



SCHOOL OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Six Years to a Pharmacy Career: A Community College Partnership



— Your health sciences students have big dreams.

Their ambition may be to work in a hospital, working directly with patients who need their help. Some may imagine themselves using science to fight for the health of our communities through public initiatives or regulatory work. Others may see themselves at a bench in a research lab or at a desk in a corner office, helping to discover new drugs and bring them to patients in need. A pharmacy degree can carry them to any of these places. And yet, students don't always think that a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) is in their reach.

Keck Graduate Institute (KGI) would like to partner with community colleges to make these dreams more accessible. By building a clear path for students and working together, we can help students go from **high school to pharmacy careers in as little as six years.**

About the KGI School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (SPHS)

KGI has built upon its leadership in combining bioscience with enterprise to create a PharmD program unlike any other. KGI leverages close biotechnology and pharmaceutical industry ties with strengths in computational sciences and entrepreneurship found in the professional master's and postdoctoral programs to prepare doctors of pharmacy to fulfill a wide range of integral healthcare roles. Required and optional industry experiential education provides students with a breadth of hands-on training designed to enhance their skills and knowledge, while increasing their competitiveness in the job market. In addition to the PharmD degree, KGI offers two-year master's degrees in Human Genetics and Genetic Counseling and Human Genetics and Genomic Data Analytics.

Program Details

- The program would be a **six-year comprehensive PharmD degree**, with the first two years at the community college (providing students take all required coursework on time) and the remaining four as a student in SPHS.
- Students would be recruited and go through an application process as they enter the community college.
- An invitation to interview for the PharmD program would be automatic for selected students, as long as they meet all requirements.
- Students in the program would have access to additional opportunities for enrichment, including summer courses, industry talks, and access to KGI's large body of clinical and scientific pharmacy faculty.



Average salary for a pharmacist in California is \$139,690—*Forbes, 2019*
 Median salary for 2018 nationwide is \$126,120 per year—*U.S. Dept. of Labor*

Shared Responsibility

We want students to succeed, and as you know, success isn't just about academic ability. A key part of our vision for our community college partnerships is to create a support network for the students selected for this program.

Students should routinely meet with their Transfer Center or Academic Advisor at the Community College to ensure they are on track to successfully complete all prerequisite courses. Each of the selected students would also be set up with an SPHS mentor (such as a faculty member or graduate assistant) and maintain this relationship as they join the KGI community after their two years at the community college.

Shared Benefit

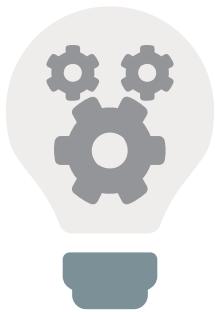
In addition to the obvious benefits for students, we believe that this program could help community colleges attract **outstanding, ambitious students** who are interested in a career in pharmacy and want to reach their career goals sooner, while taking advantage of the resources that a unique institution like KGI can provide.

Benefits to Students

- Early decision on admissions
- Dedicated scholarships for community college applicants
- Faculty and student mentors from KGI
- Summer pharmacy prep program
- Access to summer prerequisite courses at KGI
- Invitation to Pharmacy White Coat Ceremony and other events at KGI
- Shadowing opportunities with pharmacists in a variety of practice settings
- Participation in visits to companies in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry
- Opportunity to sit in on a Doctor of Pharmacy class

At a Glance

SPHS prepares students for 21st-century pharmacy careers through:



ACTIVE
LEARNING



INTERPROFESSIONAL
COLLABORATION



TEAM
PROJECTS

Additional opportunities for enrichment at SPHS



SUMMER COURSES



INDUSTRY TALKS



FACULTY ACCESS

Want to learn more? Please contact:

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