

HenrikPallos/KUFPS/EPS/Pharmacist

Class	Seat	Name	Student number	Date

The pharmacist

When a prescription is written for a drug or treatment, the next step for the patient is usually a visit to the pharmacist.

Be a few minutes...okay? Thank you.

And while for most people that often means going to the local drugstore, hospitals and community clinics have pharmacies as well.

Typically pharmacists spend most of the day standing at a counter, dispensing medication.

They may also compound the medication, though this is now a much smaller part of a pharmacist's practice.

While many of the drugs they handle are prepackaged by manufacturers, pharmacists are expected to understand the ingredients and how they might interact with other medications.

This is a profession that requires careful attention to detail. Making a mistake and dispensing the wrong medicine could have life threatening consequences.

Okay Sir, your prescription is all set. What the doctor wrote is a medication to help you sleep.

Part of the job is being able to explain to people how the prescription should be taken or administered and providing information on drug interactions and side-effects.

Just be careful when you wake-up in the morning, sometimes you might feel a little hangover, a little drowsy.

There is also a lot of paperwork involved.

To study to become a pharmacist you must first prove your aptitude in science and math by passing the pharmacy college admission's test.

After earning a doctor of pharmacy degree at a college or university, pharmacists then need to be licensed by the state.

With additional education, pharmacists can move into administration or teaching. They can even do research to develop new drugs.

But the goal is the same: helping people get the medications they need to get well and stay healthy.