Education

Ranked by U.S. News & World Report as the No. 5 pharmacy college nationally, the University of Florida College of Pharmacy excels at preparing graduates to practice in an evolving environment where the pharmacist is an interprofessional team member who collaborates to improve patient care. Doctor of Pharmacy graduates have the foundational knowledge and skills to improve medication therapy in an evidence-based manner. They also are prepared to assume leadership roles in the pharmacy profession and the U.S. health care system.

First- to third-year Pharm.D. students study at campuses in Gainesville, Orlando and Jacksonville, and fourth-year students rotate throughout the state and nation for their clinical practice experiences. Many UF graduates practice in community pharmacy settings, with the remaining graduates choosing a variety of roles, including academia, hospitals, ambulatory clinics, the pharmaceutical industry, the Food and Drug Administration and others. For five consecutive years (2016-20), the UF College of Pharmacy ranked No. 1 nationally in the number of graduates securing highly competitive pharmacy residency positions.

Future pharmaceutical scientists receive training in one of the college’s comprehensive graduate programs. Under the mentorship of more than 50 graduate faculty, UF College of Pharmacy Ph.D. students have the opportunity to participate in lifesaving research and take a lead role in advancing science.

State funding and tuition $26.6M 36%
Research $26.5M 36%
Online programs $9.9M 13%
Foundation $1.6M 2%
Other $9.3M 13%
Total $73.9M
Research

Research activities in the UF College of Pharmacy span the entire life cycle of a drug and include broad interest areas such as medicinal chemistry, pharmaceutics, pharmacology, clinical and translational research, and pharmaceutical outcomes and policy. Led by award-winning faculty whose discoveries are significantly impacting the lives of patients around the world, the college achieved a record $28.3 million in total grant funding in 2019. The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy ranks UF No. 3 nationally in NIH funding and federal funding and No. 4 nationally in total research funding. Researchers in the college are using scientific approaches to improve the treatment of a variety of diseases through drug discovery, marine natural products, pharmacology, developing models of disease, pharmacokinetics/pharmacometrics, pharmacogenomics and precision medicine, pharmacoepidemiology and patient safety research.

Five active centers support these diverse research programs:

- Center for Drug Evaluation and Safety
- Center for Integrative Cardiovascular and Metabolic Disease
- Center for Natural Products, Drug Discovery and Development
- Center for Pharmacogenomics and Precision Medicine
- Center for Pharmacometrics and Systems Pharmacology

Distance Education Graduate and Professional Programs

Since 2000, the college has developed unique master's degree and certificate programs using distance learning technologies, so that working professionals everywhere can access high-quality education in many pharmacy disciplines. Our online graduate programs include M.S. degree and certificate programs in forensic sciences, pharmaceutical chemistry, clinical toxicology, pharmaceutical outcomes and policy, precision medicine and medication therapy management.

The online programs are among the largest and most successful in the world, having received three national awards for excellence in distance education. The programs are fully self-supporting and generate nearly $10 million annually, which enables the building of support infrastructure for course development and delivery as well as student affairs.

Innovative Practice and Service Models

The Center for Quality Medication Management provides outreach to more than 25,000 patients and providers each month, and 300,000 unique patients annually, to discuss opportunities for optimizing medication therapy. The center, with locations in Gainesville and Orlando, is staffed by a team of pharmacists, student pharmacists and technicians who provide comprehensive medication reviews, adherence interventions and other telephonic outreach services in collaboration with health plans, providers and pharmacies nationwide.

Through interdisciplinary and collaborative practice arrangements, the UF College of Pharmacy is a national leader in the development and evaluation of innovative clinical pharmacy practice models, including pharmacogenomics and precision medicine. The shared responsibility model partners clinical pharmacists with academic clinicians to strengthen the education of future pharmacists and increase scholarly activity. Innovative use of collaborative practice plans creates new training opportunities for pharmacists, generates clinical revenue and serves as a template for other academic institutions.