

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

School of Pharmacy

Doctor of Pharmacy Program

Pioneer Pathway



2025-2026

Mission and Principles

This initiative is an extension of our existing distributive campus model with a mission to **Enable Access to Quality Pharmacy Education** for learners within our region and beyond. The Pioneer Pathway has been carefully designed to synergize with our traditional pathways, preserving the unique elements of training that distinguish our school from other programs. Envisioned with the same commitment to academic rigor and outcomes, the pathway is anchored in *three foundational principles*:

- Fusion of expert faculty instruction with cutting-edge digital learning technology, design, and support.
- Continuous and valuable student engagement and support complemented by hands-on immersions.
- Structured flexibility, empowering students to tailor their learning pace within predefined time constraints.

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This document is a companion to the main School of Pharmacy catalogue, providing information specific to the Pioreer Pathway. Please refer to the main catalogue for general program information and policies. Pathway specific information includes:

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Program overview

The Pioneer Pathway allows students the flexibility to complete the initial two years of their training in a remote, structured learning environment using a combination of online asynchronous and synchronous coursework and in-person immersions. The third year is transitional. In the fall semester, students experience a blend of similarly structured remote coursework and didactic electives and complete a six-week structured community practice IPPE at a site local to the student. In the spring, students integrate into the traditional pathway, joining one of our four campuses to complete their three remaining six-week IPPEs and concurrent spring coursework. Students also complete their first five APPE blocks and Grand Rounds course at this campus. Students preference campus assignment at enrollment based on existing procedures. Students may also opt to complete their entire P3 and/or P4 year on the traditional pathway. This strategic approach ensures a minimum of twelve months of face-to-face and experiential learning on an assigned campus, providing the opportunity to develop a robust foundation of clinical skills, attitudes, behaviors, and professional identity through highly structured IPPE and core APPE rotations - elements our program is widely recognized for.

Introduction and Program History

The TTUHSC School of Pharmacy is dedicated to *enhancing the lives of patients through innovation and excellence in education, practice, and research*. At the core of our mission are values that champion innovation in a dynamic healthcare landscape and prioritize a curriculum that centers on the learner. The Pioneer Pathway is the perfect combination of both core values because it incorporates novel technologies to reshape our traditional curriculum into a self-directed, faculty-mentored pathway. This strategic approach extends our educational reach to students far beyond our physical campuses and enables TTUHSC School of Pharmacy to effectively address the demand for skilled pharmacists. By adopting the alternative pathway, we ensure that high-quality pharmacy education is accessible to learners, irrespective of their geographic location.

The planned launch date for this new pathway is August 1, 2024, with recruitment beginning in January 2024. The recruitment target for the first year is 24 students. This is the typical section size for most hands-on and small group learning activities within our existing program. This size allows the school to feasibly demonstrate preparedness for delivery of the pathway and to ensure optimal support of learners by existing faculty and team members.

In pursuit of our program, we are committed to ensuring that our program not only maintains but enhances the quality, rigor, and engagement that are integral to our school's educational mission. Program design and implementation is guided by the following tenets:

- Prioritizing program quality and academic rigor
- Embracing engagement and professional identity formation
- Agile innovation that is deliverable but pragmatic
- Creating a framework for collaboration and trust
- Cultivating synergy between new and traditional offerings
- Fostering support for both learner and educator, and
- Ensuring strategic support and resource allocation.

Relationship to traditional PharmD program

The Pioneer Pathway is considered a *pathway* within the overall TTUHSC Doctor of Pharmacy program. As such, governing policies for academic and technical standards and the student handbook apply. The catalogue for the traditional PharmD degree is found at:

<https://www.ttuhsu.edu/pharmacy/departments/academics/catalog.aspx>

Access to the student handbook is found at: <https://www.ttuhsu.edu/student-affairs/handbook.aspx>

Admissions

Students must be admitted to the TTUHSC School of Pharmacy via our admissions process, governed by Student Affairs. Admissions information for the Pioneer Pathway can be found on the SOP website:

<https://www.ttuhsu.edu/pharmacy/pioneer-pathway.aspx>

Curricular Structure and course planner

The basic structure of the Pioneer pathway is as follows:

	Years 1 and 2	Year 3 Fall	Year 3 Spring	Year 4
<i>Didactic</i>	Semi-structured remote learning through combined synchronous and asynchronous modalities with face-to-face immersions.	Optional remote (similar format) or face-to-face*	Face-to-face* on assigned campus	Grand Rounds and Capstone face-to-face on assigned campus
<i>Skills, Attitudes & Behaviors</i>	Four 1-week immersions, Amarillo campus	One 1-week immersion for remote learners	Traditional pathway	Traditional pathway through experiential rotations
<i>Experiential</i>	16-hour P1 Community IPPE completed in area of residence	96-hour P3 Community IPPE completed in area of residence	Hospital, Inpatient, and Ambulatory IPPE completed from assigned campus	Rotations 1-5 completed from assigned campus; rotations 6-8 may be completed in area of residence

* Face-to-face students integrate into traditional pathway. At minimum, students engage in the program for a minimum of 12 months face-to-face.

The curricular planner and full course descriptions of all traditional PharmD courses are found in the main SOP catalogue. A detailed listing of Pioneer Pathway courses, by semester is found at the end of this document. In most cases, Pioneer Pathway students enroll in the same courses/course numbers as traditional pathway students, simply enrolling in a course section specific to the Pioneer Pathway. However, in some cases, Pioneer Pathway courses are given unique course numbers to facilitate construction of courses which, though the same in content to traditional pathway courses, have schedules unique to Pathway learners. These are denoted in the course planner with the § symbol. Descriptions of these courses are included with those of the traditional courses, and are differentiated for the Pioneer Pathway with italicized text.

Immersion experiences

Minimum Immersion Time by Semester:

Based on current calculations, students would be required to travel to the Amarillo campus for 2 x 40 hour weeks each semester. Based on immersion hours, it may be possible to reduce this to 3 trips per year, but the committee has not yet identified a strategy that aligns with HSC census requirements for fall and spring semesters. Number of hours allocated to immersions each semester are based primarily on input from laboratory course team leads; experiential course activities are based on existing requirements. The 1

SCH Correlations courses were scheduled to reflect 8 of 14 sessions (57%) delivered face-to-face. The following outlines proposed immersion requirements per semester. Immersion weeks will be identified in advance to facilitate travel. Immersions will be scheduled and posted in the Academic Calendar. Additional time within immersion weeks may be used to support cocurricular activities, professional identity formation, orientation/development, and health service activities. Fall P3 immersion is shorter, may occur on another campus, and could be scheduled in tandem with IPE or other activities.

	Fall P1	Hrs	Spring P1	Hrs
Labs	Immunizations Lab	20	Pt Assessment	20
	Foundations	18	Compounding	18
Correlations	CC1	18	CC2	18
Experiential	IPP 1	4	IPP 1	4
OCSE		-		1*
	Total	60		61

	Fall P2	Hrs	Spring P2	Hrs
Labs	APC Lab	30	Parenterals	30
Correlations	CC3	18	CC4	18
Experiential	IPP 2	4	IPP 2	16
OCSE		-		1*
		52		65

	Fall P3	Hrs
Correlations	CC5	18
OCSE		-
	Total	60

*Currently no OSCE are scheduled in the P1, P2 years. The Assessment of Student Learning Committee is currently exploring implementation of OSCE beyond existing P3 year requirements. One hour has been allocated per semester to support this potential development.

Estimated tuition and fees

<https://www.ttuhs.edu/pharmacy/tuition/default.aspx>

Student support

The Student Affairs office supports students of all TTUHSC Pathways. The “current students” resource page is located at: <https://student.ttuhs.edu/pharmacy/current/> and the webpage for the TTUHSC and SOP Student Affairs offices are accessed here:

TTUHSC Office of Student Affairs: <https://www.ttuhs.edu/student-affairs/>

SOP Office of Student Affairs and Admissions:

<https://www.ttuhs.edu/pharmacy/departments/admissions.aspx>

Student success coaches

The role of the Student Success coach is to help support students whom are on-campus, or hybrid, and who have unique challenges mitigating their academic and personal success. Coaches identify barriers to academic success and assist them in creating and applying action plans for overcoming challenges. Every student can benefit from a Success Coach; inspiring success coaches motivate students toward reaching their full potential and make sure each student is meeting expectations and staying on the right course. In this role, and are responsible for evaluating individual needs, motivating students to work towards their goals, and monitoring their progress. Their duties include:

- Provide proactive and individualized success coaching to an assigned caseload of students.
- Empower students to effectively communicate with faculty and student services and become better connected to resources and support services such as financial aid, career services, and disability services.
- Engage in educational planning activities to help guide them to achieve their educational goals.
- Provide one-on-one coaching related to personal and/or professional development.
- Staying connected with students at all times.
- Identify at-risk students within an assigned caseload of students using reports and analyzing data and providing proactive outreach to at-risk students, connecting them with appropriate interventions and student supports.

Pioneer Pathway Curriculum Planner

P0 Preparation: Orientation “Boot Camp” week

First Year – Fall Semester

Course Name	Credit Hours	Method
PHAR 1101 Practice Readiness Experiential Program I (PREP I)	*	FTRAD
PHAR 1220 Foundations in Pharmacy Practice	2	FTRAD
PHAR 1330 Biological Foundations in Pharmacy & Patient Assessment I	3	HYBRD
PHAR 1130 Biological Foundations I Lab	1	HYBRD
PHAR 1460 Pharmacy Science and Calculations	4	HYBRD
PHAR 1332 Pharmacy Immunology and Microbiology	3	HYBRD
PHAR 1132 Clinical Immunizations Lab	1	FTRAD
PHAR 1440 Molecular Foundations of Therapeutics	4	HYBRD
PHAR 1154 Pharmacy Applications 1§	1	ONLIN
PHAR 1155 Pharmacy Correlations 1§	1	FTRAD
PHAR 1070 Essentials for Pharmacy Practice 1	0	HYBRD
TOTAL	20	4 F

*Longitudinal course, enrollment in Spring only.

First Year – Spring Semester

Course Name	Credit Hours	Method
PHAR 1101 Practice Readiness Experiential Program I (PREP I)	1	FTRAD
PHAR 1233 Principles of Disease	2	HYBRD
PHAR 1240 Applied Medicinal Chemistry	2	HYBRD
PHAR 1331 Biological Foundations in Pharmacy & Patient Assessment II	3	HYBRD
PHAR 1133 Biological Foundations II Lab	1	FTRAD
PHAR 1441 Principles of Drug Structure and Action	4	HYBRD
PHAR 1361 Pharmacy Formulations and Compounding§	3	HYBRD
PHAR 1161 Formulations and Compounding Lab§	1	FTRAD
PHAR 1156 Pharmacy Applications 2§	1	ONLIN
PHAR 1157 Pharmacy Correlations 2§	1	FTRAD
PHAR 1071 Essentials for Pharmacy Practice 2	0	HYBRD
TOTAL	19	4 F

Pioneer Pathway Curriculum Planner

Second Year – Fall Semester

Course Name	Credit Hours	Method
PHAR 2101 Practice Readiness Experiential Program II (PREP II)	*	FTRAD
PHAR 2401 Integrated Therapeutics and Practice (ITP) I: Cardiovascular	4	HYBRD
PHAR 2402 ITP II: Renal/ Respiratory	4	HYBRD
PHAR 2420 Principles of Self Care, Health, and Wellness Promotion	4	HYBRD
PHAR 2210 Clinical Research and Drug Literature Evaluation	2	HYBRD
PHAR 2218 Pharmacy Management I: Health Systems and Policy	2	HYBRD
PHAR 2220 Applied Patient Care Lab	2	FTRAD
PHAR 2154 Pharmacy Applications 3§	1	ONLIN
PHAR 2155 Pharmacy Correlations 3§	1	FTRAD
PHAR 2070 Essentials for Pharmacy Practice 3	0	HYBRD
TOTAL	20	3 F

*Longitudinal course, enrollment in Spring only.

Second Year – Spring Semester

Course Name	Credit Hours	Method
PHAR 2101 Practice Readiness Experiential Program II (PREP II)	1	FTRAD
PHAR 2403 ITP III: Endocrine, Repro, Integumentary, Musculoskeletal	4	HYBRD
PHAR 2404 ITP IV: Infectious Diseases	4	HYBRD
PHAR 2419 Practice Management II: Leadership, Law, and Ethics	4	HYBRD
PHAR 2460 Basic and Applied Pharmacokinetics	4	HYBRD
PHAR 2261 Parenterals and Specialty Pharmaceuticals with Lab	2	FTRAD
PHAR 2156 Pharmacy Applications 4§	1	ONLIN
PHAR 2157 Pharmacy Correlations 4§	1	FTRAD
PHAR 2071 Essentials for Pharmacy Practice 4	0	HYBRD
TOTAL	21	4 F

Pioneer Pathway Curriculum Planner

Third Year – Fall Semester

Course Name	Credit Hours	Method
PHAR 3219 Practice Management: Institutional and Community Pharmacy Operations	2	HYBRD
PHAR 3405 ITP V: Neurosensory / Psychiatry	4	HYBRD
PHAR 3406 ITP VI: GI, Hepatic, Obesity, Nutrition, and Wellness	4	HYBRD
PHAR 3154 Pharmacy Applications 5§	1	ONLIN
PHAR 3155 Pharmacy Correlations 5§	1	FTRAD
PHAR 4270 Community Pharmacy Practice Rotation	2	FTRAD
Elective Coursework (3x2SCH electives, various formats)	6	ONLIN
PHAR 3070 Essentials for Pharmacy Practice 5	0	HYBRD
TOTAL	20	3 F

Third Year – Spring Semester (on campus)

Course Name	Credit Hours	Method
PHAR 3218 Practice Management: Financial Management	2	FIVC

PHAR 3407 ITP VII: Hematology, Oncology, Pain	4	FIVC
PHAR 3420 Clinical Toxicology, Drug Safety, and Abuse	4	FIVC
PHAR 3251 Clinical Correlations 6	2	FTRAD
PHAR 4274 Institutional Pharmacy Practice Rotation	2	FTRAD
PHAR 4275 Ambulatory Clinical Skills Rotation	2	FTRAD
PHAR 4276 Inpatient Clinical Skills Rotation	2	FTRAD
PHAR 3071 Essentials for Pharmacy Practice 6	0	HYBRD
TOTAL	18	18 F

Pioneer Pathway Curriculum Planner

Fourth Year – Summer/Fall Semester (on campus)

Course Name	Credit Hours	Method
PHAR 4200 Grand Rounds (Fall)	2	FTRAD
PHAR 4653 Advanced Rural Community Pharmacy Practice Rotation ⁺	6	FTRAD
PHAR 4656 Ambulatory Care Rotation ⁺	6	FTRAD
PHAR 4657 Pediatric Pharmacotherapy Rotation ⁺	6	FTRAD
PHAR 4658 Geriatric Pharmacotherapy Rotation ⁺	6	FTRAD
PHAR 4675 Adult Medicine Rotation ⁺	6	FTRAD
PHAR 4070 Essentials for Pharmacy Practice 7	0	NA
PHAR 4110 Integrated Capstone	*	FTRAD
*Longitudinal course, enrollment in Spring only.		
TOTAL	32	32 FTRAD

Fourth Year – Spring

Course Name	Credit Hours	Method
PHAR 4110 Integrated Capstone	1	FTRAD
PHAR 4654 Advanced Hospital / Health System Practice Pharmacy ⁺	6	FTRAD

Elective APPE 1 ⁺	6	FTRAD
Elective APPE 2 ⁺	6	FTRAD
PHAR 4071 Essentials for Pharmacy Practice 8	0	HYBRD
TOTAL	19	19 FTRAD

*Sequence of experiential courses during the fourth year is based on student preferencing and availability.

Total Hours Required for Graduation

	Credit Hours
Total Credit Hours	169
Minimum Face-to-Face	87