

Canadian Society of  
Hospital Pharmacists



Société canadienne des  
pharmaciens d'hôpitaux

# **CSHP Alberta Branch Host Program 2022**

Revised December 2021

**Program Purpose:** To provide CSHP-AB student members the opportunity to communicate with CSHP-AB pharmacist members on an informal basis. This communication link is designed to allow the student to learn more about the career options available to them after graduation. It is also meant to increase interest and awareness of hospital and other healthcare related practices, along with issues currently facing the pharmacy profession. This program is meant to serve as an initial link between active CSHP-AB members and students and is not meant to be used as a recruitment tool by either party involved.

**Involved Parties:** CSHP-AB pharmacist members who volunteer to be hosts and all CSHP-AB student members who wish to be hosted. Hosts may be asked to host more than one student, but no more than two students.

**Program Sign-Up:** CSHP-AB pharmacist members and student members can sign up to be hosts or hosted by completing an application form online by [Friday, February 4th, 2022](#). Applications received after the deadline will be processed based on the availability of pharmacist hosts and matches cannot be guaranteed. Find the application form [here](#).

**Matching Principles:** Matching will be done randomly and students are encouraged to explore their match with open minds. Random matching is meant to expose students to a broad range of career possibilities (perhaps even ones that have not been considered). Please note that while students attend university in Edmonton, institutional pharmacists practice throughout the province and our pharmacist host members come from across the province. There are many excellent practices that are available to students to explore outside of Edmonton. We encourage students to note other geographic locations that they would be open to having a pharmacist host them (e.g., hometown, potential future rotation interests, etc.). Not all students will be matched to a pharmacist in Edmonton. **\*\*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings and communication between hosts and students should be held virtually using videoconferencing. Shadowing opportunities at the hosts' practice site will not be feasible.\*\***

**Duration of Match:** The host program relationship (as set up by CSHP-AB) is intended to last from February-December 2022. However, CSHP-AB recognizes that communication between the pharmacist and student may continue beyond this time frame and a more formal mentorship relationship may develop and continue onward (and encouraged if a connection is made). The short time frame of our program and acknowledgment that mentorship is a relationship that needs a connection with significant effort to grow, is what has prompted us to change the framework to be a host program rather than a formal mentorship program.

**Communication Strategy:** Once matched, students will be provided with the pharmacist's email address to contact them. The pharmacist will be CC'd on the email. Students will hold the responsibility to initiate first contact.

**Suggested Activities:**

Discussions regarding (including but not limited to): career options, career pathways, post-graduate education opportunities, practice issues, and professional issues. These discussions may occur via email, telephone conversations, or videoconferencing.

**Suggested Icebreaker Questions:**

- How did you choose your current position?
- What other position(s) have you had and how did you choose them?
- What type of training did you complete for the position you are in now?
- What led you to choose the clinical practice area you are currently in?
- Have you practiced in other clinical practice areas?
- What do you find most rewarding about your current position?
- What do you find most challenging about your current position?
- Are you involved in pharmacy organizations?
- What do/did you find rewarding about being involved?
- Did you have a role model or mentor?
- If you could go back and start your career over, what would you do differently?

**Pharmacist Benefits:**

- Demonstrates professionalism and a commitment to personal and professional development
- Provides intrinsic satisfaction
- Gain exposure to the fresh ideas of those who will shape the future of our profession
- Opportunity to learn the interests and concerns of new practitioners
- Assist a practitioner in shaping his or her future career path
- Opportunity to strengthen knowledge base and improve communication skills
- Enhance leadership, teaching, and coaching skills
- Create new support networks with other professionals
- Promote greater collegiality across practices
- Reflect on your own practice and development

**Student Benefits:**

- Provides a forum for dialogue and networking with practicing pharmacists in Alberta
- Opportunity to discuss career options in hospital and related practice settings (e.g., ambulatory care, primary care, home care, research, academia)
- Become familiar with challenges and current issues in the profession
- Gain exposure to diverse perspectives and experiences
- Gain a greater knowledge of career success factors
- Improve communication skills
- Develop a professional relationship for guidance and support
- Increase self-confidence

**Questions/Comments?**

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