



Paths to Industry: Fellowship Preparation

July 30, 2026



Agenda

01	Future Events & Checklist
02	Fellow Introductions
03	Fellowship 101
04	MCPHS Program
05	Fellowship Roadmap
06	Selecting Fellowship Programs
07	Networking
08	Q&A Session

Webinar will be
recorded and posted at:
mcphsfellowship.com

Housekeeping

01

Please mute your mic if not speaking

02

Use the Q&A function to ask questions

03

Webinars will be recorded and posted to the MCPHS fellowship blog

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recorded and posted at:
mcphsfellowship.com

Upcoming MCPHS Events

✓	July 30, 2026	Summer Webinar – Fellowship Prep
	August 27, 2026	CV/LOI/Interview Webinar
	September 27, 2026	Fellows Q&A Webinar (Recruitment Day)

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Meet Our Fellows!

Victoria Small



US Marketing

Lauryn Hill



*US Medical/Medical
Science Liaison*

Zijie Zhang



Global Medical Writing

David Lu



*Early Clinical Development
– Translational Medicine*

Daniella Salawu



*Medical Writing
& Clinical Documentation*



03

Fellowship 101

Zijie Zhang



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BIOPHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY
FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
LAUNCH YOUR CAREER IN THE HEART OF BIOTECH

What is a fellowship?

- Post-graduate, **industry-based training program** designed to further the experience and skills of a PharmD graduate
- Allows PharmDs to gain invaluable knowledge through in-depth, **specialized training** of critical areas in the pharmaceutical industry
- Fellowship facilitates the development of PharmD graduates into knowledgeable and **competitive candidates for industry careers**



How is a fellowship structured?

- **Usually 2 years**, some 1 year
- Single function or cross-functional rotations
- May have optional electives to pursue other interests and broaden experience
- Independent or university affiliation
- Some under national fellowship alliances (AIFA)



Functional Areas

Clinical Sciences

Medical Affairs

Commercial

**Health Economics &
Outcomes Research**

Regulatory Affairs

Quality Assurance

Drug Safety

Multidisciplinary

And more...

PharmD Fellowship Benefits

01

**Mentorship from
industry experts**

02

**Practical hands-on
experiences**

03

Personal network growth

04

Pursue career interests

05

**Skill development in multiple
functional areas**

06

Transition into full-time careers

General Eligibility Criteria

Qualifications

- Applicants for a fellowship program must have a **PharmD** degree from an ACPE accredited college of pharmacy
- Pharmacy Licensing (NAPLEX/MPJE) may be required
- Most fellowships require proof of eligibility to work in the United States throughout duration of program

Skills & Experience

- Candidates must have **strong written and verbal communication skills**
- A **strong interest** in pursuing a career within the biopharmaceutical industry
- Prior experience (internships, APPEs) is valuable, **but not required to apply**

General Application Requirements

01

Letter of Intent

- Speaks to the candidates' interests in a fellowship, relevant work experience, and goals

02

Curriculum Vitae

- Highlight relevant experiences and skills
- **ENSURE YOU PROOFREAD**

03

Reference Form (Letter of Recommendation)

- **Usually 3-4 different contacts**
- Either complete a questionnaire (specific to MCPHS) or write a standard letter of recommendation

04

Pharmacy School Transcript

- **Depending on program, unofficial or official**

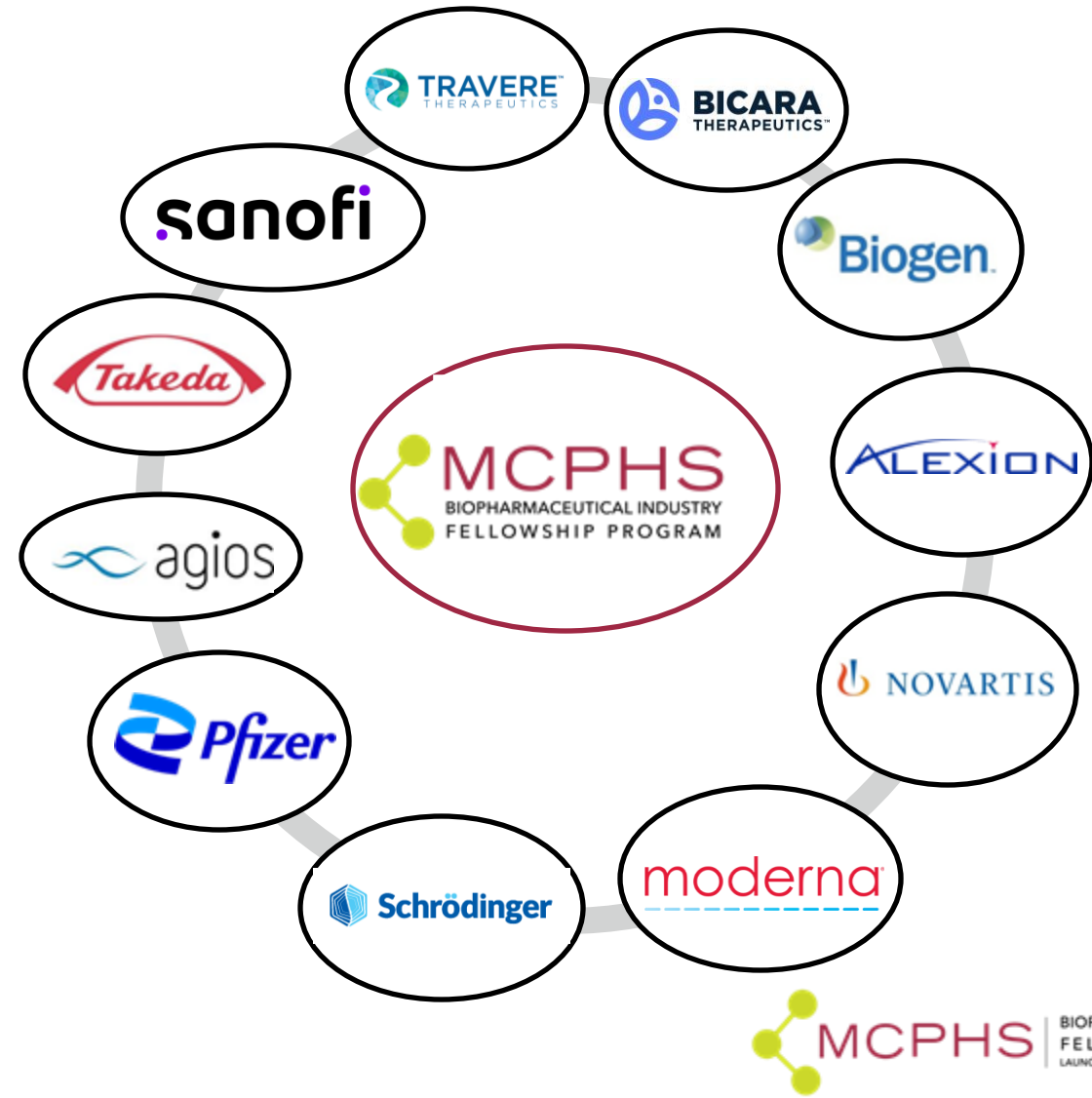
04

MCPHS Program

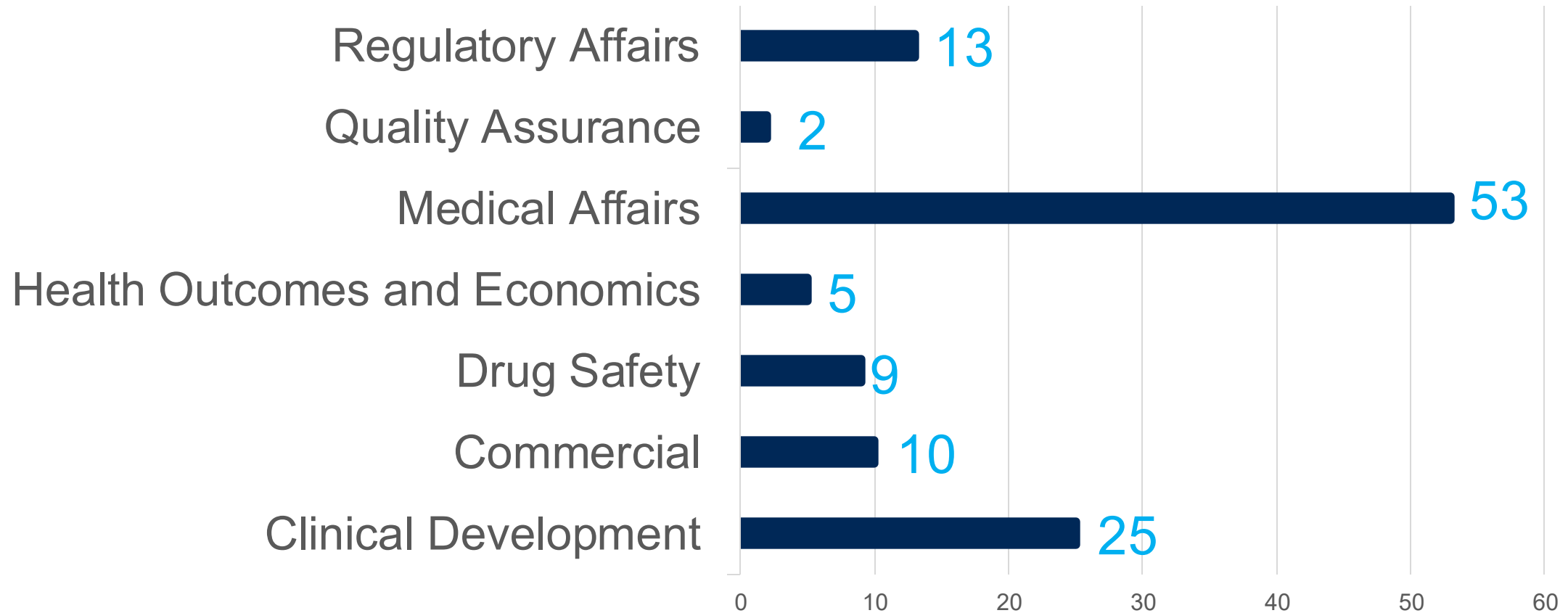
Victoria Small

MCPHS Fellowship Program

- Founded in 2003
- **11 companies** and growing
- Currently **~120 fellows**
- Located in the **biotech hub** of the world



MCPHS Fellowship Opportunities



MCPHS Academic Requirements

01

Scholarship

- Each fellow is required to complete at least 1 scholarly activity per year

02

Teaching

- Each fellow is required to participate in at least 1 teaching opportunity (i.e., didactic) per year

03

Service

- Fellows participate in the following:
 - Professional Development Days & Conference Series
 - Participate in OSCE's at MCPHS Boston, Worcester/Manchester
 - At least 1 Community Relations Committee (CRC) event
 - At least 1 PharmD school visit



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MCPHS Committees

Fellows are members of at least 1 MFN committee

Academic Relations

Networking & Events

Marketing & Recruitment

Industry Leadership

Community Relations

Alumni (upon completion)

MCPHS Biopharmaceutical Fellows' Network (MFN)

- Made up of **current and past** MCPHS Biopharmaceutical Industry Fellows
- Opportunities for events with past alumni to **build your network**

400+ Alumni



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Fellowship Roadmap

Lauryn Hill



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Steps to Success...

Pre-Pharmacy

- Learn about non-traditional career paths
- **Join IPhO** or similar organizations to learn about industry and industry resources

P1

- Prioritize academics and foundational skills
- Connect with current, fellows, and other students pursuing industry
- **Identify pharma electives or summer opportunities**
- Start attending fellowship-focused **webinars, events,** and panels

P2

- **Network with current fellows and industry professionals**
- Attend company-sponsored webinars
- **Research functional areas** and program types
- **Apply to internships** in pharma/biotech
- Build leadership through org involvement

Steps to Success...

P3

- Identify **top** functional areas of interest
- Apply for **APPEs** with an industry focus
- Diversify experience through various roles, research, and projects
- **Begin refining your CV and LinkedIn profile**
- Talk with fellows about their application journey

P4

- **Begin full prep: networking, request professional references, interview readiness**
- Track timelines and program requirements
- Apply intentionally - know your fit
- Stay focused and flexible through the interview cycle

The Final Year Timeline

- Select programs
- Develop tracker for interview schedule & programs
- Schedule mock interviews

- Interviews begin
- Reflect and prepare for further interviews
- Look at flights and hotels for Midyear

- Attend ASHP Midyear
- Complete final rounds
- Receive offer(s)!!

SUMMER

AUG

SEPT

OCT

NOV

DEC

- Attend webinars
- Research programs
- Update CV
- Explore functional areas
- Browse current brochures

- Application portals open
Request LORs
- Update LinkedIn
- Refine program list

- Revisit program fit
- Finalize travel for Midyear or onsite

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Selecting Fellowship Programs

Daniella Salawu



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Search Program Brochures

MCPHS Biopharmaceutical Fellows' Network

[Company Brochures & Positions](#) [Newsletter Archive](#) [Blog](#) [Faculty Spotlight](#) [Webinar Archive](#) [Contact](#) [Home](#)



<https://mcphsfellowship.com/company-brochures/>

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INDUSTRY PHARMACISTS | TRANSITION TO INDUSTRY

INDUSTRY FELLOWSHIP CATALOG

SEARCH THE CATALOG

Host Company	Affiliation	Fellowship Type	Website	Brochure	Contact	Apply	Host Company Location	Updated
Abbott	Northeastern University	Global Medical Affairs					MA	Sep 05, 2024
AbbVie	Purdue University/FDA	Pharmacovigilance					IL IN MD	Sep 30, 2024
AbbVie	University of Washington	HEOR					CA IL NJ WA	Oct 10, 2024
AbbVie	N/A	Real World Evidence					IL	Dec 20, 2024
AbbVie	University of Southern California	Global Medical Affairs, US Medical Affairs, Clinical Development, Clinical Pharmacology, Research Pharmacology, Drug Delivery Sciences, Pharmaceutical Sciences					CA IL NJ	Sep 19, 2024

Building Your Fellowship Tracker

- Program title, company, affiliation, functional area(s)
- Structure: rotational structure vs single-focus
- Duration: 1 year vs 2 years
- Location and relocation support
- Work model (remote/hybrid/in-person)
- Program size
- Team culture & mentorship model
- Therapeutic focus
- Development opportunities
- Alignment with your long-term goals
- Application deadlines
- Notes from previous webinars, panel, or LinkedIn convos
- Personal ranking or fit score

I	Pharma Company	Position	Location	Brochure Link	Program Duration	# Fellows Recruiting
MCPHS	Sanofi	Global Scientific/Medical Communications: Immunology			2 year	2
	Sanofi	Global Scientific/Medical Communications: Neurology			2 year	2
	Sanofi	US Medical/Medical Director: Multiple Sclerosis & Neurology			2 year	1
	Sanofi	Global Scientific/Medical Communications: Oncology			2 year	1
	Takeda	Global Medical Information & Review, Oncology, 1 year (Takeda)			1 year	
	Alexion	Global Medical Communications/Global Medical Affairs (Alexion)			2 year	3

Gather Questions

- Look through the program's website, brochure, and webinars and start compiling questions
- Think on what you would like to know that is not indicated on the program's available resources
- Sort through questions you'd like to ask current fellows, alumni and interviewers
- Do not ask questions that can be answered on the brochure
- Be mindful of your questions, keep it professional!

EMPLOYER INTERVIEW QUESTIONS



- 1** Is the department siloed, or do you work with other teams as well?
- 2** What is the structure of the organization like?
- 3** What excites you about working at the company?
- 4** Where do you see the company heading in the next few years?
- 5** What is the progression for this role in the company?
- 6** What does the day-to-day job look like?

Reach out to Current Fellows and Alumni

- While exploring program brochures, make note of the program alumni: you may want to reach out to ask questions!
- If current fellows' emails and program emails are not provided, reach out to fellows or alumni via LinkedIn
- Ask for a one-on-one session and keep in mind their schedule and availability. Remember to thank them for their time and consideration
- Reflect on your conversation - do you align with the company's values? Would you be a good fit? Do think the preceptors will be good mentors for you?

How to Connect

LinkedIn

- Preferred method
- Easiest way to search and contact fellows

Email

- Use if it was provided via webinar, mutual connection, given permissions
- May not be public
- If using this method, explain how you have their contact

Etiquette Tips

- Personalize your message. Write a brief, polite note that explains why you are interested in connecting. Mention how you met/got their contact information (if applicable) and the purpose for reaching out
- Professional Tone: Maintain a professional tone throughout your message

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Networking

David Lu

Networking Tips



Send personalized thank you emails to each interviewer/fellow/director



Have business cards ready either print or electronic



Build your LinkedIn profile

- Emphasize transferable skills, high-impact projects, and your value to the team
- Make sure your profile is up to date



Ask open ended questions, practice how to break the ice and know how to close a conversation

08

Q&A

Zijie Zhang



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Open Forum

✓ Please use the Q&A Chat Box

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*Medical Writing
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Please reach out if you have any questions!

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Daniella: Daniella.Salawu@sanofi.com

Next Steps: Upcoming MCPHS Events

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THANK YOU!

Don't Forget to Reach Out



<http://mcphsfellowship.com>



<https://linktr.ee/MCPHSFellows>



PharmDFellowships@mcphs.edu

