

University of Cincinnati
College of Pharmacy
Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience
Student Guide

Purpose

The purpose of the Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE's) is for the student to learn to apply the knowledge and skills gained in the first three years of the PharmD program so as to develop into a skilled pharmacy practitioner capable of assessing therapeutic problems and recommending optimum therapeutic drug regimens for specific patients.

In the APPE's, the Doctor of Pharmacy student becomes an active participant in assessing the drug therapy needs of individual patients, in formulating safe and effective drug regimens, and optimizing the pharmaceutical care of patients.

Practice skills are developed through the successful completion of a minimum of nine rotations under the supervision and guidance of faculty preceptors. Each rotation consists of required learning objectives and practice activities which must be performed.

Registration

The APPE's will take place throughout the final year of the program. Students will be registered for a total of 36 credit hours over the summer, autumn, and spring semesters of the final year.

Education/Practice Environment

APPE's are conducted in practice sites which are affiliated with the College of Pharmacy. Learning takes place in a patient care environment under the auspices of the pharmacy services within the institution. Emphasis is placed on the contribution that the pharmacist can make to patient care. Students are precepted by faculty actively involved in clinical pharmacy practice.

Faculty preceptors are expected to:

- Provide a structure where on-going pharmacy services are the principal educational experience for advanced professional training in pharmacy.
 - Provide a clinical practice site which offers an educational experience, allowing the student to function as an extension of the preceptor within the guidelines and objectives established for that particular rotation. The degree of independence of the student for these functions will be determined by the preceptor.

Rotation Requirements

Each student must complete a total of 9 months of Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience. Registration with the Ohio and Kentucky Boards of Pharmacy as a pharmacy intern is a prerequisite for beginning experiential rotations. An Academic Experience Affidavit for Ohio must be completed and signed by each preceptor to serve as a record for the Board of Pharmacy and the College. Students must be identified by wearing a waist-length white lab coat with the College of Pharmacy emblem and have a U.C. Medical Center photo ID, unless this is in conflict with the specific dress code of the rotation site.

Students will complete a core group of rotations designed to develop a clinical pharmacy practitioner competent to practice in multiple health care settings. No more than 3 months may be completed in one area. The attached course outline describes the requirements and educational goals and objectives for the APPE Courses.

Activities and Assignments

To meet the stated goals and objectives students will actively participate in the daily activities of the rotation site under the guidance of the faculty preceptor. The students will be given assignments by the preceptor that will enable the student to enhance their learning.

Examples of possible activities and assignments are :

- devise pharmacotherapeutic regimens and monitoring of drug therapy of all patients assigned by the preceptor
- review of medication administration profiles on all patients on assigned units to prevent, identify and solve drug related problems
- present an inservice to pharmacy personnel or other health care providers
- provide medication counseling on selected patients
- participate and present a topic for discussion
- participate in journal club
- present selected patients to preceptor

1. Professional Experience Program Weekly Reflective Journal

This serves as documentation of the student's activities during their experiential training at each site. The student will submit their journals each week of the rotation. The journal will be reviewed as part of the assessment of the student's performance while at their training site. The reflective journal entries are an opportunity for a student to self-evaluate and self-assess their learning while on a rotation. Reflective journaling should include, but is not limited to, overview of patient cases, drug information questions, patient counseling, interactions with health care professionals, review of presentations attended or given, and self evaluation and self assessment. The preceptor will sign the journal at the end of each week.

2. Activity Assessment

During the rotation the student and preceptor will choose a minimum of two activities to be assessed at the time each activity is being performed. This will give the preceptor the opportunity to provide support and feedback to the student about their performance and identify any areas for improvement.

3. Student Development Form

To be completed by each student at the start of each rotation to identify goals for each rotation and provide information to preceptors that will support the learning during the rotation.

4. Therapeutic Controversy

The score for the presentation will be added to the APE Evaluation during the month in which the presentation occurs. The score will be based upon evaluations received at the time of the presentation. The Director of Professional Experience Programs will average this score with the APE scores.

Class attendance is required from the start of the first presentation to the end of the last presentation. Attendance will be taken at both the beginning and end of class. Attendance is required unless rotation obligations prevent your attendance. **No absences are permitted – no exceptions.**

5. Peered Mentoring Experience student preceptors

The Longitudinal Practice Experience is a required course for the 3rd professional year students. The 4th professional year students will serve as preceptors to the 3rd year students. Each 4th year student will be assigned one or two students to mentor and teach throughout their advanced practice experiences.

Student Assessment and Evaluation

Student assessment is based on the stated goals and objectives for each of the APPE courses.

The competencies that will be assessed include:

PROFESSIONALISM
COMMUNICATION
DRUG/DISEASE KNOWLEDGE
APPLICATION
MEDICATION DISTRIBUTION / DISPENSING
ADMINISTRATIVE SKILLS

Grading:

Grades will be awarded based upon an evaluation that is completed by the preceptor and assigned by the Director of Experiential Education. Grades will be determined based upon the following:

APE Assessment Form

Each competency identified and evaluated by the preceptor will be given a score. Final grade for the rotation will be based on the average score for all the evaluated sections based on following distribution

Grading Scale

Grade	Average of Scores
A	≥3.5
B	≥ 2.5 to 3.499
C	≥ 2.0 to 2.499
F	< 2.0

Successful completion of the rotation will be based on student achieving an average of ≥ 2.0 in all sections of the evaluation. If a score of <2.0 in any section is obtained, a grade of "F" will be issued. Should a student receive a failing grade for a rotation, the student will be asked to repeat the rotation. The student may be required to participate in remediation activities to support student learning and improvement.

Attendance

The schedule for rotations for is determined by the site that the student is assigned. Students are expected to be in attendance at rotations according to this schedule. Students are expected to be at rotation a minimum of 8 hours per day. There may be times when you are required to devote more than the scheduled time. Excused absences, anticipated and unanticipated, are based upon extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the student. Four areas fall into the category of extenuating circumstance:

- 1) medical necessity;
- 2) death of a family member;
- 3) pre-approved professional activities; or
- 4) extenuating circumstances unforeseen by this policy (requires the approval of the Experiential Office).

Absences lasting more than 1 day are to be reported to the preceptor and the APPE coordinator (Dr. Doherty) as soon as possible. Arrangements will be made with the preceptor to make up **all** missed time.

More than 1 unexcused absence per rotation will result in a grade of F.

Inclement weather

Students must follow the policy at the site and not the university

Holidays

Students must follow the policy at the site and not the university

If you have questions about an excused absence, contact Dr Doherty before the absence occurs.

Students that are interested in attending professional meetings during a rotation will need to do the following:

- Contact their preceptor for that rotation prior to making arrangements for the meeting. The student and preceptor will discuss how the student will make up the missed time.
- Notify the APPE coordinator in writing your plans to attend a meeting.
- Provide a summary of the meeting to the preceptor and the APPE Coordinator.

Punctuality is mandatory. Students are obligated to notify the preceptor as soon as possible and prior to the time involved if he/she will be late

More than 2 unexcused tardiness per rotation will result in a grade of F.

Student Responsibilities before the beginning and at the end of rotations

Before the rotation

1. Students should contact the preceptor of each rotation a minimum of ten days before the beginning of the rotation to introduce himself/herself and to make arrangement for the first day of the rotation.

End of the rotation

The following must be completed by the student/preceptor each month in order for the student assignment for the month to be considered complete.

- a. Assessment Form
The preceptor completes this form on-line, discusses it with the student, submits the form online.
 - b. Preceptor & Learning Experience-Evaluation Form
The student submits this form online the last day of the rotation and discusses it with the preceptor after he/she has discussed the preceptor's evaluation of student performance. This will provide feedback for improvements if needed and as appropriate.
 - c. Completed reflective journals submitted online each week
 - d. Journal club evaluations or other assessments that are specific to the site.
1. Students should place the completed any forms in the mailbox of the Director of Experiential Programs following completion of the rotation(s) to receive a grade.
 2. If the preceptor does not complete the evaluation form on the last day of the rotation, the student should turn in a blank sheet indicating, if possible, when the preceptor will complete the form.
 3. The Academic Experience Affidavit must be turned in at the end of the 9 months of rotations.