

Graduate Program Guiding Principles **Working Group 2018**

Graduate Education Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy Graduate Program in Pharmaceutical Sciences is to attract the most talented applicants and train them to become rigorous scientists, focused on drugs and drug therapy, who are well-rounded problem solvers poised to lead in academia, healthcare, industry and society.

1. We recruit the best and brightest students who will become critical thinkers empowered to impact society

We prioritize the recruitment of the most promising future scientists from around the region, the country, and the world as we value academic success, intelligence, research experience, interpersonal skills, unique backgrounds, and cultural diversity. Our graduates will become rigorous scientists and creative problem solvers, fundamentally sound in their discipline, who are trained to create new knowledge, function as integral members of collaborative research teams, and become leaders in academia, healthcare, industry, and other avenues of society.

2. We educate using an integrated training system

A comprehensive student development model, built on a stratified system of training and innovative educational methods, provides our students with instruction, guidance, and mentorship in three domains: Pharmaceutical Sciences (broad, generalized understanding), Career (focused on real-world skills and experiences, driven by the student), and Scientific Depth (project-based research to achieve expertise and rigor). In addition, we continuously seek new external partnerships within academia and industry to foster innovative programs and collaborations that benefit our students.

3. We are *One Program* in pharmaceutical sciences with thematic tracks

To be *One Program* means that we are united by the common theme of our core training principles, competency standards, operational activities, and through the common thread of scientific inquiry focused on drugs and drug therapy. However, because pharmaceutical sciences is a broad discipline, thematic tracks that align faculty, requirements, and resources are utilized to meet the diverse needs of our trainees.

4. Our program is student-centric and harnesses our unique strengths

The core principle of our training paradigm places the needs of our students at the center. Special emphasis is placed on creating strategies to ensure that the individual needs and career goals of our trainees are our top priority. Our educational paradigm is an outcomes-based model designed to serve students, not only as a mechanism for the development of scientific expertise, but also to equip them with real-world skills that maximize career impact. Our campus consists of a unique and highly collaborative environment, where medical and non-medical sciences are closely linked, and clinical practice settings are integrated by physical location and through the professional activities and expertise of our faculty. Our program provides structure for training our students and supporting our mentors, yet maintains flexibility through which individualized training and mentoring occur.

5. We strive to maximize programmatic relevance in a changing environment

We believe that graduate education is critical to the preparation of those who will innovate and lead in the global economy and continually transform healthcare and society. We train students to become innovative thinkers focused on the development and utilization of drugs but whose skills can be broadly applicable to a number of career paths.