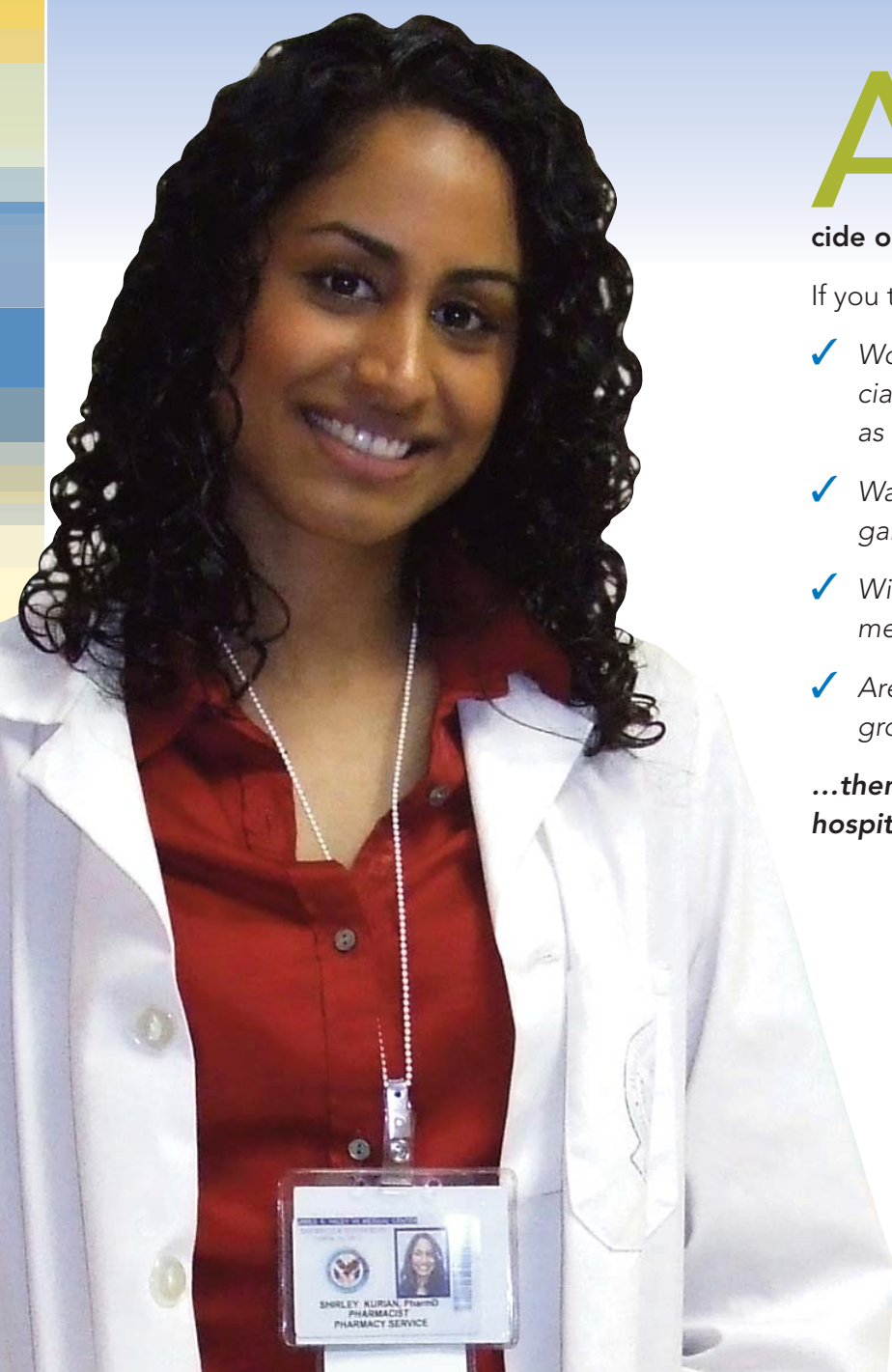


Why Should I Work in a Hospital or Health System?

It's All About the Team



As a pharmacy student, you have more choices than ever before about how and where you would like to practice. With so many options available, **how can you decide on the right career path for you?**

If you think you...

- ✓ *Would enjoy working directly with patients, physicians, nurses, and other health care professionals as an integral part of the medical team,*
- ✓ *Want to fully apply the clinical knowledge you'll gain in pharmacy school,*
- ✓ *Wish to work in an exciting and dynamic environment where lives are saved every day, and*
- ✓ *Are seeking endless opportunities for career growth,*

...then you should seriously consider working in a hospital or health system!

I Know What a Hospital Is, But What Is a Health System?

A health system is an integrated network of one or more hospitals. Many health systems also have other components, including ambulatory care clinics, long-term care, rehabilitation centers, surgery centers, and other specialty settings. With so many components, hospitals and health systems offer many different opportunities for pharmacists.

Working in a Hospital or Health System, You Can:

- ✓ **Advise** physicians, nurses, and other health professionals on new drugs and optimal medications for particular disease states,
- ✓ **Monitor** patient responses to medications to ensure their drugs are working correctly and provide pharmacokinetic dosing,
- ✓ **Evaluate** medication orders to ensure your patient's therapy is safe and appropriate, and
- ✓ **Counsel** patients and their families—and educate other health professionals—about proper medication use.

As a hospital or health-system pharmacist, you can even specialize in focused areas of patient care, including:

- Ambulatory care
- Cardiology
- Critical care
- Drug information
- Emergency medicine
- Geriatrics
- Immunology
- Infectious diseases
- Informatics
- Internal medicine
- Nuclear pharmacy
- Nutrition support
- Oncology
- Pediatrics
- Pharmacotherapy
- Practice management/administration
- Psychiatry
- Sterile and non-sterile compounding
- Transplantation

What's My Next Step?

Consider doing a residency after pharmacy school. Residency training is an invaluable opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills you'll learn in school to real patients, situations, and settings. For more information, visit www.ashp.org or call ASHP's Accreditation Services Division at 301-657-3000.

Become an active member of your student health-system pharmacy society, state health-system pharmacist organization, and ASHP! To join ASHP and access the many student benefits available, go to www.ashp.org and click "Students."

For more information on health-system pharmacy careers, go to www.careerpharm.com, ASHP's pharmacy job service. "Pharmacy Jobs. In Print. Online. In Person. Anytime."

