The Career Center Pre-Medicine Guide

Pre-Requisite Information

Please note that it is the responsibility of the student to research individual medical school admission requirements. There are various ways medical schools view prerequisite coursework: specific courses, credit hours in disciplines or competency based. Your academic advisor can discuss courses required for your major.

Biological Sciences	Courses	Required	Strongly Recommended
General Biology (2 sem)	MCB 150 & MCB 151 IB 150 & IB 151	\checkmark	
Anatomy & Physiology	MCB 244 & MCB 246 or IB 303 & IB 202		✓
Genetics	MCB 250 or IB 204		✓
Physical Sciences	Courses	Required	Strongly Recommended
General Chemistry (2 sem)	CHEM 102 & CHEM 103 CHEM 104 & CHEM 105	\checkmark	
Organic Chemistry I Organic Chemistry II	CHEM 232 & CHEM 233 CHEM 332	\checkmark	✓
Biochemistry (1 sem)	MCB 354 or MCB 450	\checkmark	
General Physics (2 sem)	PHYS 101 & PHYS 102	\checkmark	
Behavioral Sciences & Communication	Courses	Required	Strongly Recommended
Psychology	PSYC 100		✓
Sociology	SOC 100		✓
Communication (2 sem)	Composition 1 Advanced Composition	\checkmark	



EXPERIENCES FOR MEDICAL SCHOOL

Medical schools look for a variety of experiences. This is not an exhaustive list of the opportunities. Students can pursue many things to enhance their future application. It is important to have quality experiences over quantity!

Clinical Experience

- Healthcare Work Certification: CNA, EMT, CMA
- Hospital/Clinic Volunteering
- Medical Scribe

Community Service

- Social Justice
- Get out in your campus community

Leadership

- Training & Development
- Executive Board Position

Research

- Undergraduate Research
- Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship
- Research during gap year



YOUR TIMELINE

This is a suggested timeline only. Every student has their own path to medical school. If choosing a gap year, it allows students to enhance their academics and professional/personal experiences.

Fall

MCB 150/MCB 151 CHEM 102/103

Attend Quad Day, Pre-Health Kick-Off Find RSOs to join (don't join too many!)

Fall

CHEM 232 MCB 250 or IB 204

Continue activities and/or find new ones

Fall

PHYS 101 MCB 244 or IB 303 PSYC 100

MCAT Prep-if not planning gap year Leadership experience

Fall

CHEM 332 (if needed)

MCAT Prep (if haven't applied)
Med School Interviews

Spring

IB 150/ IB 151 CHEM 104/105

Volunteering Look into research opps Summer planning

Spring

CHEM 233 MCB 354 or 450

Summer planning-internships, healthcare certifications Study Abroad

Spring

PHYS 102 MCB 246 or IB 202 SOC 100

MCAT Prep or Take MCAT
Plan for application cycle-if not planning
gap year

Spring

Any additional coursework

Take MCAT (if applying upcoming cycle) Med School Interviews/Decision on Offers Consider reapplying



YOUR TIMELINE

Print this document to fill in your coursework and experiences.

Fall	Spring
Fall	Spring
Fall	Spring

TIMELINE OF APPLYING

ARE YOU READY?

First step...

Determine if you are ready to apply based on your academics (GPA, completed pre-reqs), test score, experiences and letters of rec. Do you feel like you are competitive for the programs you want to apply to?



APPLICATION OPENS

Know your dates...

The applications to medical school open the first few days of May every year. MD does not allow you to submit your application until the end of May.

DO allows submission to begin immediately.



WHAT DO YOU NEED TO APPLY?

Plan ahead...

It is important to know that you typically do not need letters of recommendation or your test scores to submit your application. The basic parts are: biographical info, coursework, personal statement, work/activities, who your letter writers are and admission test date.



VERIFICATION

Start the process...



The application services will have your primary application go through a process called verification. This is where the applications "verify" what you have entered in for coursework and that it matches your transcripts. They will also calculate the various GPAs medical schools use to evaluate applicants. This process can take 2 days or up to 6 weeks. Apply early!



TIMELINE OF APPLYING

SECONDARY APPLICATIONS

Check your email...

Once your application is verified and the medical schools have the ability to view applicants, they will either pre-screen applications or automatically send secondary applications. It is recommended to return these applications within 2-3 weeks of receiving. Many applicants will pre-write their secondary essays.



WAITING GAME

No news, is good news...



One of the most anxious times for prehealth applicants is waiting to hear back from programs on interviews. Depending how long you have waited, you can submit an update with significant information. Otherwise, know that if you haven't been denied, then you still have an opportunity!

INTERVIEWS

Again...check your email!

Being invited for an interview means that you have met what they are looking for on paper. This is your opportunity to talk to individuals at the programs about why you are passionate about the field and that specific school. Do your research! Come prepared with your own questions! And don't forget to practice with a mock interview!



ADMISSION OFFERS

Be ready



The timeline of admission offers varies between MD and DO. MD programs cannot give an admission offer until the beginning of October. DO schools might offer within a couple of weeks after an interview. Programs usually send out decisions in batches. It is possible to receive multiple offers, but also be denied or waitlisted.



TIMELINE OF APPLYING

DECISION TIME

Understand your options

If you have received an admission offer, be mindful of due dates for deposits to hold your seat. Plus, applicants need to be aware of decision deadlines. Read carefully any information programs have sent you! MD schools use the Choose Your Medical School tool.



If you did not receive any offers, make sure you think about a plan B and what you need to do to reapply.



START SCHOOL

Woohoo!!

Congratulations! You have accepted an offer to a medical school and are ready to start your journey to become a physician!



The Career Center

Throughout the application process, the Pre-Health Advisors are available to assist applicants...alumni too! We can discuss competitiveness, review personal statements, work/activity sections, secondary essays, school list, conduct mock interviews and walk you through the decision process. Don't hesitate to contact us, if you need help!





RESOURCES

AAMC Students-Residents

AAMC Core Competencies

Medical School Admission Requirements (MSAR)

AMCAS (MD Application)

AACOM: Choose DO

AACOMAS (DO Application)

Health Profession Advising

Personal Statement Reviews

Mock Interviews