

PRE-MEDICINE AND PRE-OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE EMPHASIS

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There is an on-going high demand for primary care allopathic and osteopathic physicians in both rural and inter-city areas. Your initial goals need to include completion of required and elective courses with superior grades. The required courses and electives recommended by an academic advisor are considered the courses necessary for preparation for the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT), which normally is taken during the sixth semester (Spring, Junior Year). The MCAT is offered several times each year (January-September). It measures skills and knowledge bases considered important for successful completion of medical school curricula. Scaled scores are reported for Verbal Reasoning, Physical Sciences, Biological Sciences and Writing Samples. It is recommended that students obtain a MCAT practice manual early in their academic tenure - during the first year is best. Preparatory courses offered by private sources for a fee are also available.

A medical school applicant's Grade Point Average (GPA) and MCAT scores as reported via the AAMCAS or AACOMAS Central Application Office serve as initial screening data used by medical school admissions offices. Only applicants reporting adequate grades and scores will be asked to complete a "secondary application" to enter the applicant pool for potential interviews and acceptance for admission.

Courses required for Pre-Medicine and Pre-Osteopathic Medicine option

BIOLOGY

| Course | Course Name | Cr. | √ |
|---------------|--------------------------------|-----|---|
| BIOL 191/191L | College Biology I-Botany/Lab | 5 | |
| BIOL 192/192L | College Biology II-Zoology/Lab | 5 | |
| Total | | 10 | |

CHEMISTRY

| Course | Course Name | Cr. | √ |
|---------------|--------------------------|-----|---|
| CHEM 121/121L | General Chemistry I/Lab | 5 | |
| CHEM 122/122L | General Chemistry II/Lab | 5 | |
| CHEM 301/301L | Organic Chemistry I/Lab | 5 | |
| CHEM 302/302L | Organic Chemistry II/Lab | 5 | |
| Total | | 20 | |

Other Components:

| Course | Course Name | Cr. | √ |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------|---|
| Math 156 | Introduction to Statistics | 3 | |
| Math 221 OR Math 126 and 224 * | Applied Calculus OR Calculus and Analytical Geometry I and II | 4-10 | |
| ENG 101 | Composition I | 3 | |
| ENG 102 | Composition II | 3 | |
| ENG | Literature Course | 3 | |
| PHYS 221/221L OR PHYS 201/201L | General Physics I/Lab OR Principles of Physics I/Lab | 5 4 | |
| PHYS 222/222L OR PHYS 202/202L | General Physics II/Lab OR Principles of Physics II/Lab | 5 4 | |
| Total | | 24-26 | |

*Many Medical schools now prefer a Calculus I/II sequence to the Applied Calculus course.

Other helpful courses include but are not limited to:

- **Biochemistry***
 - **Microbiology**
 - **Genetics*/Molecular Biology**
 - **Cell Biology***
 - **Ethics**
 - **Computers**
 - **Immunology**
 - **Embryology**
 - **Physiology**
 - **Histology**
 - **Psychology**
 - **Cell Biology**
- Highly recommended for pre-med student preparation

Proper form and thoughtful writing skills are very important for the application process. To generate a MCAT writing score, applicants will be asked to consider two controversial statements. The test writer must then address the thesis of each statement, address the statement's antithesis, and finally summarize. In addition to the MCAT samples applicants must include a concise personal statement in their application. That statement must be well written and include information relating why you want to become a physician and why you are unique and special compared to other applicants.

"The Medical School Admissions Requirements" booklet, MCAT and AMCAS application forms are available at these web sites:

www.aamc.org/students/amcas/start.htm

www.aamc.org/students/mcat/start.htm

publish.aacom.org/InfoFor/applicants/Pages/default.aspx

It is extremely important to work closely with the pre-medicine advisor immediately after the decision is made for a student to apply to Medical School. The Medical Sciences Society, a student-run club at CSU-Pueblo, provides opportunities for pre-med students to be directly involved with local physicians and programs through experimental learning activities. It is a great idea to be an active member of this student organization. This club has its own room on the second floor of the Life Sciences building (LS 239).