The study of pharmacy involves chemistry and pharmaceutics, among other specialist topics. A pharmacist is a licensed healthcare professional who specialises in providing information about different medication and methods of treatment to patients. They have well-informed knowledge of all kinds of medicines, what they are used for and their side effects. Also sometimes called a chemist, a pharmacist usually works in a pharmacy and can recommend over-the-counter medicines as well as dispensing treatments or drugs prescribed by a general practitioner. There are multiple types of pharmacists, including community pharmacists and hospital pharmacists.

Treat and prevent disease

You may want to study pharmacy if you have a desire to help people through your work. As a pharmacist, you will be at the forefront of the treatment and prevention of disease in society. This is an aspect of the job that is universal, which means the skills developed during a pharmacy degree can be utilised anywhere in the world.

Gain patient-centred responsibilities

This profession is very patient-focused, as you are likely to be the first person a patient will see for information on their illness. Pharmacists are often recommended to provide medical advice if a patient’s symptoms are not severe, meaning that they should be able to assess a patient’s needs and address them attentively.

Scientific research and development opportunities

If you wish to become a pharmacist, you’ll also have the option to undertake scientific research and development opportunities in the workplace, which can further expand your career options and introduce variety into your role. It is worth considering that universities and research institutions also directly recruit pharmacy graduates, if this type of work is in your interest.

Develop advanced knowledge and skills

In a career of this nature you will be constantly learning and improving your understanding of medicine and how to better assess and treat illnesses. Additional specialist skills you will gain include effective, professional communication, the operation of pharmaceutical instrumentation and knowledge of the law and ethical concerns relating to the supply of medicines.

Job stability

As a pharmacy graduate, you will also benefit from job security, as the skills learned in a pharmacy degree are specialised and pharmacist expertise are required globally. In 2019, it was reported that 98% of pharmacy students were in employment within six months of graduating from their degree (Prospects).

Flexible career options

Qualifying in pharmacy can lead to a variety of job roles, which often offer good professional progression. Alternatively to becoming a pharmacist, you could use your knowledge of medicine to become a research scientist, medical science liaison, pharmacologist, or toxicologist, among other professions.

Access different industries

As well as different job roles, there are also a variety of fields you can enter with a degree in pharmacy. The majority of graduates do become health professionals, as the study is designed for that type of work, but many pharmacy students also go into business, sales and financial roles or find work in the childcare, health and education industries.

### Science and maths-focused studies

A degree in pharmacy incorporates maths and science, specifically biology and chemistry. If you have an interest or excel in these subjects, you will likely enjoy studying pharmacy at university, as you will be able to develop your numeracy and problem-solving skills to employ them in a practical way.

**PHARMACIST JOB/ RESPONSIBILITY :**

* Pharmacist put in order, mix, compound or dispense drugs and medicines, ointments, powder, pills, tablets and injections
* Plan, monitor & evaluate drug programs or routines
* Review prescriptions to assure accuracy, to determine the required ingredients & to evaluate their precision
* Aid physicians by explaining and informing about the drug interactions, reactions, side effects & precautions regarding the use of medicines
* Monitor the health and progress of patients to ensure the safe and effective use of medication
* Prepare special formulations for medications of exceptional cases (For some cases medications are not available already)
* Those in research concern themselves with fusion of new drugs, new processes, clinical testing of the effects of such drugs on animals & humans and obtaining the required License from the drug control authorities
* They produce of medicines, develop the methods or processes of production & quality control
* They are responsible for exact mixing of substances  and supervising the whole production procedure in pharmaceutical industries. One mistake can alter the whole procedure and all efforts become waste.

## SCOPE OF PHARMACY IN PAKISTAN:

Scope of pharmacy in Pakistan is very vast. A large number of career opportunities are available for Pharmacy students both in Government & Private sectors.

### IN PRIVATE SECTOR:

* Private Jobs:
* Pharmaceutical Industry
* Retail or Community Pharmacy
* Distribution setup
* Sales and Marketing
* Hospital Pharmacist at private hospital
* Instructor at Institute training Category B candidates
* NGOs
* Nutraceutical Industry
* Cosmetic Industry
* Training Centers

Pharmacists distribute prescription drugs to individuals. They are responsible to advise their patients and physicians on the selection , dosages and side effects of medicines. Monitoring the health of patients to ensure that they are using medication properly also comes under the category of pharmacist job. Other than this (Compounding)the actual mixing of ingredients to form medications is a small part of a pharmacist’s practice, because most medicines are produced by pharmaceutical companies in standard dosages and drug delivery forms. Most pharmacists work in retail drugstore , pharmacies or hospitals. Some pharmacists are also employed in the field of research