

Dean Akiyode's Bio

Ranti Akiyode, Pharm.D. currently serves as the Dean and Professor of Pharmacy Practice at the Howard University College of Pharmacy, leveraging almost 25 years of academic experience with a strong focus on clinical pharmacy practice. Her leadership is marked by a steadfast commitment to professionalism and an unwavering devotion to excellence in students, staff, and faculty.

Since assuming the role of Dean, Dr. Akiyode has spearheaded a period of dynamic growth and advancement at the College. Under her leadership, pharmacy school applications and enrollment have significantly increased, reflecting her strategic emphasis on academic excellence and accessibility. She has also expanded the College's degree offering/tracks and increased the number of pathway programs and partnerships, creating more inclusive and innovative entry points into the pharmacy profession.

A transformative leader and innovator in pharmacy education, Dr. Akiyode led the development and launch of the Howard University College of Pharmacy's fully online Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) program, which welcomes its inaugural class in August 2026. This groundbreaking initiative represents the first fully online PharmD degree offered by a Historically Black College or University (HBCU) school or college of pharmacy, expanding access to pharmacy education while advancing Howard University's mission of educational equity and excellence.

Under her leadership, the College has also achieved significant gains in student success outcomes. The first-time NAPLEX pass rate increased substantially to 86.1%, while the all-attempt NAPLEX pass rate for the Class of 2025 rose to 87.8%, surpassing the national average. These achievements reflect her commitment to academic quality, curricular innovation, and student preparedness for professional practice.

Dr. Akiyode has championed efforts to expand financial support for students, resulting in a substantial increase in pharmacy scholarships. She is committed to community engagement and alumni relations, and there has been a notable rise in alumni giving, further strengthening the College's foundation and future impact.

A strong advocate for workforce development, she secured a \$450,000 grant in two consecutive years from the DC government to launch a Pharmacy Technician Program, providing critical training and employment opportunities for DC residents.

Prior to her deanship, Dr. Akiyode served as the founding pharmacist at the Howard University Hospital Diabetes Treatment Center from 2007 to 2017, where she played a pivotal role in establishing and delivering comprehensive medication therapy and diabetes management services. A passionate mentor, she also developed and led a successful junior faculty mentoring program at the College, fostering professional development and academic success among early-career faculty.

Through visionary leadership, Dr. Akiyode continues to elevate the Howard University College of Pharmacy's reputation for excellence in education, research, practice, and community service. Her strategic focus on innovation, student success, workforce development, and inclusive

excellence continues to position the College as a national leader in pharmacy education and a catalyst for advancing health equity and diversifying the pharmacy workforce.