

CAREER PLANNING TIMETABLE

DPH-1 Year		DPH-2 Year		DPH-3 Year		DPH-4 Year	
1 st Semester	2 nd Semester	1 st Semester	2 nd Semester	1 st Semester	2 nd Semester	Blocks 1-5	Blocks 6-8
Academics							
Make a study plan and stick with it.	Evaluate study plan and make changes as needed.	Stay focused on academics and do not overextend yourself with other commitments (student orgs, service, work).		Consider taking electives that are novel or relatively unique to expand your knowledge and develop a new skill.		Start reviewing for NAPLEX. Use each day at APPE site to learn new topics and review core content.	
Do not leave class confused or with questions. Talk with faculty/instructors.						Ask questions and seek answers from preceptors and other healthcare providers.	
Do not try shortcuts to learning! Try to understand material and avoid memorization. Consider creating or joining a study group to further understanding.							
	Select IPPE sites and practices that will broaden your knowledge and skill set.			Select a variety of APPE rotations to continue your learning and professional growth.		Use APPEs to decide what type of pharmacy practice is best suited for you.	
Student Organizations and Pharmacy Associations							
Join student organizations within School of Pharmacy.		Run for office or volunteer for a committee. Undertake some worth-while projects and see them through to completion.			Mentor new officers.		
Attend pharmacy association meetings (state, national) to learn more about the profession and network with others.							
Professional Development							
Start your CV.	Update CV each semester with new achievements and activities. Ask to have it reviewed by faculty, preceptors, or advisors.				Update CV after each APPE rotation. Write a cover letter/ letter of intent prototype.		
Keep an open mind about career options. Think about what job characteristics would make a position appealing to you.							
Talk with IPPE/APPE preceptors, guest speakers/lecturers, and alumni about their career paths. Seek advice on elective courses or APPE rotations, discuss the need for post-graduation education to achieve career goals.							
	Start to consider post-graduation education or training (residency, graduate school, fellowship).						
Start and continue to develop your network of professors, preceptors, and pharmacists who know you and can give you a good recommendation when needed.							

	Start lining up your academic and professional references.
Develop job search tools. Find ways to practice your interviewing and networking skills.	
Differentiate Yourself	
Explore a Scholars in Pharmacy program to individualize your learning and scholarship experiences through scholarly concentrations within the curriculum.	
Volunteer to serve a community organization that contributes to the health, welfare, or safety of those less fortunate.	
	Work with a faculty member on a research project that is interesting to you. Give a talk on a drug/health topic to a local organization or school group. Write an article for publication in the state pharmacy journal.

Adapted from "A Career Planning Flowchart for the Pharmacy Student" by Tom O'Connor, PharmD, MBA.