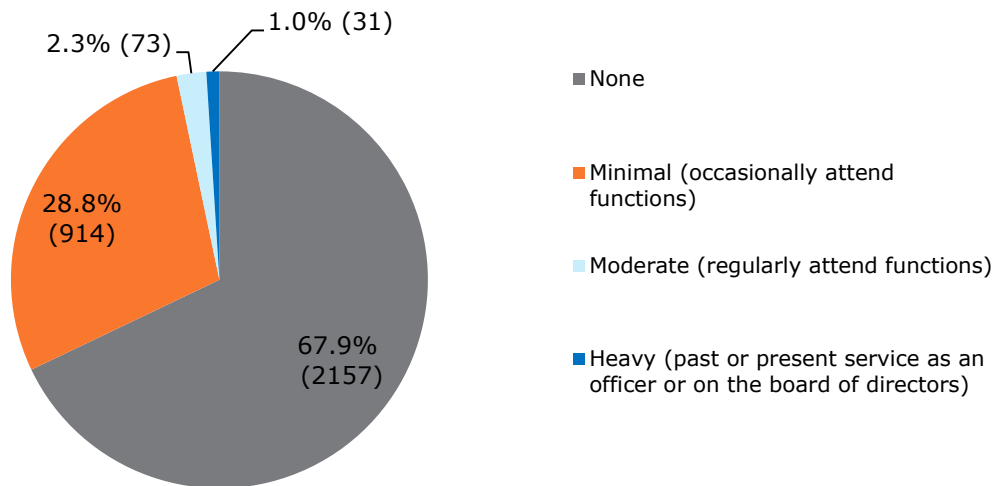
5. In addition to receiving your Pharm.D. degree, have you completed or are you currently pursuing any type of postgraduate education/training?

	Response Percent	Response Total
Yes	37.6%	1195
No	62.4%	1980

5 (a). If the answer to Question #5 above is "Yes"; please check all that apply

	Response Percent	Response Total
MBA	N/A	90
Master's (other than MBA)	N/A	133
Other Professional Doctorate (JD, M.D., D.D.S.)	N/A	13
Ph.D.	N/A	26
Residency in Pharmacy Practice (any type)	N/A	932
Specialty Residency (e.g., Drug Information, Pediatric, Primary care)	N/A	353
Fellowship	N/A	101
Other	N/A	51

6. What is your level of involvement with the Alumni Association?



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

	Response Percent	Response Total
Part-time	N/A	191
Full time (35 hrs & above)	N/A	2856
Not currently practicing	N/A	72
No longer in pharmacy profession	N/A	12
Student (post graduate education/training)	N/A	150

8. In which state are you primarily practicing?*

Please use the following link to view the results of this question on a map: [Alumni Survey – Practicing States Map](#)

	Response Percent	Response Total
NOT APPLICABLE	2.8%	87
Alabama (AL)	1.1%	34
Alaska (AK)	0.2%	7
Arizona (AZ)	3.7%	118
Arkansas (AR)	0.3%	9
California (CA)	16.5%	522
Colorado (CO)	0.9%	29
Connecticut (CT)	0.6%	19
Delaware (DE)	0.2%	5
Dist. of Columbia (DC)	0.2%	5
Florida (FL)	3.1%	99
Georgia (GA)	2.6%	82
Hawaii (HI)	0.5%	16
Idaho (ID)	0.0%	1
Illinois (IL)	5.9%	187
Indiana (IN)	1.1%	34
Iowa (IA)	1.1%	36
Kansas (KS)	0.5%	17
Kentucky (KY)	0.9%	27
Louisiana (LA)	0.9%	28
Maine (ME)	0.7%	21
Maryland (MD)	1.0%	32
Massachusetts (MA)	1.1%	35
Michigan (MI)	2.6%	81
Minnesota (MN)	2.9%	91
Mississippi (MS)	0.2%	5
Missouri (MO)	2.2%	70
Montana (MT)	0.1%	2
Nebraska (NE)	1.0%	33
Nevada (NV)	0.3%	10
New Hampshire (NH)	0.3%	8
New Jersey (NJ)	0.9%	29
New Mexico (NM)	1.2%	37
New York (NY)	4.1%	129
North Carolina (NC)	4.3%	137
North Dakota (ND)	0.7%	22
Ohio (OH)	5.6%	177
Oklahoma (OK)	0.2%	7
Oregon (OR)	0.9%	29
Pennsylvania (PA)	3.8%	120
Puerto Rico	0.9%	28
Rhode Island (RI)	0.1%	2
South Carolina (SC)	1.5%	46
South Dakota (SD)	0.7%	23
Tennessee (TN)	3.0%	96
Texas (TX)	8.6%	272
Utah (UT)	0.5%	15
Vermont (VT)	0.1%	2
Virgin Islands	0.0%	1
Virginia (VA)	1.4%	44
Washington (WA)	0.9%	30
West Virginia (WV)	0.7%	21
Wisconsin (WI)	4.1%	131
Wyoming (WY)	0.5%	15

9. In what type of setting are you primarily practicing?

	Response Percent	Response Total
Not applicable	N/A	55
Chain community pharmacy	N/A	1110
Independent community pharmacy	N/A	256
Hospital	N/A	1192
Clinic-based pharmacy	N/A	285
Consultant	N/A	44
Home care	N/A	22
Nursing home/Long-term care facility	N/A	81
Academia	N/A	159
Association management	N/A	10
Pharmaceutical industry	N/A	113
Managed care	N/A	109
Government or regulatory agency	N/A	120
Other:	N/A	152

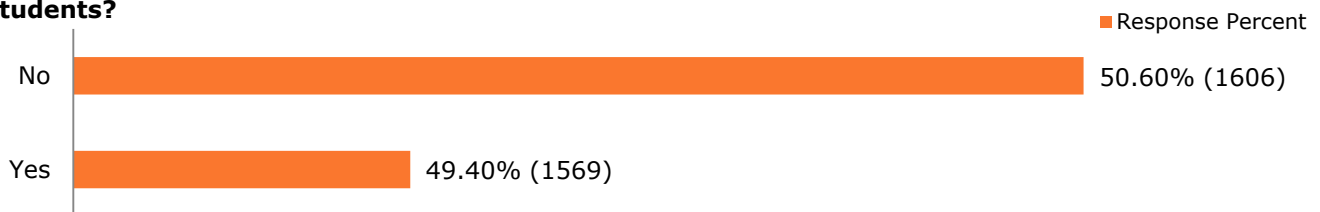
10. Which pharmacy organizations do you currently belong to? (check all that apply)

	Response Percent	Response Total
APhA	N/A	1131
ASHP	N/A	919
AMCP	N/A	75
AACP	N/A	88
ACCP	N/A	440
ASCP	N/A	48
NACDS	N/A	7
NCPA	N/A	93
State Association	N/A	1010
None	N/A	976
Other:	N/A	356

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

	Response Percent	Response Total
Not a member of a pharmacy organization	30.8%	978
Minimal (occasionally attend meetings)	54.1%	1718
Moderate (regularly attend meetings, occasionally serve on committees)	9.9%	313
Heavy (regularly serve on committees and/or serve as an officer)	5.2%	166

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



13. Are you currently serving, or have you served in the past, as an adjunct faculty member at a college/school of pharmacy?

	Response Percent	Response Total
Yes	18.4%	584
No	81.6%	2591

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
14. The college/school communicates effectively with alumni about college/school activities.	26.6% (846)	56.7% (1800)	10.4% (331)	2.0% (62)	4.3% (136)
15. The current Dean is providing leadership in pharmacy.	29.0% (920)	37.6% (1193)	4.0% (127)	1.6% (52)	27.8% (883)
16. The current Dean encourages alumni to stay involved.	23.7% (754)	40.2% (1277)	11.0% (350)	2.6% (83)	22.4% (711)
17. Since graduation, the college/school has solicited my input/feedback for programmatic improvement.	21.3% (676)	42.6% (1352)	22.5% (713)	5.7% (180)	8.0% (254)

When I was a student...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
18. the college/school provided an environment and culture that promoted professional behavior and harmonious relationships among students, faculty, administrators, preceptors and staff.	54.7% (1738)	39.6% (1256)	3.4% (107)	1.9% (61)	0.4% (13)
19. the faculty, administrators, and staff were committed to developing professionalism, fostering leadership, and to serving as mentors and positive role models.	58.0% (1841)	37.5% (1190)	2.8% (88)	1.4% (43)	0.4% (13)
20. I knew what the program outcomes were.	49.0% (1557)	44.5% (1414)	4.3% (138)	0.9% (27)	1.2% (39)
21. the curriculum provided opportunities to engage in active learning (e.g., laboratories, recitations, student portfolios, problem-based learning).	54.8% (1739)	41.9% (1330)	2.5% (78)	0.7% (23)	0.2% (5)
22. the curriculum was properly sequenced.	37.6% (1194)	49.2% (1561)	10.7% (339)	2.0% (64)	0.5% (17)
23. I was encouraged to assume responsibility for my own learning.	56.6% (1796)	41.4% (1316)	1.5% (47)	0.3% (11)	0.2% (5)
24. my coursework prepared me to enter my practice experiences (rotations).	47.4% (1504)	46.7% (1482)	4.5% (142)	1.3% (40)	0.2% (7)
25. the courses I took prepared me to enter my first pharmacy job.	42.0% (1332)	47.8% (1518)	7.7% (243)	1.8% (56)	0.8% (26)
26. information was made available to me about additional educational opportunities (e.g. residencies, fellowships, graduate school).	50.9% (1617)	41.0% (1302)	5.9% (187)	1.4% (46)	0.7% (23)

Section III: Curriculum

Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each statement. When I was a student...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
27. pharmacy related elective courses met my needs as a Pharm.D. student.	38.4% (1218)	49.6% (1574)	9.1% (290)	1.6% (51)	1.3% (42)
28. the college/school provided an adequate number and mix of practice facilities for experiential education (rotations).	47.7% (1514)	43.7% (1386)	7.1% (224)	1.5% (48)	0.1% (3)
29. the faculty were effective teachers.	42.2% (1339)	52.3% (1659)	4.1% (130)	1.0% (33)	0.4% (14)
30. the faculty displayed respect for their colleagues and students.	51.3% (1628)	43.7% (1388)	2.8% (88)	1.4% (46)	0.8% (25)

The Pharm.D. Program prepared me to...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
31. develop and use patient-specific pharmacy care plans.	48.1% (1527)	48.0% (1525)	2.6% (81)	0.6% (18)	0.8% (24)
32. effectively manage a patient-centered pharmacy practice.	44.4% (1410)	47.3% (1502)	6.1% (194)	0.8% (26)	1.4% (43)
33. develop disease management programs.	39.0% (1238)	49.2% (1561)	8.7% (277)	0.7% (23)	2.4% (76)
34. manage the system of medication use.	41.2% (1309)	51.0% (1620)	5.5% (176)	0.6% (20)	1.6% (50)
35. promote the availability of health promotion and disease prevention initiatives.	43.5% (1381)	50.1% (1590)	4.5% (143)	0.5% (17)	1.4% (44)
36. communicate with patients, caregivers, and other members of the interprofessional health care team.	55.5% (1763)	41.1% (1306)	2.7% (86)	0.4% (14)	0.2% (6)
37. search the health sciences literature.	53.7% (1706)	42.9% (1362)	2.6% (83)	0.7% (21)	0.1% (3)
38. evaluate the health sciences literature.	50.3% (1597)	44.2% (1402)	4.5% (142)	0.9% (28)	0.2% (6)
39. demonstrate expertise in the area of informatics (resources, devices, and methods required to optimize the acquisition, storage, retrieval, and use of information in pharmacy and healthcare).	35.7% (1135)	46.9% (1488)	13.6% (432)	2.4% (77)	1.4% (43)
40. apply state and federal laws and regulations to the practice of pharmacy.	42.5% (1349)	50.2% (1595)	5.8% (185)	0.9% (30)	0.5% (16)

41. maintain professional competence.	56.1% (1782)	41.3% (1310)	2.0% (62)	0.3% (11)	0.3% (10)
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Section IV: General Impressions

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

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
42. If I were starting my education over today, I would choose pharmacy as a career.	40.9% (1298)	38.6% (1224)	13.1% (415)	4.2% (132)	3.3% (106)
43. If I were starting my education over today, I would choose the same college/school of pharmacy.	54.3% (1725)	32.5% (1032)	7.3% (232)	4.0% (126)	1.9% (60)
44. As I reflect on my pharmacy education, I would rate the overall quality of my education experience as very good.	55.2% (1753)	38.5% (1221)	4.0% (128)	1.4% (43)	0.9% (30)