

„Business skills for pharmacy students”

Specialization program *

in cooperation between the Faculty of Business and Economics and the Faculty of Pharmacy

The program aims to deliver basic business studies for pharmacy students (in parallel with their pharmacy studies), which provides the following advantages

- students will gain valuable business knowledge and skills, which could benefit them in their future work in community and hospital pharmacy and pharmaceutical industry setting,
- credits collected in this program enable pharmacy students to directly enter into a business master's program (Management and Leadership MSc or Business Development MSc) at the University of Pécs Faculty of Business and Economics.

The program focuses on general business skills, including accounting, finance, general management and organizations, human resource management, marketing and international business.

Duration of the program: 7 semesters

The program's fit into pharmacy program structure:

The program may be completed between semesters 3 and 9 of the 10-semester pharmacy curriculum, in parallel with the studies at the Faculty of Pharmacy. Pharmacy students should choose a so called “Business track for optional courses” specialization, which means registering and completing five subjects at the Faculty of Business and Economics in semesters 3-7, and further obligatory and optional subjects incorporated in the pharmacy program (having business content) in semesters 8 and 9.

The first three semesters (semester 3, 4 and 5 in the pharmacy program) contain basic business modules (accounting, general management, corporate finance), which is followed by two semesters “orientation” part, where students can choose one from two specific modules for the given semester (marketing vs human resource management, organizational behavior vs international business) according to their interest. 7 (ECTS-equivalent) credits can be gained from each subject offered by Faculty of Business and Economics, (altogether 35 credits), which is further increased by the credits of the nominated subjects completed in the pharmacy program (max. 8 credits).

* The „Business skills for pharmacy students” specialization program is also commonly referred to as “Business Track” or shortened as “Business Specialization” in this document and other faculty publications.

The content of the program:

Subject	Responsible professor	Semester	Contact hours	Credits (recognized as business MSc entrance criteria)
Basic subjects (3 subjects, 4 hours per week per subject)				
Introduction to Accounting	András TAKÁCS	fall	56	7
Introduction to Management	Norbert SIPOS	spring	56	7
Corporate Finance	Alexandra POSZA	fall	56	7
Basic subjects total				21
Orientation (2 subjects chosen from 4 offered, 4 hours per week per subject)				
Introduction to Marketing	Petra RÁCZ-PUTZER	spring	56	7
Human Resource Management	Zsuzsanna VITAI	spring	56	7
Organizational Behavior	Zsuzsanna VITAI	fall	56	7
International Business	Viktória GERDESICS	fall	56	7
Orientation total				14
Total				35
+ Nominated obligatory and optional subjects completed in the pharmacy program				max. 8

Program structure (semester numbers indicate the semesters of the pharmacy program):

obligatory courses: Pharmaceutical Practice and Management 2 (3+1 credits) and Pharmaceutical Practice and Management 3 (2+1 credits) optional course: Applied Health Economics (2 credits)

	Semester 3 (fall)	Semester 4 (spring)	Semester 5 (fall)		Semester 6 (spring)	Semester 7 (fall)	Semester 8 (spring)	Semester 9 (fall)
basic modules	Introduction to Accounting	Introduction to Management	Corporate Finance	orientation	Introduction to Marketing (7 credits)	Organizational Behavior (7 credit)	Credits recognized from subjects completed in the pharmacy program*	
					Human Resource Management (7 credits)	International Business (7 credits)		
	7 credits	7 credits	7 credits		7 credits	7 credits	max. 8 credits	

Program output: Certificate (upon successful completion of the whole program) and pharmacy diploma amended with “specialization in business skills and economics”, and credit proof about each subject completed.

Further service: The Faculty of Business and Economics offers a credit examination and consultation to the participants of this program, in order to plan and work out possible ways of joining a business master’s program.

Pécs, 14th of March 2024

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Frequently asked questions (FAQs) for students, departments and teachers

a. Question: What is the cost of the „Business skills for pharmacy students” specialization program for a pharmacy student?

Answer: The program is free of charge, the costs of attending the course are covered by the faculty of Pharmacy for students who agree to enter.

b. Question: If a student takes the first course, is it compulsory to complete the whole program and all the courses offered within it?

Answer: No, it is not necessary to complete the whole program. However, if the minimum required Business Track course credits are not fulfilled by the time of graduation, The Business specialization will not be indicated on the Pharmacist degree of the student, and Pharmacist degree without specialization in business will be issued.

c. Question: Is there a minimum number of students required for courses to start?

Answer: The Business Track courses offered are obligatory credits in the curriculum of the Faculty of Business and Economics (KTK) so they will definitely start.

d. Question: Do I have to write a business specific thesis at the end of the training program?

Answer: It is not obligatory, although recommended to choose a topic related to economic, management or marketing issues in pharmacy. You are required to write and defend a thesis related to your Pharmacy education to receive your Pharmacist (Pharm. D) degree by the end of the 10th semester. By fulfilling the required business course credits, you will earn a pharmacist degree with Business specialization, a separate business specific thesis is not needed to earn the specialization.

e. Question: During the credit recognition process at the Faculty of Pharmacy, how many credits will be awarded for the courses offered by the Faculty of Business and Economics and what subject category will those belong to?

Answer: The subjects are recognized as optional courses in the curriculum of Faculty of Pharmacy, the subjects are awarded the same credit values as indicated in the Faculty of Business and Economics curriculum.

f. Question: How to apply for a certificate of completion and a credit certificate for the courses fulfilled during the Business training? Are these business courses present in the electronic transcript of records of the students?

Answer: The students can ask for a certificate of completion from the Faculty of Pharmacy registrar's office for the courses he/she has successfully completed. The credit certificate is issued by the GYTK registrar's office at graduation, at the same time as the diploma is awarded. No procedure fee will be charged.

If students fulfill **at least 35 “Business Track” credits** by the time of graduation, the Business specialization will be indicated on the Pharmacist degree of the student.

g. Question: Do I need a degree in pharmacy to apply for the MSc program at the Faculty of Business and Economics?

Answer: Yes. After completion of the Business skills program, there are two master's degree level programs offered in English, which could be chosen as rational and realistic routes for further studies: Applied Management MSc or Enterprise Development and Entrepreneurship MSc.

You must have a sufficient number of credits in business, economics, business and social sciences. The above-mentioned "sufficient number of credits" is 30 for Marketing and 60 for Finance, Management and Organization, but the latter two can be started with 30 credits initially and the remaining 30 credits can be acquired in parallel during the master's studies, by completing bachelor's degree level courses to make up for the missing credits.

As each student may have different prior studies and subjects, individual credit screening is carried out by the Faculty of Business and Economics prior to admission.

h. Question: Does this training qualify as visiting student status?

Answer: No, participants in the program only have student status at Faculty of Pharmacy and continue their studies there.

i. Question: Where can a pharmacy student access the course materials in Neptun? Does a pharmacy student need to separately register the courses at Faculty of Business and Economics?

Answer: It is enough to register the relative courses from the list of optional courses offered in pharmacy curricula during the course registration period. Registrar's offices of the faculties will link the subjects afterwards, so that the student will see the business course materials in his/her Neptun.

j. Question: Which period of enrolment applies to these subjects?

Answer: During the course registration period, according to the schedule for the academic year at the faculty of Pharmacy.

k. Question: What should I do if my pharmacy classes conflict with my business classes? Can I attend parallel classes or by distance education?

Answer: Taking into account the timetables of the two faculties participating in the training program, the student should try to avoid conflicts between classes. The training program should be followed in the recommended order, but as there are no prerequisites. Thus, courses may be taken at different paces according to the student's timetable and preference. Scheduling conflicts in the timetable do not justify absence from attending classroom sessions. The program is offered on a full-time basis, however, in duly justified cases the instructor can decide to offer the possibility to complete the Business Track courses by correspondence/distance learning.

l. Question: The duration of the Business Track program is 7 semesters. Is it possible to complete the program in a shorter period? Is there a possibility to take more business subjects in one semester? (e.g. If a student does not follow the recommended curriculum in his/her pharmacy studies and has more free time in a given semester, or if the student intends to join the Business Track as a 3rd or 4th year student)

Answer: Yes, you can. Depending on the choices allowed by the prerequisite system, the student can decide at what pace he/she will enroll in the program. It is the responsibility and choice of the student to determine the pace at which he/she picks up the courses offered in the Business Track program.

m. Question: Is it possible to register for additional courses in Business and Economics for pharmacy students?

Answer: Yes, pharmacy students can choose from Campus credit courses offered to all PTE students.

n. Question: By participating in the training program, pharmacy students may gain additional credits, exceeding the 300 total credits required to complete the GYTK recommended curriculum. Will there be any additional cost implications for the student?

Answer: No. Students participating in the program are exempted from obligations under Article 41/3 of the Code of Studies and Examinations as of summer 2019.