

Policy and Procedures for the UMKC School of Pharmacy Co-Curriculum Program

7/20/2016

Policy Statement: The purpose of this policy is to inform Doctor of Pharmacy students, starting with the Class of 2020 forward, about co-curricular activities required for graduation from the Doctor of Pharmacy program.

Definition of co-curriculum: The co-curriculum enhances students' development of the knowledge, skills, abilities and attitudes for patient advocacy, cultural competency, communication, self-awareness, leadership, innovation, entrepreneurship and professionalism. Co-curricular activities complement and advance the learning that occurs within the formal didactic and experiential curriculum. These experiences are conducted outside the classroom and encompass learning outcomes that take time to gain multiple exposures in order to hone and attain mastery.

Reasons for co-curricular activities: The ACPE Standards 2016 require Schools of Pharmacy to implement a co-curriculum program. Additionally, the current job market values the qualities developed through the co-curriculum; hence, this program will ensure the competitiveness of our applicants in the job market now and into the future.

Completion of co-curricular activities: Students are made aware of the co-curricular requirements and deadlines for completion for their given year in school within the first month of coursework each semester. Co-curricular requirements will vary by year to coincide with the changing curricular topics. They will be a mixture of required activities organized for the students by the Director of Co-Curriculum as well as a required number of additional opportunities in which students will have choices to select. These additional opportunities will have options but they may not be offered each semester by the sponsoring agency/organization or available at each campus location. Additionally, while a type of activity may be listed under several co-curricular activities, one activity cannot be used to meet multiple requirements. It will be up to each student to plan ahead, find an outlet to complete the opportunity, and ensure the time is accrued and activity assessed within the given time frame. The time allotment for various activities the student may select when choices exist will vary. Students will be self-directed to choose opportunities that will enhance their development as a pharmacist and encourage their growth in a particular area. Selections should be made in conjunction with the assigned faculty academic advisor.

Failure to complete assigned requirements within the allocated time can result in disenrollment from coursework for the following semester. Students who fail to meet the requirements will have their case reviewed by the Director of Co-Curriculum and the Associate Dean for Student Affairs for appropriate disposition based on the circumstances surrounding the noncompliance.

Adding a co-curricular activity: Many co-curricular opportunities exist that may not be listed as current options to select. The Director of Co-Curriculum will work with an individual student to add a co-curricular activity to the listing of options. The student will contact the Director with the justification for its addition and work with the Director to devise learning outcomes for the activity to ensure it meets the definition of co-curriculum and can be assessed. Requests must be approved PRIOR to the student's completion of the co-curricular activity. Time to add an activity can take up to 4 weeks, so planning is key.

If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact the Director of Co-Curriculum, Dr. Cameron C. Lindsey, 2464 Charlotte Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64108, (816) 235-5909, lindseyca@umkc.edu.