PROGRAM OVERVIEW
The Bridge to Residency Pharmacy Program helps international pharmacy graduates enhance their clinical skills and knowledge through hands on advanced practice experience and coursework. Individuals who complete the program are eligible to take the NAPLEX and to apply for accredited residency training programs in the US. The program addresses the need to develop clinically-skilled, patient-focused pharmacists who work at the highest level of professional competency.

PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES
The Program is designed for international pharmacy school graduates interested in advancing their clinical and leadership skills. The program is ideal for individuals wishing to pursue residency/fellowship training in the US as well as those who aspire to serve as preceptors and leaders in pharmacy schools and training programs in their home country.
PROGRAM GOALS
Each Pharmacy Scholar will:
· Complete the requirements of a US pharmacy internship (ACPE Standard)
· Prepare to successfully compete for and complete an accredited residency program
· Understand team medicine specific to the practice of pharmacy
· Gain exposure to leadership styles and techniques in pharmacy practice
· Be prepared to pass the NAPLEX and MSJE exams
· Have the skills to serve as a preceptor, educator and leader in their home country

PROGRAM ELEMENTS
Program participation is customized for each scholar and may include:
· English language preparation
· FPGEE Preparation
· Professional Practice Seminar and Evaluation
· 1500-hour Clinical Practice Experience
· NAPLEX and MSJE Preparation
· Residency Preparation

PROGRAM DURATION
The Program will be 12-24 months dependent on entry status. Most elements leading up to the 1500-hour clinical experience (i.e. TOEFL/FPGEE prep) can be done online if a scholar so chooses.

100% PERCENTAGE OF SCHOLARS MATCHED IN 2021
Through this program, I have had the opportunity to complete many clinical rotations such as internal medicine, intensive care unit, infectious diseases, and ambulatory care at various Scripps Hospitals. During my time working at Scripps Health and as a student in the bridging program at UCSD, I have had the chance to explore a variety of practice skills. I have made long-term collaborative relationships with the clinical pharmacists, medical teams, and bridging program faculty, which have strengthened my communication, medication management, and clinical decision-making skills. This great experience helped me achieve my goal and be a Post-Graduate Year 1 (PGY1) pharmacy resident at Steward Norwood Hospital for 2020-2021.

Hussain Al-Ali, PharmD
King Faisal University, Saudi Arabia
BTR Pharmacy Scholar Alum
Matched to Steward Norwood Hospital
(PGY1; 2020-2021)
Matched to University of Arizona
(PGY2; 2021-2022)

"The program was one of the most remarkable experiences I’ve ever had in my professional life. I had great rotations in the in-patient and outpatient settings, specialty pharmacy, immunization delivery training, professionalism intensive course, pharmacy practice, residency preparation training and great support along the journey from the Health Sciences International Office. The cultural differences most of us face is well-understood and supported by the HSI office, which made my experience even better.

My learning experiences were rich and beyond what I had thought they would be, some of them are unforgettable. I am excited about my future!

Roaa Alamoudi, PharmD
Ibn Sina National College, Saudi Arabia
BTR Pharmacy Scholar Alum
BRIDGE TO RESIDENCY
PHARMACY ROADMAP

Year One - Phase 1

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER
Sit/Pass TOEFL iBT (93 or higher)
Submit passing TOEFL score to NABP for FPGEE Registration (1x year/October)

OCTOBER
Sit for annual FPGEE exam
Continue Clinical Crash Course Sessions, Weekly Didactics/Residency Prep

SEPTEMBER
Receive FPGEE Authorization to Test (October)
Weekly Didactics/Residency Prep and Clinical Crash Courses via Health Sciences International

NOVEMBER
Receive FPGEE results
Submit passing FPGEE to NABP for FPGEC

DECEMBER
Submit FPGEC & Intern License Application to CA Board of Pharmacy

JANUARY - AUGUST
TOEFL Intensive Prep Courses & FPGEE Prep Courses

JANUARY
Receive CA Intern Pharmacist License by Mail
Begin Phase 2 (1500 hours; internship)
BRIDGE TO RESIDENCY
PHARMACY ROADMAP

Year Two - Phase 2

JANUARY-AUGUST
Begin: Full-Time Pharmacy Internship via structured APPEE-style pharmacy rotations (inpatient/outpatient/community)

AUGUST
Continue Internship toward 1500 hour total + Residency Application Registration Opens (ASHP)

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER
NAPLEX Prep; MSJPE Prep

NOVEMBER
Continue NAPLEX/MSJPE Prep + Applicant Registration Opens (ASHP)

ASHP Phase 1 and Phase 2 Rankings Open; Scholars sit for NAPLEX/MSJPE

JANUARY-APRIL
ASHP Early Commitment Deadline; Register for match

APRIL-MAY
Completion of 1500 hours; exams = "Residency Ready"