



TOP 10

reasons to be a pharmacist

- 1 you want a job** There is a massive void of people who know the pharmaceutical business. You can help fill it. The employment outlook is not that bright in numerous fields—most dot-coms went the way of the dinosaurs—but pharmacies are here to stay.
- 2 you like helping people** As a pharmacist, you get to work directly with the community, helping people deal with what is often their No. 1 priority—health.
- 3 a good salary** There is a strong cash incentive thanks to high demand. Starting salaries are about \$75,000 and go up into the six-figure range. Some companies even offer signing bonuses like BMWs!
- 4 flexible hours** Night owl or morning person, there's a pharmaceutical shift for you. Often, pharmacies are open 24 hours a day. You have the freedom to work a flexible shift—9-to-5 or whatever suits you best.
- 5 location, location, location** You won't have that option if you need to work on Wall Street. You can take your pharmaceutical skills anywhere in the country—or the world. Bilingual? Even better.
- 6 respect** There aren't too many jobs where you are an instant authority on a subject, but getting a doctorate of pharmacy automatically makes you a central fixture in your community, from day one.
- 7 you like a challenge** You'll never be bored behind the counter—there's a constant flow of new information to integrate, such as new medical technology, new drugs and new customers.
- 8 variety** Today's pharmacists do a lot more than count pills. New laws being passed across the United States enable pharmacists to perform check-ups on patients' blood pressure, diabetes and other increasingly common illnesses.
- 9 you want a life** Ask some older career types how they feel about the daily commute and there are sure to be groans. Pharmacies tend to be located in town centers, so you can live close to your workplace—even within walking distance.
- 10 making a difference** Pharmacists make a positive impact on their communities and can save lives by ensuring that patients get the right medications in the right combinations. It's a reward uncommon in most careers.