

FAQ's on M.Pharm Admissions

Frequently Asked Questions on M.Pharm Admissions

B.Pharm graduate, a fresher will have lot of queries in his/her mind regarding admission to M.Pharm course and herewith we tried our level best to clarify their doubts based on the queries raised by many pharmacy graduates. Good Luck.

1. I completed my B.Pharm and I am interested to do M.Pharm. How can I? (or) How to join M.Pharm?

- ✦ After completing B.Pharm a graduate can join into M.Pharm via various channels.
 - ✦ The most important one is by attempting an All India level entrance exam namely GPAT (Graduate Pharmacy Aptitude Test) conducted every year. Based on that GPAT rank admission into M.Pharm course is done in most of the institutes.
 - ✦ Otherwise you can attempt university level/ national level/ state level entrance exams (if any) like PGCET (in Andhra Pradesh), KCET (in Karnataka), PGAT (in Orissa) etc. conducted in individual states and based on that rank you can join M.Pharm through counseling.
 - ✦ As a last option you can do M.Pharm by self-finance or management quota. Here you have to approach college and have discussions or notifications have to be followed.
 - ✦ Of course there is another special option if you are a person who did B.Pharm and worked for few years, then you can join M.Pharm through QIP (Quality Improvement Program) as per the guidelines notified by them.

2. I am taking GPAT coaching, Does it helps me?

- ✦ Surely it will help you a lot if you could have opted for good coaching center. As on today there is a lot of competition among coaching centers and hence they are striving for quality. However there may be some pitfalls, but their orientation will help you gain tips and time management for attempting GPAT properly. Of course it all depends on your hard work!

3. Am I able to get GPAT coaching right from my house?

- ✦ Ha! Why not! These days are technology days and hence the GPAT training is possible right from your house via online GPAT coaching offered by various coaching centers. You just google the same for details.

4. Shall I have GPAT previous or old question papers? Where shall I get GPAT previous or old question papers?

- ✦ There are so many websites providing previous/old GPAT or GATE-PY question papers. Just google it. Practice questions are available at www.pharmainfo.net

5. What is the pattern of GPAT exam?

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- ✦ For the last few years it is changing time to time and however it will be objective type questioning with 4 options.
- ✦ Models of questions may be direct options, matching, reasoning & assertion, dual answer type, linked answer questions etc.

6. How to apply for GPAT?

- ✦ A notification will be given every year by the organizing institute and as per that you can apply. At present M.S University of Baroda is the organizer in association with AICTE.

7. I don't have GPAT rank, Am I eligible to get stipend/ scholarship.

- ✦ Sorry, No GPAT rank, No stipend/scholarship. You will get stipend/scholarship if you join M.Pharm only through counseling based on GPAT rank. That means having GPAT rank also solely doesn't ensure stipend/scholarship.

8. Who gives stipend/scholarship in my M.Pharm? Is it the college where join or any other organization?

- ✦ Stipend/scholarship in M.Pharm for a GPAT ranker (candidate who joined through counseling based on GPAT rank) will be provided by MHRD (Ministry of Human Resources Development) via UGC (University Grants Commission) or AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education) bodies.

9. How to get stipend/scholarship if I obey the rules and regulations of MHRD?

- ✦ You need to apply as per the proforma provided by the regulating authorities UGC or AICTE. Based on that you will be awarded with stipend/scholarship. It will take enough time hence you need to follow up with your college people otherwise you will loose.

10. I am not qualified in GPAT, how to do M.Pharm? or Is GPAT rank compulsory to do M.Pharm?

- ✦ GPAT rank is NOT compulsory to do M.Pharm. Without GPAT rank also you can join M.Pharm but you won't get stipend/scholarship and college fee may vary. That's all

11. What is the validity of GPAT rank/score? (or) Shall I use this year GPAT rank for next year M.Pharm admissions?

- ✦ At present validity of GPAT rank/score is ONE year. Within that one year duration you can use that GPAT rank/score for M.Pharm admission, later that is not eligible for admission. Hence this year rank is not useful for next year admission if you cross that one year duration.

12. Why some universities/ institutes conduct separate entrance exams when there is a national level entrance exam i.e., GPAT.

- ✦ It's their right to frame some rules for M.Pharm admissions in their campus. To screen the candidates again some institutes conduct entrance test and/or interview. They may give weightage to both GPAT rank and their entrance test rank and some times B.Pharm

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percentage. It varies from institute to institute. To attempt some colleges entrance exams, GPAT qualified persons are only eligible. For e.g., NIPER. However some colleges fill their M.Pharm seats solely based on GPAT rank.

13. How to join M.Pharm in NIPER? (or) I am interested to do M.Pharm in NIPER, How to proceed?

- ✦ NIPER gives notification every year and conducts an All India level entrance exam namely NIPER-JEE (Joint Entrance Exam) to admit candidates for M.Pharm course in all their campuses in India. To attempt that exam you should be qualified in GPAT. No GPAT rank, No NIPER! Based on their NIPER-JEE rank, they conduct interview and give admission to M.Pharm. A tough competition is there for NIPER!

14. Is there any special coaching for NIPER entrance exam?

- ✦ Ha, there is good number of coaching centers for NIPER-JEE. Just google it.

15. Where shall I get NIPER previous or old question papers?

- ✦ Actually NIPER-JEE question paper is not given outside, they will take it back. Hence they are not highly available outside. However some guys worked hard to provide some information to the NIPER aspirants. Plz find the links below for info:

✦ <http://gpatniper.weebly.com/niper.html>

✦ <http://www.pharmainfo.net/niper-entrance-examination>

16. What are the approvals I need to check for a college, before joining M.Pharm in that college? How can I do that?

- ✦ Yes, you need to check for approval of AICTE for that college to run M.Pharm course. You can check this by browsing the AICTE website www.aicte.ernet.in where you can get complete details state wise. Without this approval you won't get stipend/scholarship and even your PG gets unrecognized.
- ✦ That college should also have PCI (Pharmacy Council of India) approval, of course there will be no special approval for M.Pharm, but college should be approved by PCI for B.Pharm course. However there will be a controversy during employment as faculty. M.Pharm is the qualification allowed to work as faculty in pharmacy colleges as per PCI.
- ✦ That college should have affiliation to respective University.

17. I have B.Pharm percentage not more than 60%, Am I eligible to do M.Pharm and to get stipend?

- ✦ Yes, you are eligible to do M.Pharm and to get stipend/scholarship. If you have more than 50% B.Pharm percentage and joined M.Pharm through counseling based on GPAT rank then you are eligible for stipend/scholarship. It all depends on the college how much care they take about stipend. Enquire about that before joining a college.

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18. What is the difference among Pharmaceutics, Pharmaceutical Technology and Industrial Pharmacy in M.Pharm specializations?

- ✦ Same. No difference, only title variation. They are the names kept by different Universities and hence variations. All of them represent Pharmaceutics specialization.

19. What is the difference between M.Pharm and M.S.?

- ✦ Master of Pharmacy and Master of Science, both are post graduation courses, just title variation. No difference. However as per PCI, if a PG candidate has to work as faculty in a pharmacy college, he/she should have M.Pharm qualification. Under special explanations M.S. pharmacy or M.Tech pharmacy candidates are being allowed to work as faculty. They should be registered pharmacists based on their B.Pharm course.

20. Name some premiere institutes in India offering M.Pharm course

- ✦ There are so many premiere institutes offering M.Pharm course in India, few of them for you: NIPER, JADHAVPUR University, Banarus Hindu University, BITS PILANI, SAGAR University, MANIPAL University, PANJAB University, JSS University etc.

21. My college doesn't have PCI approval yet; will it be a problem to do M.Pharm?

- ✦ Yes, some universities or institutes ask for PCI approval for B.Pharm course to give admission into M.Pharm. Even to write their entrance exams they ask for PCI approval. However you can attempt their exam and at the time of admission you can provide the details of your college PCI approval. But there are so many institutes which don't ask for that. Hence no need to worry! As a precaution be in touch with your college principal and enquire about PCI approval during your graduation itself.

22. Is there any central counseling? or I have to apply for individual colleges for M.Pharm admission? It is causing lot of expenditure!

- ✦ At present there is no such central counseling for M.Pharm admissions. However in some states there is a common counseling for admission into Universities and affiliated colleges based on GPAT rank or state level entrance exam rank. In most cases you need to apply individually for colleges/universities based on their notifications. And it costs more, thousands of amount you need to invest for applications. You need to write entrance tests, attend interviews and attend counseling... Very nervous situation for which you should be prepared well and be bold. Be aware of the situation by interacting with your seniors or faculty.

23. How to select a good college?

- ✦ You need to do lot of home work to get this info. Enquire your teachers, seniors & friends and prepare a hand out for final conclusion. Important points to be enquired about a college

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include: infrastructure, management, placements, faculty, brand name etc. to confirm whether it is a good college or not.

24. How to select a good specialization?

- ✦ It is not a stable answer, because the priorities may change time to time. However Pharmaceutics is said to be ever green and one important thing you need to remember is: The value of specialization also depends on the college, I mean in one college one specialization is sound and in other college another specialization is sound. Hence you need to think wise before you opt for a specialization if you don't have any fixed passion on a particular specialization.

25. Which specialization is best in M.Pharm?

- ✦ All are great to their concern. Pharmaceutics is said to be ever green. At present Analysis/Quality Assurance is competing with that and have the word of good future and job prospectus. Followed by Pharmacology. Remaining specializations are of next priority.
- ✦ Recently Pharmacovigilance and Pharma management courses are leading the way! It all depends on how much stuff you have in that subject.
- ✦ A pharmacognosy person with sound knowledge is 1000 times better than a pharmaceutics person with poor knowledge. It's all about Pharmacy Profession!

26. Is it better to select a college where project work is done in campus or a college who send their M.Pharm students to industries for project work?

- ✦ If the college is having all facilities and dynamic faculty then they will prefer to conduct research work in their premises itself, it indicates that college has sound facilities in one angle. In another way, if you do project work in industry and worth enough, there is a chance you will be absorbed by them and offered by a job. However it all depends on your caliber and wherever you do research work, if you can publish it in a good journal and confident about your work then you can excel in your career.
- ✦ Doing project work in government bodies will fetch you a lot. Even some renowned companies offer stipend for your project work.

27. How to know about notifications on M.Pharm admissions?

- ✦ Most of the notifications you can find in Daily news papers.
- ✦ However you can simply get the information by regular browsing of internet. That is a good source and you should be touch with your friends for updates.
- ✦ You should be very careful about last dates otherwise you may miss a golden opportunity.

28. Does B.Pharm marks or percentage counts during M.Pharm admission?

- ✦ Yes, it has its value during admissions. Now 70% weightage is given to GPAT score and 30% weightage to B.Pharm score.

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- ✦ At the time of tie up in GPAT rank, your B.Pharm score fetch you a lot. In some cases it may not be counted.

29. What are the basic documents to be maintained for M.Pharm admission?

- ✦ GPAT Score card (if applicable), Individual entrance exam rank card (if applicable), B.Pharm mark sheets, Provisional certificate or Original Degree, Transfer certificate, Migration certificate (in case of changing your university or state), Caste certificate (in case of reservation), Date of Birth certificate or 10th mark list (in some cases age priorities are given, more age, more priority), Residence certificate (in case of local/ regional based admissions), Physical fitness certificate (in some cases, if mentioned), special certificates like Physically challenged/ Ex-servicemen/ Sport quota (if applicable) and other as the case may be.

30. Shall I get stipend/ scholarship month to month regularly?

- ✦ It depends on the institute/ university you join. In case of NIPER you will get stipend every month in time on regular basis. In case of private colleges, you need to apply every time and will get it for every six months that too after a long time. In second semester if you fail to apply then you won't get. The same scenario for four semesters.

31. How much stipend will I get?

- ✦ Earlier it is Rs. 5,000/- per month, but now it was raised to Rs. 8,000/- per month. In addition you will also get contingency amount on annual basis.

32. Is there any variation in doing M.Pharm in a university or a private college?

- ✦ It is a matter of brand name that adds to your career. Campus placements will also be a matter of concern. Hence check for previous track record of that college/university. Of course, facilities in some private colleges may be excellent than in universities. Hence you should be cautious while selecting a college.

33. I like Pharmaceutics very much but I am supposed to get Pharmacology in my M.Pharm admissions, what shall I do? I am confused about taking decision! Shall I wait for next year to get the good specialization?

- ✦ *Passion is Valuable! Time is Precious! Knowledge is Divine!*
- ✦ Don't feel that I am dragging you into philosophy. This is the place where most of the students fell into dilemma. Please remember we are in pharmacy profession and we need to serve the society at the best directly or indirectly. Right!
- ✦ Actually there is a dual situation: (a) It all matters whether the college you studied is good or not but not about the specialization what you opt; (b) It is concern about what specialization you did but not about the college where you did.

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✦ First situation has more value if you don't have extreme passion for a particular specialization. In the example given by you, you love ceutics but you have cology option, yes you can take cology if college is good and you can satisfy your passion towards ceutics by doing research work in ceutics related area and linking with cology area. Otherwise even after doing M.Pharm Pharmacology, you can do Ph.D. in Ceutics area under multidisciplinary category. That means in our profession you can link up the courses at any point. These days competition is very high and wasting a year is meaningless, hence think properly and act wisely.

34. Do reservations play a role in M.Pharm admissions?

✦ Ha, India is a country with diversified group of people hence reservations matter in most of the admissions. However merit also values. Exceptions may also be there, where only few types of reservations are allowed. Hence merit was given more value than some sorts of reservations. Local candidate reservations by local universities are also prevailing. In case of national institutes like NIPER there are no such local variations.

35. Still I have some doubts regarding M.Pharm admissions, how shall I clarify them?

✦ Cool! If you have any doubts feel free to drop a mail at mybogroup@gmail.com

With Best Wishes:
MYBO Team.

YOUR SUCCESS IS OUR MOTTO