



***Road to Residency:  
Planning for Success as a P1-P3 Student***

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## Begin Your Career Exploration

Congratulations! You have started pharmacy school and now begin the journey from pharmacy student to pharmacy practitioner. The next few years will be filled with bittersweet endings and new beginnings, but don't worry because ASHP has many resources to help with the transition. Every journey will be different, but below you will find helpful resources to explore practice areas and the variety of career opportunities that your degree will prepare you for. Below are some quick tips to begin your career exploration as a P1-P3:

- Shadow pharmacists working in various practice settings
- Gain experience by working as a pharmacy technician or pharmacy intern
- Explore careers in health-system pharmacy with [Career Profiles](#)
- Apply for summer internships, including the [ASHP Summer Internship Program](#) (Deadline December 31)
- Consider elective courses in your areas of interest
- Research residency options for post-graduation through the [ASHP Residency Directory](#)
- Align P4 rotations around your practice interests and, if able, schedule post-graduate interest area experiences before the Midyear Clinical Meeting
  - Apply for unique APPE rotations to diversify your pharmacy-based experiences
    - International, industry, government agencies, association management, other electives
    - Apply for the [ASHP APPE Experiential Education Program](#), applications are accepted on a rolling basis
    - [Make the most of your APPE experiences](#)
- Listen to the wisdom and experiences of senior students at your School or College of Pharmacy
- Get involved with professional organizations at the school, state, and national level.
  - Visit the [ASHP Pharmacy Student Forum Get Involved webpage](#) for ways to get involved with ASHP
- Review [ASHP Student Resources webpage](#), student specific resources are continually added and updated

## Professional Development

Grow professionally inside and outside of the classroom with these tips:

- Build and regularly update your [CV](#)
  - Have multiple eyes review your CV – consider submitting through the virtual [ASHP CV Review Program](#)
- Get involved in professional organizations
  - Apply for a leadership position in your student society
  - Get involved at the local, state, and national levels
    - Check out [ASHP Leadership Opportunities](#)
- Practice your interview skills
  - Review the [ASHP Student Residency Guide](#) for interview tips and tricks
  - Use [InterviewStream](#) to practice you skills with mock interviews
- Volunteer as a student teaching assistant in a classroom or lab or mentor other students
- Consider giving back to your community by engaging in longitudinal volunteer opportunities

## Build Your Network

- Participate in the [ASHP Mentor Match](#)
- Develop relationships with professors and preceptors
- Attend local, state, and national conferences
- Participate in roundtable discussions at the [ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting](#) and [ASHP Summer Meetings](#)
- Reach out to current residents at programs you are interested in

## Research

- Visit the [Research Resource Center](#) for tools related to every step of the research process
- Prepare for your research project with the online webinar: [Essentials of Practice-Based Research for Pharmacists](#)
- Attend the Student and New Practitioner Research Session at ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting
- Read and respond to monthly [Journal Club](#) posts through ASHP Connect
- Attend or present topic discussions on rotations or through student organizations
- Read the [FAQ about Research Projects Blog by Laura Roccograndi](#)

- Present a research poster at a local, state, or national meeting to share your findings and practice your presentation skills

### **Develop Your Clinical Skills**

- Utilize ASHP drug information resources – like [AHFS CDi](#) \*FREE to student members\*
- Participate in the ASHP [Clinical Skills Competition](#)
- Be engaged and ask questions during IPPEs
- Utilize the [ASHP Formulary Toolkit](#) when working on items like drug monographs and other P&T Projects

### **Advocate for Pharmacy**

- Stay up-to-date on pharmacy related legislation at the local, state, and national levels
- Participate in your state legislative day
- Become familiar with the [ASHP Practice Advancement Initiative \(PAI\)](#) and the [PAI 2030 recommendations](#)
- [Apply for a student position](#) on one of the ASHP Councils or Commission