Pre-Applications for PharmD Dual-Degree Programs

Purpose of the guidance document

To provide guidance to students seeking to enroll in a graduate program as a dual-degree student on the academic requirements for participation in the dual-degree program at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy.

Students typically seek to enroll in dual-degree graduate programs during their third or fourth year of professional studies. Enrolling in a second academic program has the potential to provide significant benefits to students by individualizing their course of study while in the Doctor of Pharmacy program and preparing them for specialized career pathways after graduation. However, participating in a dual degree program increases the academic workload, particularly during the fourth professional year, when PharmD students are expected to participate in 50 hours of experiential learning per week on rotation.

To maximize the potential for success in both programs, students who plan to apply as a dual-degree student to a graduate program should discuss their plan with their academic advisor(s) and must be in good academic standing at the time of submitting the pre-application.

Student in Good Academic Standing and GPA ≥ 3.0

If the student has a GPA above 3.0 and is in good academic standing (see Student Progression and Performance Policy) when the pre-application is submitted, the pre-application for the dual degree program(s) will be approved.

Student Not in Good Academic Standing

A. If the student is not in good academic standing at the time of pre-application but is expected to be in good academic standing at the end of the current semester and prior to the program's application deadline, consideration of approval will be held until the end of the current semester.
B. If the student is not in good academic standing at the time of pre-application and is not expected to be in good academic standing at the end of the current semester, the pre-application will be denied.

Student in Good Academic Standing and GPA < 3.0

A. If the student has a GPA below 3.0 at the time of pre-application but expects to achieve a GPA of at least 3.0 by the end of the current semester and prior to the program's application deadline, consideration for approval will be held until the end of the current semester.
B. If the student has a GPA below 3.0 at the time of pre-application and does not expect to achieve a GPA of at least 3.0 by the end of the current semester, consideration for approval will be based on the following.

1. Meeting with the Associate Dean of Recruitment, Admissions, & Integration
2. Documentation of the student's academic advisor(s) support for dual degree application
3. Consistent upward trend in course grades over the P1 and P2 years
4. No "D" grades in the P2 year spring semester

Procedure for Communicating Pre-Application Approval/Denial

A. If the pre-application is approved, the Associate Dean for Recruitment, Admissions, & Integration will notify the student, the student's academic advisor(s), program director(s), admissions staff, and the School of Pharmacy registrar.
B. If the pre-application is denied, the Associate Dean for Recruitment, Admissions, & Integration will notify the student, the student's academic advisor(s), and the program director(s) of the reasons for denial.