VCU Pharmaceutics has maintained a nationally-ranked, research-intensive graduate Ph.D. program in drug delivery and development for over 30 years. Upon admission, our graduate students complete a common core of graduate courses, including statistics, physical pharmacy, biopharmaceutics, drug metabolism, pharmacokinetics, pharmaceutical analysis, and seminars in drug development. Students then specialize through advanced coursework and meritorious research training in an area of concentration in the department with nationally and internationally recognized faculty experts/scientists and state-of-the-art instrumentation. Our students are highly motivated, committed and productive, accomplishing many research presentations/publications, receiving awards/scholarships, and completing the Ph.D. program in 4-6 years, while actively participating in teaching and professional/community activities. VCU Pharmaceutics is now pleased to announce the availability of funded Ph.D. program assistantships for highly qualified and motivated applicants commencing in 2018 fall.

**Graduate Admissions**

VCU Pharmaceutics offers funding for tuition and fees as well as stipend for this Ph.D. program admission in 2018 fall in the form of teaching assistantships. Our graduate admissions are described in detail at https://pharmacy.vcu.edu/pharmaceutics/graduate-programs/graduate-admissions/. Application review will commence in December 2017 and continue until all positions are filled. Applications will be reviewed based on certain criteria, such as academic performance and class rank during undergraduate and/or M.S. education, research experience, GRE, TOEFL or IELTS (for international students), letters of reference, and candidate interview. Applications will be evaluated based on overall strengths, credentials and interest in research. Due to our research-area targeted admission, applicants are strongly encouraged to describe the area(s) of their research interest in the Personal Statement. **Our research program has the greatest strengths in aerosol drug delivery** (Hindle; Sakagami; da Rocha), **bioanalysis** (Halquist), **pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics and drug transporters** (Gerk; Sweet; Venitz), **proteomics** (Hawkridge), **nanomedicine** (da Rocha; Xu), and **ocular drug delivery** (Xu), as described in detail at https://pharmacy.vcu.edu/pharmaceutics/research/.

**Applications, Useful Websites and Contacts**

- **Application Submission**: VCU Graduate School (http://graduate.admissions.vcu.edu/apply/)
- **International Student Application/Visa**: VCU Office of International Admissions (http://international.admissions.vcu.edu/)
- **General Inquiries**: VCU School of Pharmacy Graduate Program (https://pharmacy.vcu.edu/admissions/graduate/)
  - Shakim Jackson (sjackson29@vcu.edu), VCU School of Pharmacy Graduate Education Coordinator
- **Program Inquiries**: Pharmaceutics Graduate Program (https://pharmacy.vcu.edu/pharmaceutics/graduate-programs/)
  - Masahiro Sakagami, Ph.D. (msakagam@vcu.edu), Pharmaceutics Graduate Program Director