



UGA Honors Pre-Health Profession Guide

Pre-Professional Advising




The Pre-Professional Advising Office (<https://ppao.uga.edu/>) serves UGA students interested in healthcare careers as doctors, dentists, optometrists, physician's assistants; those in the allied-health fields (physical therapists, occupational therapists, anesthesiologist assistants, and genetic counselors); and nursing. Pre-professional advisors are not academic advisors (i.e., they will not clear your registration holds). They instead work with you to help you ready yourself for the advanced work required by your field. Go to <https://ppao.uga.edu/about/advisors/> for the list of advisors by area and appointment instructions.

What's the best major for pre-health?

Pre-Medical, Pre-Dental, Pre-Physician Associate, etc. are not majors at UGA. **There is no best major for any of the healthcare professions, nor are there any majors that will make a student standout when applying to health professional schools.** Students are encouraged to select majors which they find genuinely interesting and to take required pre-requisites alongside their major coursework.

What is the suggested pre-medical course sequence?



MCAT CONTENT	RECOMMENDED COURSES
Biological & Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems	BIOL 1107/L & BIOL 1108/L; Physiology (VPHY 3100, PMCY 3000, CBIO 3710 or CBIO 2200 and 2210); BCMB 3100 (BCMB 4010 & 4020 for BCMB Majors)
Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems	CHEM 1211/L & CHEM 1212/L; CHEM 2211/L; BCMB 3100 (BCMB 4010 & 4020 for BCMB Majors); PHYS 1111 & PHYS 1112 (PHYS 1211 & PHYS 1212 can be taken); STAT 2000 or BIOS 2010
Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior	PSYC 1101 SOCI 1101 (can study terms on their own)
Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills	ENGL 1101 & ENGL 1102; Humanities and Social Science Courses (more for critical thinking-there is not defined content students need to know).

Honors Equivalent Courses: BIOL 2107H; BIOL 2108H; BCMB 3100H; CHEM 1311H/L, 1312H/L, 2311H/L, 2312H/L*; PHYS 1211/L, 1212/L*; STAT 2100H; PSYC 1030H; SOCI 1101H; ENGL 1050H or ENGL 1060H (both are equivalents for ENGL 1102; there is no honors equivalent for ENGL 1101)

*The following classes, although less commonly taken, are also Honors equivalents: CHEM 1411/L, 1412/L, 2411/L; 2412/L; PHYS 1311/L, 1312/L



What is a sample pre-medical schedule of required courses?

SAMPLE SCHEDULE	FALL SEMESTER	SPRING SEMESTER	SUMMER SEMESTER
FIRST-YEAR	CHEM 1211/L MATH 2250 PSYC 1101	CHEM 1212/L BIOL 1107/L *Statistics	Summer program experience (SHPEP or SEEP).
SECOND-YEAR	CHEM 2211/L BIOL 1108/L	**CHEM 2212/L PHYS 1111	Summer programs (Pathway to Medicine) or clinical experience (shadowing or internship)
THIRD-YEAR	BCMB 3100 PHYS 1112	GENE 3200 Physiology	Take the MCAT in May or early June and begin application process
*Statistics is helpful for the quantitative reasoning section of the Medical Admissions Test (MCAT) and fits in any of the six semesters.			
** Organic Chemistry 2 is required by most medical schools for admission and ideally there should be no gap between Organic Chemistry 1 and Organic Chemistry 2			

Do medical schools accept AP credit?

Medical schools generally do not accept AP credit, although AP credit acceptance varies at each school. All programs are different and their requirements can change, so make sure to research your preferred programs to find out exactly what they will and will not accept.

Are the pre-requisites the same for dental, optometry, and PA school?

While the pre-dental, pre-optometry, and pre-physician assistant tracks are similar to pre-medical, there are some differences (i.e., pre-dental students do not need to take physics before the DAT and pre-physician assistant students need three, rather than four semesters of chemistry). Make an appointment with the appropriate pre-health advisor in the fall or spring to confirm your particular field's requirements.

Important Links:

For *all* Pre-Health students: join the Pre-Health Listserv at <https://ppao.uga.edu/about/listserv/>

For Pre-Medical: <https://ppao.uga.edu/pre-medical/>

For Pre-Dental: <https://ppao.uga.edu/pre-dental/>

For Pre-Optometry: <https://ppao.uga.edu/Optometry/>

For Pre-Physician Associate: <https://ppao.uga.edu/allied-health/Physician-Associate/>

