

Predictors of poor student performance at a single, Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education-accredited school of pharmacy.

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#### Abstract

##### Objectives

This study assesses the extent to which various student demographics and admission criteria predict poor student performance in a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) program.

##### Methods

Retrospective case-control evaluation of PharmD students enrolled at one public, Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education-accredited school from 2001 to 2003 for which complete sets of data were available. Poor performers were defined as students who: (1) failed to graduate on time, (2) earned a first through third professional year cumulative grade point average (GPA) <2.7, or (3) received <2.7 on any fourth professional year experiential rotation.

## Results

Birth in the United States, each 100-point increase in SAT verbal score, and each 1-point increase in cumulative GPA were found to be associated with decreased odds of student poor performance. Male gender was the only characteristic identified as a positive predictor of poor performance.

## Conclusion

This study corroborates previously published studies demonstrating that traditional predictors of academic performance also predict PharmD program performance. The study also identified unique predictors such as birthplace, gender, and verbal SAT scores.



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## Keywords

Educational assessment; Clinical clerkship; Grade point average; Performance; Predictors

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