

Ranti Akiyode, Pharm.D. serves as dean and professor of pharmacy practice at the Howard University College of Pharmacy, bringing nearly 25 years of academic experience with a strong focus on clinical pharmacy practice. Her leadership is marked by a steadfast commitment to professionalism and excellence among students, staff and faculty.

Since assuming the role of dean, Akiyode has spearheaded a period of dynamic growth and advancement at the College. Under her leadership, pharmacy school applications and enrollment have increased significantly, reflecting her strategic emphasis on academic excellence and accessibility. She has also expanded the College's degree offerings and 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, Akiyode led the development and launch of the Howard University College of Pharmacy's fully online Doctor of Pharmacy program, which welcomed its inaugural class in August 2026. The initiative represents the first fully online Doctor of Pharmacy degree offered by a Historically Black College or University 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. 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.

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

A strong advocate for workforce development, Akiyode secured a \$450,000 grant in two consecutive years from the D.C. government to launch a pharmacy technician program, providing critical training and employment opportunities for D.C. residents.

Prior to becoming dean, 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, 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.