

**Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy**  
**Office of Academic Services**  
**Class of 2031**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q: How do I register for Fall 2025 classes?**

A: Unlike other Rutgers units, you do not attend an "Advising & Academic Planning (APA) Day." The EMSOP Office of Academic Services will register you for all required pharmacy courses for Fall 2024. The **EMSOP Mandatory Academic Orientation will take place on Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup>** for ALL incoming PharmD students. Details for the orientation will be emailed to all students as the event nears.

**Q: When will I receive my fall schedule?**

A: Schedules will be available for viewing on or around August 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Q: Will I be able to make changes to my schedule?**

A: Yes. You will be able to make changes to your schedule [when the add/drop period begins](#) (early September, date to be announced). More details will be sent to your email as the date nears. Additionally, I will be hosting virtual "Quick Guide to Add/Drop" sessions beginning in late-August. Additional details of the platform and virtual meeting time will be sent to your University email as the date nears.

**Q: Am I required to take a Byrne Seminar?**

A: Unless you are a member of the Honors College, you are not required to complete a Byrne Seminar for the PharmD program. Byrne Seminars are offered during the Fall and Spring semesters of your first year. If you would like to take a Byrne Seminar in your fall semester, you will be able to add one to your schedule during the add/drop period. To learn more about Byrne Seminars click [here](#).

**Q: What if I am in the Honors College, how can I add honors courses to my fall schedule?**

A: The Office of Academic Services is aware of students in the Honors College, and we build your schedule in accordance with Honors College requirements. We work to include at least 1-2 Honors College requirements in your fall schedule; and we work closely with the Honors College Staff to ensure registration of honors courses is appropriate.

**Q: How can I transfer dual enrollment (aka college credits while taken in high school)?**

A: Please keep in mind that dual enrollment credits **do** count toward the maximum limit of 8 credits that are permitted for transfer. If you would like any dual enrollment credits [reviewed for eligibility](#), complete the following TWO steps:

1. Email your NAME, RUID and name of the college you attended to [academicervices@pharmacy.rutgers.edu](mailto:academicervices@pharmacy.rutgers.edu) – in the subject line enter:

**"Class of 2031-College Credits for Review"**



2. Please send an official copy of the college transcript to:

Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy  
Attn: Academic Services, Room 277A  
160 Frelinghuysen Road  
Piscataway, NJ 08854-8020

*\*\*\*Please note, if the college you attended sends electronic official copies, that is fine, we will accept that, just please still send us an email (step 1). If sending the transcript electronically requires an email address, please use: [academicservices@pharmacy.rutgers.edu](mailto:academicservices@pharmacy.rutgers.edu) so our staff can access the official copy to download.*

**Q: Do I need to take a placement exam?**

A: All incoming students are required to take a placement exam, unless they meet one of the exemptions listed [here](#). If you do not meet an exemption AND you have NOT taken a placement exam yet, please do so **immediately**. If you are having trouble accessing, taking the exams, or any other issue with the placement exam email [otp@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:otp@echo.rutgers.edu) or call 848-932-0573. EMSOP Academic Services does NOT manage the placement testing.

**Q: What happens if I place into a remedial Math or English course? And how will this impact my progression in the program?**

A: If you place into any one of courses listed below, you may want to consider registering for the course at Rutgers New Brunswick for the Summer 2025 Session; email [academicservices@pharmacy.rutgers.edu](mailto:academicservices@pharmacy.rutgers.edu) if this applies to you.

*01:640:025 or 026 Elementary or Intermediate Algebra*

*01:640:111 Precalculus Part 1*

*01:640:115 Precalculus*

*01:356:155 or 156 English for Academic Purposes I,II*

This way you can complete the course and attempt to stay on-track. If you are unable to register and complete the course in the summer session prior to entering this fall, the Office of Academic Services will adjust your fall registration to reflect your placement scores. This can, in some cases, delay progression in the curriculum. However, the Office of Academic Services staff is available to work individually with you to build a customized academic plan to get you "back on track" if this applies to you.

**Q: Can I get a "head start" and take required courses this summer at Rutgers, prior to starting my first semester this fall?**

A: **No.** We do not permit (nor do we encourage) students to take required courses prior to entering. As mentioned in this document, the curriculum is very structured and often courses are offered in a sequential manner. We advise all incoming first year pre-professional students to enjoy their summer before they start their college career!

**Q: Why is my Rutgers Dashboard still showing that my AP scores have not been received, even though I sent them already?**



A: Sometimes there is a delay in the myRutgers Dashboard being updated, as the University Undergraduate Admissions Office receives large amounts of documents for incoming students daily. Please be patient with the system to update. If you have concerns about your myRutgers Dashboard, please reach out to Undergraduate Admissions directly, not the Office of Academic Services.

**Q: Am I required to take a foreign language?**

A: No. Pharmacy students are not required to complete a foreign language as a degree requirement. However, if you wish to continue the study of a language you took in high school while at Rutgers, you must take a foreign language placement exam. Foreign language courses will count as humanities/social science elective credit. If you wish to study a language that you do NOT have any prior knowledge of, you are NOT required to take the foreign language placement exam. All foreign language placement exam information can be found [here](#).

**Q: As a PharmD student, am I eligible to participate in a Living Learning Community?**

A: Yes. Some LLC's require a course to be taken in conjunction with the experience and as long as there isn't interference with your required PharmD requirements, you may participate.

**Q: I have AP or Dual Enrollment credits for English Composition, do I still need to take College Writing 01:355:101?**

A: Pharmacy students are required to complete **two** college writing courses that must be taken at Rutgers University during their first pre-professional year. **ALL Pharmacy students are required to take College Writing at Rutgers University – no exceptions to this policy.** Your AP or Dual Enrollment credits for English Composition or English Literature/Language may be used to satisfy humanities/ss elective credits if you so choose.

**Q: How do I accept AP credit?**

A: Expect to receive an email during the **first week of August** containing an "AP Offer Letter." In this email you will be notified of the AP credits you are eligible to earn credit for, and there will be instructions on how to formally accept the credits. Please accept credits by the deadline provided in the email. **\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: The email will be sent to the email you used on your application to Rutgers and/or University email. For some of you we understand you may have used your high school email address, which is no longer active. For those of you that used your high school email address, we will send the AP Offer Letter to your Rutgers University email, so please be sure to check that email address.**

**Q: What if I accept AP credit for a fall required course, how does that impact my fall schedule?**

A: The Office of Academic Services will remove the course from your fall schedule and replace it with a required humanities/social science course.

**Q: During the add/drop period, can I remove/drop required science courses?**

A: **NO.** All students are required to maintain required science and writing courses on their fall schedule. The Pharmacy curriculum is mandatory and much of the curriculum is sequential –

this means a course may only be offered in the fall, and if you remove the course, you run the risk of being off track and potentially held back in the program.

**Q: As an incoming first-year pre-professional student, who is my academic advisor?**

A: Dean Sclafani serves as the academic advisor for pre-professional students in the program. She and the Office of Academic Services staff will offer support throughout your enrollment in the PharmD program. Dean Sclafani will be offering virtual advising sessions beginning in late August around the start of Add/Drop – please monitor your email for notifications of available advising sessions.

**Q: Should I sign up for New Student Orientation?**

A: Yes! There will be specific New Student Orientation (NSO) dates offered this summer for Pharmacy students – you should absolutely attend the 2-day (overnight) experience on campus. It gives you a great opportunity to connect with fellow incoming students, explore campus and learn about the resources and opportunities available to you; and you will attend an academic session where Dean Sclafani dives deeper into explaining the curriculum and what to expect during your first fall semester.