

Challenge Yourself To Be Great

- Be willing to accept challenging roles and projects. Remember, you will have to put your time in and prove you have the skill set and leadership before moving up.
- Quick and accurate follow-up is a plus and can reward you over the years.
- Always have a Plan B; things don't always go as we would like them to and it is important to have a back-up plan.
- Stay current on pharmacy issues and trends (www.AMCP.org is an excellent resource), including appropriate use of social networking (LinkedIn, etc.) as a professional. Remember learning is a lifelong commitment.

"Staying involved with AMCP was as vital to my success as a managed care pharmacist as my core didactic pharmacy education. AMCP provided me with a unique networking platform that facilitated great career opportunities not only post-pharmacy school but also after completing a residency. As a young professional, my experiences with AMCP have allowed me to develop invaluable mentor/mentee relationships with leaders in the field and stay engaged in current managed care issues and resources that help me stay innovative, competitive, and succeed in my current role."

-Stephanie Lu, PharmD, Hill
Physicians Medical Group, 2011
Graduate, Western University
of Health Sciences

Remember The Importance of Networking

- Stay in contact with classmates and your school. They can be part of your network long into the future. Your alumni association can also be a great place to network.
- Give back to your school! Remember, giving back doesn't always have to be financial – be willing to mentor student pharmacists or volunteer with your school at community events.
- Keep in touch with your mentors. Just as they helped you while in pharmacy school, they can continue to help you early in your career.
- Networking, networking, networking! Stay involved in the organizations you participated in during school (like AMCP!), because they mean more now as a pharmacist than ever (from CE, advocacy and current industry to news, to potential future career paths).
- Take every opportunity to network and meet new people in the profession.
- Local state pharmacy associations and AMCP Affiliates are a great place to network on the local level!

Be Financially Smart

- Start researching and saving for retirement (e.g.; 401K, Mutual Funds, Roth IRA, etc.) – you will be glad you did even though retirement is years away.
- Learn about any potential student loan forgiveness programs and be sure to stay current on any student loans.
- You will start making a lot of money soon – manage it well so you have the necessary items for an enjoyable life. Don't be afraid to seek out a financial advisor for guidance.
- If you choose to do a residency, determine if any of your student loans can be deferred for the year and if interest continues to accrue.



Academy of
Managed Care
Pharmacy®

Top Tips from AMCP Members to New Graduates

Stay Involved in Your New Profession and AMCP

- Keep your network active and always work to expand it! Managed Care Pharmacy is a very “small world” – you never know who you may work with or need down the line!
- Continue to attend meetings, and volunteer for leadership opportunities within AMCP. This will help you meet new people and provide chances to expand your knowledge of managed care.
- Remember that managed care pharmacy principles can be applied in every facet of pharmacy. Even if you don’t end up in a “managed care” job right out of school. Every job opportunity you come across will involve some aspect of managed care. If a job in a managed care organization is your career goal, stay focused on that goal and look for chances to further your understanding of the vast world of managed care pharmacy.
- Sign up (if you haven’t already) for AMCP and other professional LinkedIn/Facebook groups.
- New grads receive a 50% discount on the AMCP Active member dues the first two years after graduation. That is a savings of \$148!! You can switch membership categories at any time – just email memberservices@amcp.org.
- Remember – if you are entering a Residency, Fellowship or pursuing an additional degree in Pharmacy – AMCP has a special discounted dues category just for you!

“There is a unique sense of brotherhood that is embedded within AMCP that I do not see in other pharmacy organizations. When I walk the halls at an AMCP conference, it is impossible to go 20 steps without recognizing someone that you have met sometime during your pharmacy career. This sense of camaraderie is why I chose and will always choose to renew my membership with the Academy.”

- Michael Pazirandeh, PharmD,
Blue Shield of California,
2011 Graduate, University
of Southern California