

# PHARMD SPOTLIGHT



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*1. What would you say to current pre-health undergraduate students who may not know much about careers in pharmacy to help expose them to the role of PharmDs in the pharmaceutical industry?*

I think that at a pre-pharmacy level, just understanding that pursuing a PharmD helps prepare you to be successful in a variety of areas, including the pharmaceutical industry, is a great first step. PharmDs are valued in both the healthcare industry in general, as well as the pharmaceutical industry. Throughout pharmacy school we develop a skillset that allows us to be successful in a variety of roles, which is beneficial due to how broad industry pharmacy is. My advice is to figure out the impact that you want to have on people and then decide on a path of pharmacy that best suites you. Industry allows one to work on teams studying innovative medicines that can impact people and healthcare on a global level.

*2. What activities did you pursue in pharmacy school that have helped you land your fellowship?*

I focused my activities on honing the skills that were important to me: leadership (president of my IPhO chapter as well as other roles), communication (mentored and tutored other students), and project management (industry related internship). Industry experience is not essential to landing a fellowship, focus on activities that you genuinely care about. At the end of the day, it is not the activity itself that matters, it is the experience. The activities I was involved in allowed me to challenge myself, to learn about my leadership style, and to learn how to work through conflict and to work with others cohesively.

*3. Did you always know that you wanted to have a position in the pharmaceutical industry, or did it take some time for you to figure out that the industry was the best place for you?*

I chose to attend pharmacy school specifically to work in the industry space; however, I did not imagine choosing this specific functional area. I utilized my time with IPhO and with my internship to get as much information as I could about other functional areas, differences in tasks and lifestyle, different paths to get to industry, etc. This led to me making an informed decision about my chosen path and functional area. If you are considering industry pharmacy, I advise you to seek out as much information as you can.

