Pharmacists prepare and dispense drugs. This includes establishing and maintaining systems to ensure patient and drug safety. In addition, pharmacists counsel patients by advising them on drug factors such as dosages, side effects, storage, limitations on activities, and interactions with foods, drinks, and other medications.

**Education**

Complete a program in pharmacy leading to a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from a program accredited by an agency recognized by the Department.

**Experience**

Completion of both introductory and advanced practice rotations in pharmacies.

**Examination**

You must pass all three parts of the pharmacist licensing exam series within 5 years: North American Pharmacist Licensing Exam, Multi-State Pharmacy Jurisprudence Exam, and Written and Practical (Compounding) Exam.

Visit the Office of the Professions for details and a listing of all license options and requirements.

**Salary and Projected Growth**

- Median salary: $126,120 in the U.S., $126,380 in NY
- Salary range: $91,330-$139,040
- Projected growth: average, below average in NY

**Where Could I Work?**

- Community pharmacies
- Hospitals
- Mail-order pharmacies
- Pharmaceutical industry
- Research–government and other organizations

**Your Interests and Abilities**

- Preparation in the basic sciences; pharmaceutical sciences; biomedical sciences; and clinical sciences.
- Pharmacy law

**Professional Skills**

- Concern for others
- Attention to detail
- Integrity
- Dependability
- Communication

**What Interests You?**

Match your interests and personality to career options! Explore a free career tool at mynextmove.org/explore/ip.

**Tip:** try searching for mentoring programs—talk to a pharmacist about what they do and how they got started!