Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours)

Ready today for tomorrow
Why JCU?

#1 PHARMACY DEGREE IN QUEENSLAND
JCU’s Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours) degree is ranked as the #1 pharmacy degree in Queensland for graduate full-time employment, learner engagement and skills development*. The degree is also independently rated five stars for overall quality of educational experience and teaching quality*.

PLENTY OF HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE
With over 600 clinical practice hours, one of the highest numbers in an Australian pharmacy degree, you’ll be well equipped and in high demand by employers when you graduate.

EXPERIENCE HAS NO SUBSTITUTE
Experience placement opportunities in a range of unique and diverse communities and gain a wide scope of practice. Learn in retail, community and hospital pharmacies, and develop the skills to make a difference to regional, rural and remote communities and beyond.

BALANCE WORK, LIFE AND STUDY
Study pharmacy at JCU Cairns, Mackay or Townsville, and discover flexible study through a mix of online and on campus classes. Choose from part-time or full-time study.

* Good Universities Guide 2021, UG Pharmacy
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✔ Learn through hands-on experience with clinical placements in low-resource communities. You’ll have opportunities to make a real difference to the health of regional, rural, remote and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Gain a wide scope of experience, equipping you with the skills to work in any setting, from the outback to the city. With one of the highest number of clinical practice hours in an Australian pharmacy degree, you’ll graduate with clinical skills to the highest standard.

✔ Gain extensive skills in pharmaceutical care with a focus on cultural, rural, remote and tropical contexts. Learn about the practical use of medicines, preventative healthcare strategies and effective communication. You will study a comprehensive range of core subjects including chemistry, human anatomy and physiology, biology and pharmacology.

COURSE DETAILS:

Locations: JCU Townsville, JCU Cairns, JCU Mackay
Start Dates: February
Duration: 4 years full-time, 6 years part-time (part-time study available for year 1 and 2)
ATAR: 79.3
Prerequisites: English (Units 3/4, C), Chemistry (3/4, C), Mathematical Methods (3/4, C)

Not everyone takes the same pathway to university. If you don’t meet the course entry requirements, there are options. Contact the team to discuss your pathway to pharmacy.

Please visit the handbook for a detailed outline of the course structure. Note: Information is for domestic students only.

jcu.edu.au
Why choose pharmacy?

OPEN THE DOOR TO A RANGE OF CAREER OPTIONS
Pharmacy can lead to a range of careers, including working in retail community pharmacy stores, hospitals, Defence Force, research and drug development, aged care facilities, GP and health clinics, home visits, health service management and much more. As well as dispensing medications, retail pharmacists often provide a range of services, such as health and medication advice, vaccinations, health check-ups and reviews of medications.

“Since I’ve done pharmacy, no two days have been the same. There is just so much diversity to a career in pharmacy and it’s so rewarding as you really get to see the difference you can make to someone’s health.”
– Kate Gill, JCU Bachelor of Pharmacy Graduate

CHANGE PEOPLE’S LIVES
Pharmacists are on the front line of health care, making a difference to people’s health and improving community health outcomes. Pharmacists are also important members of the healthcare team, working with doctors, nurses and other allied health professionals, assisting in improving the health and wellbeing of people.

“My job still excites me. I get to make a difference every day. My Bachelor of Pharmacy is not just a degree to me, it’s the opportunity to really apply my skills. The opportunities I’ve had have been to create change and really improve patient care.”
– Dr Stevie Perks, JCU Bachelor of Pharmacy Graduate

BE IN DEMAND
Looking for job security? In 2020 pharmacy was ranked as the top study area across Australia for graduate full-time employment, with 96.4% of pharmacy graduates finding full-time employment soon after graduating*. JCU Pharmacy graduates are highly sought after by employers, with JCU’s degree being ranked as #1 in Queensland for pharmacy full-time graduate employment^.

“Pharmacy is very much a portable career that you can take to any community and find work. There is always a lot of opportunities. There’s usually a pharmacist in every community.”
– Eddie Gacitua, JCU Bachelor of Pharmacy Graduate

JOB FLEXIBILITY
A career in pharmacy offers a range of career pathways, some of which may offer flexibility in working arrangements, including part-time/full-time, casual, day or night shifts to help you balance your work, life and family commitments.

“Pharmacy has been the perfect career for me having children and being able to come and go from the workforce between having children. It’s a career that is always in demand. Every time I’ve been ready to come back to work there has been a job here for me.”
– Sarah Hughes, JCU Bachelor of Pharmacy Graduate

* Graduate Outcomes Survey 2020
^Good Universities Guide 2021, UG Pharmacy
“JCU is leagues above in terms of placement hours; we lot gets of experience. On the rural placement I have been able to see and visit the most amazing places. You work during the day but you get to enjoy different locations after hours and on weekends. It has been really fantastic!”

Emma Dall’Alba
BACHELOR OF PHARMACY
Career Opportunities

There is a strong demand for pharmacists in northern and rural/remote Australia. Highly skilled and trained in all aspects of contemporary and future pharmacy practice, JCU Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours) graduates are sought after by employers.

You will have a range of exciting career opportunities including hospital and community pharmacy, pharmacy practice management, government health services and regulatory bodies, defence force and the pharmaceutical industries.

Be equipped with the skills to work in any setting, ranging from metropolitan cities to the outback and the remotest of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

With further study, you could pursue a career in clinical research and university teaching or even work overseas.

“JCU Pharmacy has produced today’s brightest pharmacy minds and most influential leaders, but you won’t just find our graduates leading national debate, policy development or running very senior health service portfolios. They are also making a big difference for patients. This is partly because we attract passionate and clever students and partly because we have great educators who are able to teach in small groups and have the experience to apply theory to authentic pharmacy problems. That’s what makes it so popular with our students and one of the best pharmacy programs in the country. Combined with our applied research focus, our graduates are well rounded and highly sought after. Come to JCU Pharmacy and you will get a great pharmacy education and be ready to take your place in the pharmacy profession.”

Associate Professor John Smithson
ACADEMIC HEAD OF PHARMACY
Living on campus is a great way to make new friends and immerse yourself in the JCU culture, with multiple accommodation options available across the campuses.

JCU Townsville, Bebegu Yumba campus, Douglas houses over 1,200 students, and JCU Cairns, Nguma-bada campus, Smithfield offers a new complex for 300 students. All rooms at JCU Townsville and JCU Cairns residences are single board, with a single bed, study desk, chair, fan, air-conditioning and Wi-Fi. Each residence is different in regards to style of living, culture and atmosphere. There are options for fully-catered or self-catered housing.

Students living in Mackay can choose from the JCU Mackay Student Residential College or the JCU Mackay Base Hospital Student Accommodation. Both sites are fully air-conditioned and offer a private, lockable room with shared kitchen, bathrooms and lounge area.

Once a semester, all Pharmacy students from Townsville, Cairns and Mackay gather together for one week at JCU Townsville, Bebegu Yumba campus, Douglas to access world-class pharmacy laboratories and practise and develop their skills further. JCU provides a cost-effective, stress-free accommodation option on-campus for this short stay. Find out more about pharmacy accommodation.