Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Where Discoveries Are Delivered℠
About Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Offering renowned health sciences professional education, innovative clinical practice and extensive research opportunities.

Our students have an average on-time graduation rate of more than 98 percent for the four-year PharmD program and an average of 99 percent NAPLEX pass rates for first time exam-takers over the last five years. We also rank among leading pharmacy schools in our research endeavors and grant funding.

Collaborations Across Campus and Around the Region

- School of Medicine
- Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry and Division of Biological Sciences
- Department of Computer Science and Engineering
- UC San Diego Health
- La Jolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology
- Salk Institute for Biological Studies
- Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute
- Scripps Institution of Oceanography
- Scripps Research Institute
- Scripps Center for Oceans and Human Health
- Local pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, health systems and community pharmacies

Leadership

- Dean, Skaggs School of Pharmacy
  James McKerrow, MD, PhD
- Associate Dean for Admissions and Outreach
  Rabia Atayee, PharmD, BCPS
- Associate Dean for Assessment and Accreditation
  Kelly Lee, PharmD, MAS, BCPP
- Associate Dean for Business Administration and Fiscal Affairs
  Andrina Marshall, MA/MBA
- Associate Dean for Experiential Education
  James Colbert, PharmD
- Associate Dean for Pharmacy Education
  Brookie Best, PharmD, MAS
- Associate Dean for Professional Practice
  Charles Daniels, BS Pharm, PhD
- Associate Dean for Strategic Planning and Program Development
  Grace Kuo, PharmD, MPH, PhD, FCCP, FNAP
- Associate Dean for Student Affairs
  Candis Morello, PharmD, CDE, FCSHP, FASHP
- Deputy Dean
  David Bailey, MD
Faculty

Our faculty lead innovative clinical practices and pharmaceutical research endeavors, and guide students to be future leaders in pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences professions.

Division of Clinical Pharmacy

- Provide comprehensive medication management services in innovative practice models of care
- Engage in developing and implementing medication safety and effectiveness strategies
- Conduct research, including clinical trials and observational studies
- Lead community outreach activities

Division of Pharmaceutical Chemistry

- Develop novel technologies for structure-based drug discovery and optimization
- Advance structural systems biology for target finding and protein modeling in bioactive natural products, cancer, and infectious, neurological, and tropical diseases
- Partner with pharmaceutical and biotech companies in drug development studies
- Establish open-access computational tools for analytical chemistry and drug screening
- Provide drug synthesis services to the scientific community

Division of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Pioneer many new cross-campus centers and initiatives:
- Center for Drug Discovery Innovation
- Center for Discovery and Innovation in Parasitic Diseases
- Center for Microbiome Innovation
- Collaborative to Halt Antibiotic Resistant Microbes Initiative
- Pan-institutional Human Health
- Oceans Initiative

Staff

Staff members lead and facilitate in the following:

- Alumni coordination
- APPE/IPPE scheduling
- Assessments and curriculum coordination
- Assistance to the Dean and the Associate Deans
- Building and facilities management
- Continuing education program administration
- Contract and grant budget proposal development
- Course administration and support
- External relations
- Faculty/staff recruitment
- Finance and business administration
- Fund management
- Newsletter development
- Postdoctoral scholars, project & research scientist appointment application and processing
- Preceptor/student liaison
- Strategic planning and program development
- Student admissions and advising
Academic Training Programs

**Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD)**
- Year 1: Courses include: Anatomy, Biostatistics, Clinical Research Design and Applications, Drug Information, Law & Ethics, Histology, Introduction to Health Systems & Policy, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Pharmaceutics, Pharmacy Informatics, Pharmacy Practice
- Year 2: Pharmacy students are enrolled in Laboratory Medicine, Neurology and Principles of Pharmacology and Physiology, along with systems-based courses with first-year medical students, including Cardiovascular, Endocrine/Reproduction/Metabolism, Gastrointestinal, Hematology/Immunology, Human Biology, Microbiology, Pulmonary, Renal
- Year 3: Courses include: Contemporary Topics in Pharmacology, Human Disease, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Pharmacoeconomics, Pharmacogenomics, Therapeutics
- Between Year 1 and end of Year 3: Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences in areas of community pharmacy, institutional health-system pharmacy, health-related service learning, and simulated activities
- Year 4: Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience rotations, where students apply the skills and knowledge obtained in a variety of clinical settings; students complete a research project as a graduation prerequisite

**PharmD/PhD**
- Provides knowledge and experience in the conduct of original pharmaceutical sciences research
- Seven to eight years to complete
- Joint with Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program sponsored by UC San Diego Health Sciences

**MS Drug Development and Product Management**
- Gain insight into the process of successful drug product development and deployment
- Bridge to employment opportunities in pharmaceutical and managed care industries or related government agencies

**PhD Focus in Pharmaceutical Sciences and Drug Development**
- Bridges basic and clinical research to address unmet therapeutic needs
- Joint with Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program sponsored by UC San Diego Health Sciences

**BS Chemistry/PharmD**
- Offered to UC San Diego undergraduate pharmacological chemistry major students
- Seven years to complete — fourth year of a student’s undergraduate work overlaps with the first year of pharmacy school
Fellowships

Clinical Pharmacology-Oncology
Two-year postdoctoral fellowship to develop skills in clinical pharmacology and oncology research, including quantitative pharmacology, drug discovery and development, and clinical oncology in collaboration with Pfizer.

Health Economics of Personalized Medicine
Two-year postdoctoral fellowship to develop skills in health outcomes, pharmacogenomics and pharmacoeconomics research, in conjunction with Millennium Health.

Residency Programs

UC San Diego Health, the only academic health system in San Diego, comprises UC San Diego Medical Center in Hillcrest, as well as Jacobs Medical Center, Thornton Pavilion, Moores Cancer Center, Shiley Eye Institute and Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center in La Jolla, and other primary and specialty practices located throughout Southern California. UC San Diego Health offers hands-on PGY1 and PGY2 programs in the following areas:

PGY1 Programs
- Acute Care
- Ambulatory Care
- Community Pharmacy*
  *In collaboration with Ralphs Grocery Co.

PGY2 Programs
- Critical Care
- Health Systems Administration & Management
- Infectious Diseases
- Internal Medicine
- Oncology
- Psychiatry
- Solid Organ Transplantation
Research

Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences researchers are advancing the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of human diseases, developing innovative clinical practice models, studying the impact pharmacists have on disease and medication interventions, and identifying emerging and future pharmacy trends.

Basic Science

→ Analytical mass spectrometry
→ Computational biology
→ Drug discovery and design
→ Genetic/molecular pathways
→ Marine genomics
→ Nanotechnology
→ Neurochemical mechanisms to neurological diseases
→ Proteolytic enzymes
→ Screening assay development
→ Structural biology
→ Synthetic organic chemistry
→ Vaccine development

Clinical

→ Disease management effectiveness
→ Health disparities and literacy
→ Health outcomes and services
→ Implementation and evaluation of practice models
→ Medication adherence and management outcomes
→ Medication safety
→ Pharmacoeconomics
→ Pharmacogenomics
→ Pharmacokinetics
→ Phase I-IV clinical trials
→ Practice-based research
→ Transition of care outcomes

Education

→ Curriculum development
→ Innovative teaching methods
→ Pharmacogenomics education
→ Interprofessional Team-based Education and Simulation Activities
Research Programs

Center for Computational Mass Spectrometry
proteomics.ucsd.edu
Develops algorithms and software to identify all the proteins present in a biological sample, as well as infrastructure to freely share tools with researchers around the world

Center for Discovery and Innovation in Parasitic Diseases
cdipd.org
Targets diseases affecting millions of people worldwide, but largely ignored by traditional drug and vaccine discovery companies because they primarily affect the poor and underserved

Center for Excellence in Nanomedicine
nanomedicine.ucsd.edu
Develops novel nanotechnology and biomaterials to enable better disease diagnostics and drug delivery

Center for Microbiome Innovation
microbiome.ucsd.edu
Accelerates research on microbiomes — unique communities of bacteria and other microbes that live in, on and around us — and develops new methods for manipulating microbiomes to improve human health and the environment

Center for Oceans and Human Health
scripps.ucsd.edu/scohh
Characterizes the biological sources, distributions, chemical composition, biosynthetic mechanisms, exposures and toxicities of the compounds that accumulate in marine mammals, fish and shellfish

Center for Drug Discovery Innovation
cddi.ucsd.edu
Translates fundamental discoveries into new drug technologies and medical research tools by facilitating collaboration and matching investigators with resources and expertise for high-throughput screening and computer-aided drug design

PharmGenEd
pharmacogenomics.ucsd.edu
Develops and evaluates pharmacogenomics education materials, provides shared curriculum resources, and studies the effects of these resources on pharmacogenomic applications

SDPharmNet
sdpharmacist.ucsd.edu
Pharmacists from various practice settings within San Diego Pharmacist Resource & Research Network (SDPharmNet) collaborate to investigate the best practices, tools and resources for patient care and medication management services
Clinical Service

Outside of the classroom, our faculty provides clinical service in diverse fields, including:

Clinical Expertise Areas

→ Cardiology and Cardiothoracic Surgery
→ Chronic Kidney Disease and Transplantation
→ Clinical Pharmacology
→ Critical Care
→ Community Pharmacy
→ Diabetes Education and Management
→ Drug Metabolism
→ Family Medicine
→ Infectious Diseases
→ Liver Transplantation
→ Medication Safety Practice
→ Medication Therapy and Disease Management
→ Neuropsychiatry
→ Obstetrics Clinical Pharmacology
→ Oncology
→ Pain Management and Palliative Care
→ Pediatrics
→ Pharmacoeconomics
→ Pharmacy Administrative Leadership
→ Primary Care
→ Underserved Populations Access to Pharmacotherapy

Clinical Practice Locations

→ Long Beach Memorial Hospital
→ Miller Children’s Hospital
→ Rady Children’s Hospital - San Diego
→ Ralphs Grocery Co.
→ San Diego Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly Clinic
→ UC San Diego Free Clinics
→ UC San Diego Health
→ Veterans Affairs San Diego Healthcare System
→ Villa Pomerado Skilled Nursing Facility

Partners in Medication Therapy

pharmacy.ucsd.edu/pmt
Offers Medication Therapy Management (MTM) services to external clients such as self-insured employers, medical groups, and health plans, optimizing medication usage to improve patient outcomes, enhance patient knowledge and manage costs for chronic conditions
International Training

Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences offers many opportunities for collaborative learning with international trainees and scholars who visit UC San Diego.

In addition, fourth-year PharmD students have the opportunity to satisfy some of their Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience rotation requirements with partner schools of pharmacy abroad. International collaborations are expanding annually. For the most up-to-date details, please visit: pharmacy.ucsd.edu.
Students and Alumni

Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences students are an integral part of the rich academic and research environment on the UC San Diego campus.

Each year our students compete nationally in clinical and knowledge based competitions, consistently ranking among top schools. Our students have the pleasure of conducting research alongside our esteemed faculty and receive firsthand experience utilizing pharmacy research methods. Lastly, our distinguished students go on to be leaders in the field of pharmacy in a variety of sectors.

Between the years 2002 and 2017, the school matriculated approximately 870 students into the PharmD program. Following graduation, many of our alumni engage in postdoctoral residency and fellowship training programs. Others accept positions in the community pharmacy and institutional settings.
A Message From the Dean

“We are all proud of the accomplishments of Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and the commitment of the School to innovative professional education, community outreach, and cutting-edge research. Its success and reputation reflect the extraordinary growth of UC San Diego as an internationally recognized hub of higher education, and the continual growth of San Diego as a center for biomedical research and entrepreneurship.”

– Dean James McKerrow
Location

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For More Information:
858-822-4900