

Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy, Shenandoah University
Pharmacy Postgraduate Education

Hello. My name is Mark Johnson and I'm on faculty here at the SU BJD SOP and Director of Postgraduate Education. I'm very glad to hear of your interest in pharmacy and Shenandoah University.

Pharmacy is a very exciting field offering many opportunities from community pharmacy, hospital pharmacy, drug industry, regulatory affairs, and many others. Some positions in pharmacy now may prefer or require some advanced training after completion of the Doctor of Pharmacy degree. This advanced postgraduate training includes residencies, fellowships, and other graduate degrees. The Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy has a long track record of success and involvement in postgraduate pharmacy training.

All of these postgraduate pharmacy education programs are highly competitive and students apply in their fourth year of pharmacy school. Residency training is divided into two postgraduate years. Postgraduate year one (PGY-1) offers more generalized training, providing residents exposure to a broad range of disease states and patients. These residencies are done at hospitals, community pharmacies, managed care pharmacies, and ambulatory care clinics. Postgraduate year two (PGY-2) emphasizes a specific area of interest and helps lead to specialization in that field (such as critical care, oncology, pediatrics, etc.). Fellowships focus more on research and are often associated with Schools of Pharmacy and drug industry. There are also graduate degree programs as well such as Master and PhD degrees in various fields of study to complement the PharmD degree.

The Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy offers many opportunities for students to be exposed to and prepare for postgraduate education programs including: various seminars and speakers on postgraduate education throughout each year of pharmacy school to expose students to opportunities available and to work on making students strong candidates, an annual Residency Showcase/Fair at the School of Pharmacy in which students can speak to representatives from regional residency programs about their programs, *Curriculum vitae* writing and interviewing preparation assistance, personal advice from current residents in our program and alumni, offering a postgraduate education elective that students can take in their P3 year to help prepare them for the postgraduate education application and interviewing process in the P4 year, research opportunities to work with a faculty member to strengthen those research skills, and a large variety of experiential sites to get excellent training and be exposed to a wide variety of pharmacy practices and gain exposure to residency and fellowship programs.

Many of our graduates have successfully completed pharmacy postgraduate education programs throughout many years. For the 2020 graduating class, students were accepted into numerous residency programs regionally and nationally based in hospital and community pharmacies including: MedStar Washington Hospital Center, Washington, DC; Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Camden, NJ; Henry Ford Macomb Hospital, Clinton Township, MI; Berkeley Medical Center, Martinsburg, WV; Nuvance Health-Norwalk Hospital, Norwalk, CT; University of North Carolina Hospitals, Chapel Hill, NC; Southern Arizona VA Healthcare System, Tucson, AZ; Sentara RMH Medical Center, Harrisonburg, VA; Salem VA Medical Center, Salem, VA; Meritus Medical Center, Hagerstown, MD; Carilion New River Valley Medical Center, Christiansburg, VA; Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital, Roanoke, VA. Each year we have several students accepted into fellowship programs and this year we have a student accepted into the highly competitive 2-year fellowship with Rutgers/Merck in Translational Pharmacology Clinical Operations division.

The Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy is currently affiliated with nine regional residency programs. Through this partnership, faculty train residents alongside of students and students have the opportunity to learn from and train with residents, provide educational and teaching opportunities for the residents, and assist sites in program design and development. These current programs include: Evolent Health, Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Novant Health UVA Health System Prince William Medical Center, Reston Hospital Center, Shenandoah University Collaborative Ambulatory Care Clinics, Waynesboro Hospital/Summit Health, Valley Health, Valley Pharmacy, and the Virginia Hospital Center. Please check out these programs out on our website if you want to learn more.

Again, we would be so glad to welcome you into our Pharmily as we call it here at Shenandoah. I think you would find this a very personable and caring school that makes so many exciting opportunities available to you as a student and sets you up to be excel in opportunities after graduation for a very successful and fulfilling career. Please let me know if you have any questions at any time and we hope to see you here in the fall. All my best to you.

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