

# PROFILE OF PHARMACY STUDENTS

## Fall 2015

### 2014–15 Application Pool

### Degrees Conferred 2014–15

- Professional degrees
- Graduate degrees

### Fall 2015 Enrollments

- Professional degrees
- Graduate degrees

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The AACP institutional research data-gathering and analysis system has been designed to collect and report information related to the U.S. pharmacy colleges and schools including more than 6,600 faculty, 64,400 students enrolled in professional programs, and 5,800 individuals pursuing graduate study. The system can efficiently provide information to characterize the pharmacy education enterprise and its constituents, to study trends, and to assist pharmacy college and school administrators, organizations in higher education, and the government in decision making with regard to pharmacy and health education. For additional information regarding the AACP's Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness, contact the Association's Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness.

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American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy  
1727 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
703-739-2330  
[www.aacp.org](http://www.aacp.org)

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# PROFILE OF PHARMACY STUDENTS FALL 2015

## INTRODUCTION

The annual *Profile of Pharmacy Students* provides data on applications to first professional degree programs and degrees conferred and student enrollment in professional and graduate degree programs at the 135 U.S. colleges and schools of pharmacy with accredited (full, candidate and precandidate status) professional degree programs as of fall 2015. This *Profile* presents data describing:

- the pharmacy application pool for 2014–15 (i.e., applications for admission in fall 2015);
- degrees conferred data 2014–15 and related long-term trends; and
- student enrollments for fall 2015 and related long-term trends.

In this report:

- **Pharm.D.1** refers to the doctor of pharmacy degree awarded as the first professional degree.
- **Pharm.D.2** refers to a postbaccalaureate degree.
- **First professional degrees** refer to the total of baccalaureates (B.S. in pharmacy, B.Pharm.) plus Pharm.D.1 degrees.
- **White** refers to citizens or permanent residents having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.
- **Black or African American** refers to U.S. citizens or permanent residents having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
- **Hispanic or Latino** refers to U.S. citizens or permanent residents of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- **Asian** refers to U.S. citizens or permanent residents having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian Subcontinent, including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander** refers to U.S. citizens or permanent residents having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.
- **American Indian or Alaska Native** refers to U.S. citizens or permanent residents having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community attachment.
- **Two or more races** refers to U.S. citizens or permanent residents who are not Hispanic/Latino and identify themselves by more than one race.
- **Unknown** refers to U.S. citizens or permanent residents whose race and ethnicity are not known.

- **International/Foreign** refers to citizens of a foreign country/permanent residents of a country other than the U.S.

June 30, 2005 marked the official expiration of the ACPE standards for baccalaureate in pharmacy (B.S. Pharmacy) degree programs, in accordance with the transition to the Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) as the sole accredited professional degree program in the United States. Some colleges/schools of pharmacy conferred degrees in the B.S. Pharmacy program until 2004–05. For longitudinal and school-specific tables regarding this degree program please contact the Association's Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness.

## METHODS

The data in this *Profile* were gathered using five separate online survey instruments in October 2015. Submission of data was requested by December 11, 2015.

The 2014–15 *Application Pool Survey* requested information on applicants who applied for admission, and submitted all required application materials during the academic year September 2014 to August 2015 for the class entering fall 2015. One hundred and thirty-three (98.5 percent response) submitted data. Numbers reported represent the number of applications, not applicants, and may represent multiple applications submitted by individual applicants.

The *Undergraduate and Professional Pharmacy Degrees Conferred Survey 2014–15* was completed by one hundred and thirty-two institutions (97.8 percent response). The *Graduate Pharmacy Degrees Conferred Survey 2014–15* was completed by one hundred and thirty-three institutions (98.5 percent response).

*The Enrollment Survey — Fall 2015 Professional Pharmacy Degree Programs and the Enrollment Survey — Fall 2015 Graduate Degree Programs in the Pharmaceutical Sciences* were completed by one hundred and thirty-three institutions (98.5 percent response).

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy wishes to express its appreciation to the deans of its member institutions and members of their faculty and staff who completed the surveys. The nearly 100% percent return for all of the surveys is testimony to the institutions' commitment to the goals of this report.

Danielle A. Taylor, M.P.P.  
Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness

Jamie Taylor, B.A.  
Research Analyst

Nancy T. Nguyen, B.A.  
Institutional Research Coordinator



## HIGHLIGHTS

In 2014–15, there were 76,525 applications submitted to first professional degree programs at schools and colleges of pharmacy.

The number of Pharm.D. as a first professional degrees awarded increased to 13,994 in 2015 compared to 13,838 in 2014. This is the largest number of degrees conferred in the history of pharmacy education.

The attrition rate for the class of 2015 was 11.6%. The attrition rate includes academic dismissals, student withdrawals, and delayed graduations.

Enrollments in all professional years rose 0.6 percent; however, the number of first professional year enrollments decreased 0.6 percent.

The number of Pharm.D. degrees conferred to individuals already holding a professional baccalaureate in pharmacy decreased to 273 in 2015 compared to 339 in 2014. The number of individuals enrolled in postbaccalaureate Pharm.D. programs increased slightly to 936 from 935 enrolled in fall 2014.

The number of M.S. degrees conferred decreased 7.1 percent in 2014-15 and the number of Ph.D. degrees conferred decreased 0.7 percent.

## SUMMARY

### 2014–15 APPLICATION POOL

- From September 2014 through August 2015, one hundred and thirty-three (133) colleges and schools reported receiving 76,525 applications to the Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.1) as the first professional degree programs.
- The majority (59.9 percent) of the applications were submitted by females; 39.2 percent were submitted by males. The gender was not reported or unknown for 0.8 percent.
- Underrepresented minorities submitted 17.0 percent of the applications (Black or African American, 11.5 percent; Hispanic or Latino, 5.1 percent; Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 0.2 percent; American Indian or Alaska Native, 0.2 percent). Applications submitted from students that identify as two or more races totaled 4.5 percent.
- Over 72 percent (72.7 percent) of the applications to colleges and schools were submitted by individuals who had 3 or more years of postsecondary education: Twenty-five (25.0) percent had completed 3 or more years of postsecondary education without earning a degree; 45.4 percent held a baccalaureate; 1.9 percent held a master's degree; and 0.4 percent held a doctoral degree.
- The majority (54.2 percent) of applications received by colleges and schools of pharmacy were submitted by out-of-state residents.

### PROFESSIONAL (Pharm.D.) DEGREES CONFERRED 2014–15

- The total number of first professional degrees conferred (N=13,994) increased 1.1 percent from 2013–14.
- Women received 61.6 percent of the first professional degrees conferred; men received 38.4 percent.
- White Americans received the majority of Pharm.D.1 degrees (54.7 percent). Underrepresented minorities received 11.8 percent (Black or African American, 6.9 percent; Hispanic or Latino, 4.1 percent; Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 0.3 percent; American Indian or Alaska Native, 0.5 percent). Degree recipients that identified as two or more races received 1.8 percent of all Pharm.D.1 degrees. Asian Americans received 24.6 percent of the Pharm.D.1 degrees. The percentage of Pharm.D.1 degree recipients who were foreign, nonpermanent residents of the U.S. was 2.9 percent.
- The number of Pharm.D.2 degrees conferred (n=273) decreased by 19.5 percent from 2013–14.
- More women than men received Pharm.D.2 degrees: women, 67.8 percent; men, 32.2 percent.
- The percentage of Pharm.D.2 degree recipients who were foreign, nonpermanent residents of the U.S. was 17.9, up from 10.0 percent in 2013–14.

## GRADUATE DEGREES (M.S. and Ph.D.) CONFERRED 2014–15

- The number of M.S. degrees (n=720) decreased 7.1 percent from 2013–14.
- The number of Ph.D. degrees (n=561) decreased 0.7 percent from 2013–14.
- More women than men earned M.S. degrees (women, 54.7 percent; men, 45.3 percent) in 2014–15; however, more men earned Ph.D. degrees (women, 44.4 percent; men, 55.6 percent). There have only been two years since AACCP began collecting data (2008–09 and 2012–13) in which women earned more Ph.D. degrees than men.
- Underrepresented minorities received 6.7 percent of the M.S. degrees (Black or African American, 3.9 percent; Hispanic or Latino, 2.8 percent; Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 0.0 percent; American Indian or Alaska Native, 0.0 percent), down from 7.2 percent in 2013–14. Degree recipients that identified as two or more races received 1.1 percent of all M.S. degrees and Asian Americans received 11.7 percent of the M.S. degrees. The percentage of M.S. degree recipients who were foreign, nonpermanent residents of the U.S. was 48.8 percent, down slightly from 49.8 percent in 2013–14.
- By discipline, the most M.S. degrees conferred were in pharmaceuticals (26.4 percent). The next highest percentage was in social and administrative sciences (25.1 percent), followed by pharmacology (19.3 percent), other discipline (15.8 percent), medicinal chemistry (7.8 percent), and pharmacy practice (5.6 percent).
- Underrepresented minorities received 5.7 percent of the Ph.D. degrees (Black or African American, 3.2 percent; Hispanic or Latino, 2.3 percent; Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 0.0 percent; American Indian or Alaska Native, 0.2 percent), a decrease from 6.7 percent in 2013–14. Degree recipients that identified as two or more races received 0.4 percent of all Ph.D. degrees conferred and Asian Americans received 16.0 percent. The percentage of Ph.D. degree recipients who were foreign, nonpermanent residents of the U.S. was 45.6, down from 48.5 percent in 2013–14.
- By discipline, the most Ph.D. degrees conferred were in pharmaceuticals (38.7 percent). The next highest percentage was in medicinal chemistry (23.7 percent), followed by pharmacology (16.8 percent), social and administrative sciences (9.4 percent), other discipline (8.2 percent), and pharmacy practice (3.2 percent).

## FALL 2015 ENROLLMENTS

- 63,460 students were enrolled in the Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.1) as the first professional degree programs.
- There was a 0.6 percent increase from fall 2014 in enrollments in the professional years (includes four years for Pharm.D.) of the Pharm.D.1 degree program.
- Underrepresented minorities accounted for 13.6 percent of Pharm.D.1 degree enrollments (Black or African American, 7.9 percent; Hispanic or Latino, 5.0 percent; Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 0.4 percent; American Indian or Alaska Native, 0.3 percent) in fall 2015. Students that identified as two or more races accounted for 2.3 percent of all first professional degree enrollments.
- The number of Pharm.D.2 students enrolled (n=936) increased by 0.1 percent from fall 2014.
- There were 59 students enrolled in traditional full-time Pharm.D.2 degree programs in fall 2015. There were an additional 877 students enrolled in nontraditional programs in fall 2015.
- At the M.S. and Ph.D. levels the greatest numbers of full-time students were enrolled in the discipline of pharmaceuticals (36.6 percent and 37.2 percent, respectively).
- More females than males were enrolled full-time in M.S. programs, while more males than females were enrolled full-time in Ph.D. programs. Females accounted for 57.6 percent of full-time students in M.S. programs and 47.1 percent of full-time students in Ph.D. programs.
- The percentage of full-time M.S. students who were underrepresented minorities (Black or African American, 2.8 percent; Hispanic or Latino, 4.9 percent; Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 0.4 percent; American Indian or Alaska Native, 0.1 percent) increased from 5.6 percent in fall 2014 to 8.2 percent in fall 2015. 1.2 percent of all M.S. full-time enrollments were students that identified as two or more races.
- The percentage of full-time Ph.D. students who were underrepresented minorities (Black or African American, 4.1 percent; Hispanic or Latino, 2.1 percent; Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 0.1 percent; American Indian or Alaska Native, 0.2 percent) decreased slightly from 6.7 percent in fall 2014 to 6.6 percent in fall 2015. 0.9 percent of all Ph.D. full-time enrollments were students that identified as two or more races.

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