

Approved by the Board of Trustees
May 20, 2021

Board Meeting
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ESTABLISH THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES,
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, CHICAGO

Action: Establish the Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and Vice President, University of Illinois System with the advice of the Chicago Senate and College of Pharmacy recommends the establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences.

The Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences (BSPS) will be the first program of its kind in Illinois, and only one of 26 nationally. Students are admitted to the degree as transfer students during their third year based on grade point average and coursework requirements, including a minimum of 54 credit hours of college-level coursework. The BSPS requires 120 credit hours in total: 60 to 62 hours in general education and pre-pharmaceutical sciences coursework, 44 to 46 hours in the major, and 12 to 16 hours in electives.

The degree will offer two pathways: the BSPS Pathway and the BSPS/PharmD Pathway. For both pathways, the fourth year features coursework typically taken during the first year of the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD), with courses in

integrated physiology, pharmaceuticals, fundamentals of drug action, biomedical chemistry, pharmacokinetics, and drug information. In the BSPS Pathway, students complete the existing pre-pharmacy curriculum in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS), and then take upper-level courses in LAS and the College of Pharmacy. Students are prepared for work or further study in the pharmaceutical, biomedical, or healthcare fields. In the BSPS/PharmD Pathway, students can complete both degrees in seven years instead of the traditional eight years. Students in the BSPS/PharmD Pathway are considered to be part of the doctoral program in their fourth year, and their undergraduate degree is conferred after the completion of BSPS requirements. It is anticipated that 100 students will be enrolled in the BSPS program once the degree is fully implemented, and that 80 percent of these students will be in the BSPS/PharmD Pathway.

The degree utilizes existing coursework and only one new course has been created. Faculty from the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences will teach the BSPS core classes offered by the College of Pharmacy. The department has more than 50 faculty members; it currently offers the Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences, M.S. in Forensic Science, and M.S. in Forensic Toxicology. No new research faculty will be needed; however, there are plans to hire instructors to support the introductory pharmaceutical sciences course, a BSPS program director, a BSPS advisor, and graduate teaching assistants. Tuition revenue and existing college resources will cover the costs of the program.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

The President of the University recommends approval. The action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education but IBHE approval is not required.