

Department of Pharmacy

University of Balochistan, Quetta

The Department of Pharmacy at the University of Balochistan stands as the oldest and most prestigious academic institution in the province dedicated to pharmaceutical education and research. Since its inception, the department has been at the forefront of producing highly competent pharmacists, researchers, and healthcare professionals who are not only contributing to the health sector of Balochistan and Pakistan but also making their mark internationally.

With a strong commitment to academic excellence, the department offers a dynamic learning environment that integrates rigorous theoretical education with hands-on laboratory training and professional development. The Pharm.D program is recognized by the Pharmacy Council of Pakistan (PCP) and the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan. It aims to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and ethical grounding required to meet the evolving demands of the pharmaceutical and healthcare sectors both nationally and globally.

The department plays a pivotal role in addressing the critical shortage of trained pharmacists in Balochistan by preparing graduates to serve in a wide range of professional settings. These include hospitals, community and retail pharmacies, and drug regulatory bodies such as the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP), Provincial Drug Testing Laboratories (DTL), and the pharmaceutical manufacturing industry across Pakistan. Additionally, our alumni have established successful careers abroad and are actively contributing in countries such as the USA, Canada, France, UK, Norway, Sweden, and the Gulf region.

Our faculty comprises of 15 highly qualified PhD scholars from reputable national and international universities as well as 06 M.Phil faculties. These dedicated academicians and researchers are actively involved in cutting-edge research across diverse fields including:

- Herbal and alternative medicines
- Drug formulation and nanomedicine
- Tuberculosis drug resistance
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Public health safety and clinical pharmacy practices

Their work has been published in high-impact, peer-reviewed international journals such as *The Lancet*, *The Lancet Respiratory Medicine*, *Frontiers in Pharmacology*, *PLOS ONE*, *BMC Public Health*, and *The International Journal of Nanomedicine*, among others.

The department strongly encourages research culture among students and faculty alike and provides opportunities for participation in national and international pharmacy conferences, symposia, and training workshops. We also facilitate academic exchange programs and collaborative research initiatives with partner institutions within country and abroad, offering students and scholars valuable exposure and professional networking opportunities.

With a vision to uplift pharmaceutical education and healthcare delivery in Balochistan and beyond, the Department of Pharmacy remains committed to nurturing innovation, leadership, and service in the pharmacy profession.

Objectives

The Department of Pharmacy at the University of Balochistan is committed to advancing pharmaceutical education and healthcare in the province and beyond. The key objectives of the department are:

1. **To produce professionally competent pharmacists** by equipping students with a solid foundation in theoretical knowledge and practical skills necessary for ethical and effective service in hospitals, community pharmacies, pharmaceutical industries, and drug regulatory authorities across Balochistan and Pakistan.
2. **To address the critical shortage of licensed pharmacists** in both rural and urban areas of Balochistan by preparing graduates who are willing, capable, and motivated to serve in under-resourced regions of the province.
3. **To promote rational drug use and combat self-medication practices** through the education of pharmacists who can contribute to safe, evidence-based pharmaceutical care, especially in districts where healthcare regulation is minimal.
4. **To explore and research Balochistan's rich herbal and indigenous medicinal flora**, with the goal of discovering and developing new pharmaceutical products in alignment with the priorities of the World Health Organization (WHO), Higher Education Commission (HEC), and Pharmacy Council of Pakistan (PCP).
5. **To support the development of the local pharmaceutical sector** by training pharmacists in areas such as drug manufacturing, quality assurance (QA), regulatory compliance, and supply chain management.
6. **To engage pharmacy students in community outreach programs** aimed at raising public awareness on critical healthcare topics such as vaccination, antimicrobial resistance, and the safe use of medicines.
7. **To bridge the pharmacist-to-patient gap** by increasing the number of professionally trained and registered pharmacists through a rigorous, high-quality Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D) program.
8. **To reduce dependency on imported pharmaceuticals** by preparing pharmacists with expertise in drug formulation, quality control, and pharmaceutical innovation, thereby contributing to national self-reliance in medicine production.
9. **To establish collaborative partnerships** with hospitals, pharmaceutical industries, NGOs, public health initiatives, and regulatory agencies to provide students with practical training, internships, and real-world experience.
10. **To prepare graduates for success** in national licensure examinations in advanced academic pursuits (M.Phil., Ph.D.), and international career opportunities, thereby enhancing Pakistan's global pharmaceutical workforce mobility.

Career Opportunities

Graduates of the Department of Pharmacy at the University of Balochistan are equipped with the skills and qualifications to pursue diverse and rewarding careers in the pharmaceutical and healthcare sectors. Upon successful completion of the Pharm.D program, students may find opportunities in the following fields:

- **Hospital, Clinical, and Community Pharmacy**

Serving in public and private hospitals, clinics, and community health centers by managing medication therapy, ensuring safe drug use, and advising patients and healthcare professionals.

- **Pharmaceutical Industry**

Careers in manufacturing, quality control, quality assurance, research & development (R&D), regulatory affairs, pharmacovigilance, and supply chain management within national and multinational pharmaceutical companies.

- **Federal and Provincial Regulatory Authorities**

Positions in organizations such as the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP), Provincial Drug Testing Laboratories (DTLs), and other health-related government bodies involved in drug regulation, inspection, and policy-making.

- **Community and Retail Pharmacy**

Managing or operating pharmacies in urban and rural areas, providing patient counseling, dispensing medications, and promoting rational drug use.

- **Pharmaceutical Sales and Marketing**

Engaging in professional marketing, medical promotion, and product management for pharmaceutical companies, contributing to the commercial success of healthcare products.

- **Academia and Research**

Teaching positions in pharmacy institutions, as well as roles in academic and industrial research projects focused on drug discovery, clinical trials, traditional medicine, and public health challenges.

The Pharm.D program also prepares graduates for further studies in M.Phil., Ph.D., and postdoctoral research, both nationally and internationally, leading to advanced specialization and global career prospects.

Facilities

- **Computer Laboratory**

A dedicated lab with high-speed internet and modern computers supports students and researchers in exploring pharmaceutical advancements and academic work.

- **Departmental Library**

Houses over 2,000 pharmacy-related titles, with continuous expansion. Students also benefit from the University's Central Library for access to reference books, lab manuals, and research materials.

- **Animal Experimental Laboratory**

Equipped for ethical pharmacological and physiological studies using mice, helping students understand drug action, bioassays, and research protocols.

- **Anatomical & Pathological Resources**

Includes anatomical skeletons and visual teaching aids to support practical learning in human anatomy and pathology.

- **Specialized Undergraduate Laboratories**

Fully equipped labs for pharmaceuticals, microbiology, industrial pharmacy, and pharmacognosy offer hands-on experience with modern equipment for teaching and research.

- **Internet & IT Access**

Students have access to ten internet-connected computers to support academic research during and beyond university hours.

- **Access to Journals**

Through HEC's Digital Library, students can access a wide range of international journals and research articles. Select pharmacy journals are also available in print.

- **Multimedia & Projectors**

Classrooms are equipped with multimedia and projector facilities to enhance interactive learning and support modern teaching methods.

Call to Action

Join the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Balochistan to become a leader in healthcare innovation. Our comprehensive education, professional training, and research opportunities will empower you to make a meaningful impact in Balochistan, across Pakistan, and globally.

