

# PHARMD SPOTLIGHT



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*1. What prompted you to pursue your MBA, and how has the MBA helped you so far in your professional career as a pharmacist?*

When I first started my undergrad, I had taken elective business courses simply from an interest in business and investing. At that time a dual degree program did not exist, but when I started the pharmacy program the opportunity opened for a dual track. I had an interest in industry practice and saw the opportunity to combine the two degrees in that area. The MBA has helped me understand more of the business terms and financials, which helped in my particular case moving into industry practice. I believe as I progress in the industry, the degree will become even more of an asset.

*2. Do you think being involved in a research project at pharmacy school gives a competitive advantage for gaining entry into the pharmaceutical industry?*

I believe being involved in research helps you learn a lot about the research process and how data is managed and interpreted but is not make or break for industry entry. I believe these are things you can learn on your own, but being involved in research provides the opportunity to implement it. Research experience may be more valuable for R&D entry where specific data management programs and skills are utilized.

*3. How have your IPPE/APPE experiences helped prepare you for a career in the pharmaceutical industry?*

My IPPE/APPE experiences have helped me immensely in preparing for a career in the pharmaceutical industry. Within the pharmaceutical industry individuals come from all types of professional backgrounds. The rotational experiences offered in pharmacy school gave me real world experience to different perspectives whether it is managed care, a specialty practice, or industry specific experiences. The skills and learnings have helped me in understanding what is needed to bring a medication to market, and the teams involved.

