



Courses may close earlier than the advertised application deadline if the course is full.
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MPharm

Preparation for Pharmacy

UCAS code B108

Study mode

Full-time

Duration

5 years

Apply by: **30 June 2026**

Starts on: **28 September 2026**

About this course

Our Preparation for Pharmacy year zero preparation course is designed for mature students who've typically been out of formal education for at least four years at the point of entry and/or who have taken non-traditional qualifications. Preparation for Pharmacy leads to access onto our undergraduate Pharmacy (MPharm) course.

Introduction

The University of Liverpool, in collaboration with local FE partners, has developed a year zero preparation course that leads to access onto a variety of vocational Health Studies programmes. Our Preparation for Pharmacy course is for students seeking entry to undertake our [Pharmacy \(MPharm\)](#) course.

Students seeking entry to Pharmacy will study a preparatory year (year zero) at [Carmel College, St Helens](#), about 9 miles from the University campus, where the class sizes are small and the standards of academic achievement high before joining the Pharmacy course on the University of Liverpool campus in year one following successful completion of the preparation year. Carmel College has bespoke higher education teaching classrooms and laboratories within a dedicated Higher Education Centre. Students on the preparatory year at Carmel College have access to all central University student services.

Please note that we won't consider applications from prospective students who have multiple UCAS applications for a variety of courses as this doesn't demonstrate a clear commitment. Graduates should apply directly to the MPharm course and would be considered ineligible to apply to the MPharm course with preparatory year. International applicants or deferred entry requests will not be considered via this route.

Who is this course for?

This course is designed for mature and non-traditional students who've typically taken a break from studies. Applicants applying to this route should have normally been out of education for at least 4 years at the point of registration.

What you'll learn

During your studies, you'll:

- Attend weekly group and/or individual meetings with a Dedicated Academic Adviser
- Attend the University for 3 taster days where you'll engage in activities undertaken by pharmacy professionals.

Accreditation

The University of Liverpool are working towards accreditation of the MPharm course with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC). The MPharm course will be provisionally accredited until the accreditation process is complete. Upon graduating with an MPharm degree from The University of Liverpool, students will need to complete a mandatory 12-month structured foundation training period and assessment, to register as a Pharmacist with the GPhC.

Routes

- [Pharmacy_MPharm](#)

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Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

Semester one

This course provides the necessary academic grounding for admission to the MPharm course by studying the following modules in semester one:

Modules

| Compulsory modules | Credits |
|---|---------|
| CHEMISTRY FOR HEALTH STUDIES 1 (HEAL008) | 22.5 |
| BIOLOGY FOR HEALTH STUDIES 1 (HEAL001) | 22.5 |
| MATHS FOR HEALTH STUDIES 1 (HEAL003) | 7.5 |
| FOUNDATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (HEAL005) | 15 |

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change. As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, we are currently reviewing all of our programmes. This may include refining study pathways, strengthening links with employers, integrating generative AI, developing students' research skills, and enhancing alignment with our research strengths. The course content currently shown on this page reflects the programme as it is running in September 2026. This page will be updated for students beginning in September 2027 by 1 September 2026 at the latest.

Semester two

This course provides the necessary academic grounding for admission to the MPharm course by studying the following modules in semester two:

Modules

| Compulsory modules | Credits |
|---|---------|
| FOUNDATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (HEAL005) | 15 |
| BIOLOGY FOR HEALTH STUDIES 2 (HEAL002) | 22.5 |
| CHEMISTRY FOR HEALTH STUDIES 2 (HEAL009) | 22.5 |
| MATHS FOR HEALTH STUDIES 2 (HEAL004) | 7.5 |

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Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

The course structure centres around the student through a range of teaching methods such as interactive whole class sessions, small group tutorials, practical lab work, online activities and ongoing formative feedback. The practical lab activities are incorporated into the Biology and Chemistry modules providing students with an active learning experience. Teaching also facilitates the development of communication skills, teamwork skills and independent learning skills, which will be essential when you progress onto your degree. These skills are promoted in all modules but are mainly developed where small group tasks and presentations are required. These activities reflect those that will be needed during degree studies but also useful for future clinical practice where health care practitioners are often involved in research teams and presentation of results at conferences.

To support the transition from foundation to year 1 of the degree, a minimum of three 'Taster Days' at the University of Liverpool are built into the course to provide an insight into

learning in the higher education environment. A range of activities are offered during these days to include didactic lectures, workshops, small group work and a Q&A café with previous students. The café provides an informal environment for current students to ask questions and receive support with the opportunity to identify peer mentors moving forward

The college also offers weekly staff–student liaison forums where the teaching and learning are explored through student feedback. A varied range of assessment methods are adopted, including written examinations, written assignments, presentations, practical logbook reports and a portfolio containing reflective accounts of their learning experiences. This foundation course can lead to direct progression to year 1 of the MPharm programme, following year average of 65%, with no lower than 60% module average in Chemistry

Liverpool Learning Framework

At Liverpool, we take a distinctive approach to education through the Liverpool Learning Framework. This means teaching that is engaging, inclusive and designed to help you succeed during your studies and beyond.

You'll develop specialist subject knowledge alongside the skills employers value most, including:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three Liverpool Hallmarks:

- Research-connected teaching – learning informed by the latest ideas and discoveries
- Active learning – taking part, applying knowledge and learning by doing
- Authentic assessment – assessments designed around real-world tasks and challenges

We also embed key priorities across our curriculum, including AI literacy, employability, and sustainability, helping you prepare for the future and make a positive impact in the world.

We're committed to creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive.

Careers and employability

Following successful completion of the Preparation for Pharmacy programme and then as a University of Liverpool MPharm graduate, you'll be well-equipped for a rewarding and flexible career in pharmacy, playing a vital role in modern healthcare by supporting patients to use their medicines safely and effectively.

Pharmacy is changing fast, and this course will keep you ahead of the curve. You'll graduate ready to work in a wide range of settings including hospitals, community pharmacies, GP surgeries, care homes, and even the military. You could become an expert in emergency medicine, support patients with long-term conditions, or help people stay healthy in your local community.

If you're interested in research or technology you could work in industry, helping to create new medicines and vaccines. You could also go into regulation or train the next generation of pharmacists as an academic. Some pharmacists work in several areas at once, building a portfolio career that fits their interests and lifestyle.

The University of Liverpool's MPharm programme prepares you for a future full of options as an expert in medicines.

Career opportunities in the field of pharmacy are varied, but include:

- Primary and acute care
- Specialisms, for example paediatrics, oncology, emergency medicine
- Researcher or scientist developing new medicines and vaccines
- Academia
- Medicines regulation.

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Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

Tuition fees

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year - £9,790

Foundation year fee - £9,535

Year in industry fee - £1,955

Year abroad fee - £1,465 (applies to year in China)

International fees

Year in industry fee - £1,955

The fees shown are for the academic year 2026/27. Please be advised that tuition fees may increase each year for both UK and international students. For UK students, this will be subject to the government's regulated fee limits.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support. [Learn more about paying for your studies.](#)

Additional costs

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

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GCSE

5 GCSE Grade 6 (B) to include Mathematics, English Language, Chemistry and Biology (or dual combined science).

International qualifications

[Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.](#)

If you hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent, but don't meet our entry requirements, you could be eligible for a Pre-Master's course. This is offered on campus at the [University of Liverpool International College](#), in partnership with Kaplan International Pathways. It's a specialist preparation course for postgraduate study, and when you pass the Pre-Master's at the required level with good attendance, you're guaranteed entry to a University of Liverpool master's degree.

Alternative entry requirements

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, [contact us](#) for advice
 - [Applications from mature students](#) are welcome.
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English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a [majority English speaking country](#).

We accept a variety of [international language tests](#) and [country-specific qualifications](#).

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

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