

# Master of Pharmacy (MPharm)

## Course overview

Pharmacists are essential healthcare professionals, who ensure safe and effective use of medications. The Master of Pharmacy (MPharm) at SETU is a five-year integrated programme that equips students for professional pharmacy practice. The course combines (bio) pharmaceutical sciences, healthcare, clinical skills, and professional practice, with a focus on preparing students for current and the expanding role of pharmacists. Students will receive both university-learning and real-world experiential practice placements.

This programme develops both scientific knowledge and clinical competencies, preparing graduates for registration as pharmacists post-graduation. Stakeholder feedback through our development programme has been vital to ensure we meet the sector's needs. Patient care is a core element throughout the MPharm degree, in alignment with pharmacy practice. In both the fourth and the fifth year of the programme, students will complete a research project within a range of topics.



## Career opportunities

Graduates of the MPharm at SETU will have a wide range of career opportunities including, providing patient-focused care in community pharmacy, through dispensing prescriptions, over the counter medications and providing targeted health screening. SETU MPharm recipients may practice pharmacy in the hospital setting, managing medications to optimize patient treatment plans or working in specialist fields, with healthcare teams.

Opportunities are also available in the pharmaceutical industry (e.g. drug development, quality assurance, regulatory affairs), regulatory bodies, academia and research, and for completion of related specialist postgraduate areas of study.



## Experiential Placement

In the MPharm programme, experiential placement is a critical component designed to provide pharmacy students with hands-on practical experience in real world healthcare settings. Under supervision of a registered pharmacist, students gain insight into patient care, medication management, interprofessional collaboration and the ethical responsibilities of the profession.

Beginning in second year, these placements allow students to apply their academic knowledge in community and hospital pharmacy environments. Placement in fourth year allows student the opportunity to work in a patient-facing or non-patient facing or emerging role, for example in the pharmaceutical industry. The final placement in fifth year, is based in a patient facing role to prepare the students for professional practice.

## Course subjects

### Year 1 Modules

#### Semester 1

Foundations of Pharmaceutical Chemistry  
Pharmacy Practice 1: The start of the professional journey  
Human Anatomy and Physiology  
Cellular Biochemistry

#### Semester 2

Cellular Biochemistry  
Molecular Biology and Human Genetics  
Pharmaceutical Formulations and Maths with Statistics  
Introduction to Research Methods and Data Analysis for Pharmacists  
Pharmacology 1  
Physical Chemistry for Pharmacy

## Registration

To be eligible to apply to register to practice as a pharmacist in Ireland with Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI), successful completion of all five years of study is required. The MPharm programme is a regulated programme, meaning it adheres to strict guidelines and competency standards called the Core Competency Framework for Pharmacists set by the PSI. These standards ensure that graduates develop and demonstrate specific competencies required for safe and effective practice.

## Entry requirements

Applicants must present a minimum of six subjects in the Irish Leaving Certificate with the following requirements. The minimum educational requirements may be accumulated over not more than two sittings of the leaving certificate.

Chemistry OR Physics and Chemistry (joint): H4

Laboratory science subject (Biology, Physics or Agricultural Science): H4

Mathematics: H6/O4

English: H7/O6

Two other subjects: H7/O6

## Other programme specific requirements

Garda Vetting; adherence to Code of Conduct, Fitness to Practise Policy and Procedure; and completion of medical declaration and health screening.

**Please note:** SETU is currently engaged in the accreditation process for the MPharm programme with the PSI. Information provided in relation to the programme is subject to change.

**Further information**  
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