

University of Southern California
SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

**Master of Science in Pharmaceutical
Economics & Policy**

Program Learning Objectives

The purpose of the USC School of Pharmacy **Masters program in Pharmaceutical Economics and Policy** is to prepare graduates to execute original research in the discipline specific to the graduate's area of emphasis, especially in health economics, comparative effectiveness research, cost-effectiveness analysis, patient-reported outcomes and health policy analysis. Graduates might be employed at leading consulting companies, pharmaceutical and medical device firms, managed care organizations, health insurance companies and government agencies.

Masters students enrolled in the program will be able to:

- Demonstrate an awareness of the interdisciplinary nature of research in all areas of pharmaceutical economics and policy and the ability to work across disciplines.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the microeconomic theory as it applies to the markets for health insurance and health care services.
- Demonstrate methodological skill and an understanding of contemporary research in their respective area of emphasis, and be able to apply innovative research practices to their research under guidance of their faculty advisor.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the methods used to conduct research in the area of patient reported outcomes.
- Demonstrate the ability to synthesize and integrate data from diverse sources [e.g., national data bases, paid claims data, electronic medical records, clinical trials] into an appropriate analytic database for their research.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the advanced statistical methods required to conduct research on non-experimental data.
- Complete a publishable empirical research paper in their respective area of emphasis under the guidance of their faculty advisor.