



# Pharmacists

## DOES THIS DESCRIBE YOU?

### OVERVIEW

Dispense drugs prescribed by Physicians and other health practitioners and provide information to patients about medications and their use. May advise physicians and other health practitioners on the selection, dosage, interactions, and side effects of medications. Belongs to the Health Science career cluster and Therapeutic Services career pathway.

### SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE NEEDED

#### Basic Skills:

- Reading Comprehension
- Active Listening
- Critical Thinking
- Instructing
- Monitoring

#### Technology Skills:

- Analytical or Scientific Software
- Data Base User Interface and Query Software
- Label Making Software
- Medical Software
- Spreadsheet Software

#### Knowledge:

- Medicine and Dentistry
- Customer and Personal Service
- Mathematics
- Chemistry

**Work Interests** involve descriptive categories (compatible with Holland's Model) attributed to success in this career:

- **Conventional** – Enjoy following set procedures and routines developed through higher authority; includes working with data and details more than with ideas.
- **Investigative** – Involves working with ideas requiring an extensive amount of research, fact finding, problem solving, and thought analysis.
- **Social** – Involves working with, communicating with, and teaching people; providing service.

**Work Styles** depict worker characteristics conducive for this career:

- **Attention to Detail**
  - **Dependability**
    - **Integrity**
  - **Stress Tolerance**
- **Concern for Others**

**Work Values** are associated with aspects of work that provide satisfaction in this career:

- **Recognition**—Advancement potential.
- **Relationships**—Provide service to others in noncompetitive environment.
  - **Support**—Management backing.

**Aptitudes** reflect an ability to acquire skills and knowledge for success in this career:

- **Oral Comprehension**
- **Written Comprehension**
  - **Near Vision**
  - **Oral Expression**
- **Problem Sensitivity**

## ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2014 Estimated Employment	2024 Projected Employment	2014-24 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total, All Occupations	1,795,100	1,949,240	154,140	0.9	58,145
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	86,030	98,955	12,925	1.5	3,190
Pharmacists	3,185	3,360	175	0.5	90

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections>

## 2017 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Mean Wage	Mean Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Exp Wage	Exp Salary
Total All Occupations	20.93	43,539	10.09	20,991	26.35	54,813
Total Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	34.33	71,400	17.33	36,038	42.83	89,081
Pharmacists	53.00	110,244	42.27	87,922	58.37	121,405

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-employment-and-wages>

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education	Work Experience	Job Training
Doctoral/Professional Degree	None	None

A doctoral degree is required for pharmacists that may include commensurate internship experience. Licenses, certificates, and/or commissions required. Sources: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections>, [https://www.bls.gov/emp/ep\\_education\\_training\\_system.htm](https://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_education_training_system.htm), and <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/iowa-licensed-occupations>

## NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level	Minimum Skill Level	Maximum Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	6	6	7
Locating Information	6	6	6
Reading for Information	7	7	7
Applied Technology	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Business Writing	4	4	5
Workplace Observation	5	5	5
Listening for Understanding	5	5	5

An ACT assessment-based credential issued in determining essential work skills needed for employment success across industries and occupations. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6 & higher). Source: <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/workkeys-for-employers/assessments.html>



## PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

### (Where are Pharmacists Employed?)

Health and Personal Care Stores  
Hospitals  
General Merchandise Stores  
Food and Beverage Stores  
Federal Government

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections>

## ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

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