



SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

3RD QUARTER | OCTOBER 2026

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Updates for the preceptors of the University of Texas at El Paso School of Pharmacy

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UTEP White Coat Ceremony Class of 2030



Calendar:

Oct. 18-24: National Pharmacy Week

Nov. 10: PET Quarterly Meeting

Nov. 26-27: Thanksgiving Holiday - University Closed

Dec. 23-Jan. 1: Christmas Holiday Break - University Closed

Upcoming Rotation Dates:

2026 Fall IPPE

Aug. 24 - Dec. 6 : Week 1-15

2026-27 APPE

Sep. 28 - Nov. 6: APPE 4

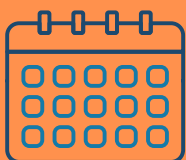
Nov. 9 - Dec. 18: APPE 5

Jan. 4 - Feb. 15: APPE 6

Feb. 15 - Mar. 25: APPE 7

Mar. 29 - May 7: APPE 8

Update your calendar:
Send us your events!



Announcements

Calling for 2027-28 IPPE/APPE Availability

We are currently calling out for 2027-28 IPPE/APPE Availability. Summer IPPE Community/Hospital rotations start on May 31st 2027 until August 20th 2027.

APPE rotations start on May 24th 2027 until May 12th 2028.

Please don't hesitate to submit your availability via the survey link below or notify the OEE department at exedpharmacy@utep.edu if you are available to take students.

Availability submission due date is Friday, Nov. 16th



Availability Submission Survey



We will be happy to assist in collecting your availability.

Thank you in advance for supporting our students!



On Demand Preceptor Courses in CEImpact

As an active UTEP SOP preceptor, OEE encourages you to take advantage of the on-demand continuing education courses in CEImpact. The new 2026 CEImpact access code and a list of TCEP approved CEImpact courses, are located in the Preceptor Resources section of your CORE ELMS home page. We would also like to highlight three courses below which are essential to renewing your TSBP license.

- Assessing Learner Performance With Confidence and Consistency - 1hr Podcast - FREE
- Balancing Patient Care and Precepting Responsibilities - 45 Mins Podcast - FREE
- Pitch Perfect Precepting: Using Your Voice to Engage More Effectively - 1hr On-Demand - FREE
- Writing Letters of Recommendation with Purpose and Impact - 45 Mins - Written- FREE

Thank you Preceptors!

School of Pharmacy Student Highlights

Congratulations to our P4 student, Caitlyn Lucore, and rising P3 student, Getsemani Arteaga, on receiving the Judges' Choice: Impact on Pharmacy Award at the Texas Pharmacy Association's 3rd Annual Student Pharmacist Poster Showcase!

Their project, "Advocacy Beyond the Capitol," highlights the impact of bringing advocacy directly into the communities where patients receive care to better understand the local experiences, challenges, and barriers patients face across the region. We are proud of Caitlyn and Getsemani for their commitment to advancing the profession of pharmacy, strengthening community partnerships, and advocating for policies that improve patient care across the region.

Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!



Congratulations to the UTEP APhA-ASP/TPA-ASP Chapter on earning both the Texas Pharmacy Association Student Advocacy Award and the TPA-ASP Chapter Championship Cup at the 2026 Texas Pharmacy Association Conference & Expo! These awards reflect a year of hard work from our students, from leading advocacy initiatives and community outreach, to participating in professional development and representing UTEP across the Texas. Congratulations to everyone who helped make this achievement possible! We are proud to celebrate the success of UTEP pharmacy students.

Congratulations to Stephanie Diaz of the UTEP School of Pharmacy, who recently received a Texas Pharmacy Foundation 2026 General Scholarship.



Student Voices

What Students Want Preceptors to Know: Building Successful Clinical Learning Experiences

Introduction

Clinical rotations are a very important part of pharmacy education because they allow students to apply what they have learned in the classroom to real patient care. Although students usually begin rotations excited and ready to learn, every student comes in with a different level of knowledge, experience, and confidence. Preceptors play an important role in helping students improve their clinical skills and develop their professional identity as future pharmacists.(1)

Students Are Still Learning

One important thing for preceptors to understand is that students are still learning and are not expected to function as independent pharmacists. Students may have different levels of experience depending on previous rotations and work experience. They may also experience anxiety when starting a new rotation because of unfamiliar environments, fear of making mistakes, or being nervous about making recommendations. When students struggle during rotations, identifying the specific problem and providing guidance can help them improve throughout the experience.(2) Students should still be challenged, but they should also be given the opportunity to gradually build their confidence and independence.

Feedback Matters

Feedback is another important part of a successful rotation. Students need to know what they are doing correctly and where they need to improve. Providing feedback throughout the rotation gives students time to make changes rather than finding out about a problem during their midpoint or final evaluation.(2) Feedback does not always have to be formal. Even short conversations after a patient interaction or recommendation can help students understand what they can improve.

We Learn Best When Included

Students also learn better when they are included in patient care rather than only observing. This can include reviewing medications, counseling patients, participating in discussions, and making recommendations under supervision. Involving students in practice and gradually allowing them to make decisions can help develop their professional identity and prepare them for the responsibilities of being a pharmacist.(1) Students are also going to ask questions during this process. Asking questions does not always mean a student is unprepared. It can also show that they recognize their limitations and want clarification before making a decision. Creating an environment where students feel comfortable asking questions can help them learn while also building confidence.

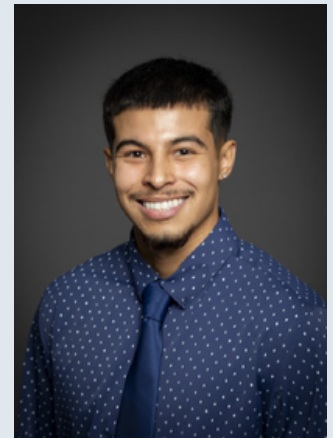
Student Voices (cont.)

Understanding the Preceptor's Role

From a student's perspective, a good preceptor is approachable, provides feedback, encourages questions, sets clear expectations, and includes students in patient care. However, students should also understand that preceptors have responsibilities outside of teaching. Precepting can increase workload and affect productivity, which may make taking students more difficult.(3) Providing preceptors with appropriate resources and support can help them continue providing effective learning experiences.(4) Preceptors can reach out to the Office of Experiential Education at a local school of pharmacy or to their supervisors/administrators for resources available to them to help them be successful.

Conclusion

In conclusion, students enter rotations wanting to learn and become more confident in their abilities. They will make mistakes and require different levels of guidance, but this is part of the learning process. By providing feedback, encouraging questions, and involving students in patient care, preceptors can help students develop the skills and confidence needed to become practicing pharmacists.



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UTEP SoP Class of 2027

References

1. Kennie-Kaulbach N, Cooley J, Williams C, Riley B, Anksorus H, O'Sullivan TA. How preceptors support pharmacy learner professional identity formation. *Am J Pharm Educ.* 2024;88(9):100740. [doi:10.1016/j.ajpe.2024.100740](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajpe.2024.100740).
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3. Renda S, Fingerhood M, Kverno K, Slater T, Gleason K, Goodwin M. What motivates our practice colleagues to precept the next generation? *J Nurse Pract.* 2022;18(1):76-80. [doi:10.1016/j.nurpra.2021.09.008](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nurpra.2021.09.008).
4. Sharpe EL, Bobek H, Shihabuddin C. An evidence-based interprofessional collaborative approach to preceptor development. *J Nurse Pract.* 2024;20(8):105126. [doi:10.1016/j.nurpra.2024.105126](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nurpra.2024.105126).
5. Microsoft Copilot. Microsoft. Accessed September 28, 2026.

New Additions to UTEP School of Pharmacy

It is our pleasure to welcome our new Faculty to the
UTEP School of Pharmacy.



**Dr. Sarah R.
Salazar**

Clinical Assistant
Professor
UTEP Alumni 2022



**Dr. Diana I.
Lazare**

Clinical Assistant
Professor
UTEP Alumni 2025

**Dr. Jose J.
Bautista**

Clinical Assistant
Professor
UTEP Alumni 2024



**Dr. Cristian R.
Villalva**

Clinical Assistant
Professor
UTEP Alumni 2024



This is a quarterly publication of the UTEP Office of Experiential
Education/Preceptor Excellence Team.
We'd love to hear from YOU - Please send article ideas, events,
awards/achievements/celebrations, or reach out to us if your are interested
in becoming more involved.
Contact the OEE/PET: exedpharmacy@utep.edu