

Office of Experiential Education (OEE)
**UC San Diego Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (SSPPS) Introductory
 Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE) Scheduling Guidelines**

IPPEs are a required component of the SSPPS curriculum and mandated by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education Standards. Students must complete a minimum of 300 hours of IPPEs (composed of Community, Hospital/Health-System, and Service Learning) to progress to fourth year Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPEs). The OEE schedules all Community and Hospital/Health-System IPPEs. Assignments are based on site and preceptor availability. Students are responsible for ensuring they have completed at least 30 hours of Service-Learning IPPEs.

# of hours required	Type of IPPE	When completed	When student schedules are released by OEE
70 hours (every Tuesday, over the course of 9 weeks)	Community Longitudinal	Fall, Winter or Spring of P1 year	A month before each quarter begins
120 hours (3 weeks)	Community (Block)	Summer after P1 year	By May of each year
80 hours (1 or 2 weeks, depending on shift schedule)	Hospital/Health-System (Block)	Summer after P2 year	By May of each year
30 hours	Service Learning	Varies based on student; must be completed by Winter P3 year	n/a

Longitudinal IPPEs: Each student will complete a 9-week longitudinal community IPPE in either the fall, winter, or spring quarter of the P1 year. Approximately one third of the P1 class will complete this longitudinal experience during one of the three quarters. This IPPE requirement will allow students to obtain practice skills in a community pharmacy early during their training and will complement knowledge and skills obtained in the Pharmacy Practice Courses. This longitudinal experience will also prepare students for their upcoming summer block IPPEs. Tuesdays are currently slated for this experience, and it is expected that students will attend their assigned IPPE site for eight hours each week. The longitudinal IPPE allows students to gain experience with the various roles of pharmacists in the delivery of health care services in community pharmacy practice settings. Students will have the opportunity to provide direct patient-oriented medication delivery and health care to a diverse patient population, and practice appropriate communication with patients and members of the health care team. Through this supervised experience, the student will apply introductory concepts from clinical didactic course work to gain experience in direct patient care, promotion of wellness, and disease prevention. The pharmacy setting for this experience may include independent, chain, and health-system community sites.

Summer (Block) IPPEs: The IPPE coordinator will assign all students to scheduled blocks based on preceptor and site availability. Students are expected to be available during their assigned blocks. Students will have the opportunity to rank the time blocks according to their preferences in the winter quarter prior to each summer IPPE. The IPPE coordinator will consider student preferences during the scheduling process while ensuring the needs of all students and rotation sites are met. No guarantees

Updated September 2025

can be made for individual students to receive a certain time block preference. There will be a brief swap period following the release of the student schedules. All schedule swaps must be agreed upon by both students and communicated to the IPPE coordinator by the specified deadline. Most IPPE rotations are scheduled in the San Diego County area. A limited number of rotations may be available in the Los Angeles/Orange County area based on preceptor and site availability and cannot be guaranteed. IPPE rotations may NOT be scheduled outside the state of California. The IPPE coordinator communicates with preceptors and site coordinators and must arrange all IPPE student rotations. Students may not make their own scheduling arrangements for rotations. Students should refer to the [Experiential Education Guidelines on Disclosure and Conflict of Interest](#).

Summer Research Project (SRP) Scheduling Guidelines

SRP completed summer between P1 and P2 years: If the student participates in an SSPPS-approved SRP after P1 year (summer between P1 and P2 years), then the 120 hours (3 weeks) of Community (Block) Pharmacy IPPE may be completed the summer after the P2 year (this is considered a 'deferral'). Students **MUST** complete both Community AND Hospital/Health-system (block) IPPEs this same summer. Students will be scheduled into their IPPEs by the established deadline. Depending on the availability of IPPE preceptors, sites, academic calendars, and requirements of the SRP Program, students may also complete their Community Pharmacy IPPE in the same summer as the SRP. Students will be given further information about this option if it is available at the time they are applying for the SRP.

SRP completed summer between P2 and P3 years: If the student participates in the SRP after the P2 year (summer between the P2 and P3 year), then the 80-hour IPPE Hospital/Health-System (block) rotation would be completed in either the first or last IPPE block of the same summer.

NOTE: As IPPEs are a required component of the pharmacy curriculum, students must adjust their SRP activities and timelines as needed to accommodate their IPPE schedule(s). All students will be scheduled for IPPEs by the deadline as determined by the IPPE Coordinator.

Internships, non-SSPPS Programs, and Dual PharmD/PhD Program

Internships, non-SSPPS programs, and the dual PharmD/PhD program must be scheduled around the IPPE program requirements. Students are requested to proactively notify the IPPE coordinator of any extenuating circumstances as soon as possible. Students who are interested in a structured learning experience outside of SSPPS (i.e., summer fellowship) must complete the [IPPE Summer Block Deferral Request Form](#). If students do not comply with IPPE scheduling requirements, their progression to APPEs may be delayed.

PharmD/PhD Scheduling Guidelines for IPPE

Students completing PharmD/PhD program still need to complete the full IPPE hour requirement prior to starting APPEs. This may include the need to complete both Community and Hospital/Health-system IPPEs blocks in the same summer. Please coordinate directly with OEE for IPPE scheduling.

Dual degree students must complete three six-week lab rotations prior to the start of the fall quarter after their P2 year, when they enter the PhD program. The usual sequence would be two lab rotations in the summer after the P1 year, and then one lab rotation in the summer after the P2 year.

This should leave at least 5 weeks available in the summer after the P2 year to complete the Hospital/Health-system IPPE block (2 weeks) and the Community pharmacy IPPE block (3 weeks). If a student were only able to identify one lab rotation after the P1 year, then that student would be able

Updated September 2025

to complete the community IPPE in the P1 summer along with that lab rotation. The Hospital/Health-system IPPE block would be completed at some other time, which could be in the summer before entering P3 year.