

## Pre-Medical Requirements

**Introduction:** This information is based on the general requirements of (>50%) medical schools across the nation. It will be up to each student to research schools of interest and to finalize any remaining requirements.

- It is strongly advised that students take every course tested on the MCAT (marked with \*).
- Medical schools do not require any particular major. Students should select a major based on academic strengths and interests.
- If you are in the Honors program, you may want to consider taking Honors level prerequisites.
- Each student should develop an academic plan based on their investigation of medical school requirements and the requirements for their degree.
- A draft of this academic plan needs to be reviewed with the student's advisor from their major.

## Required by MOST Medical Schools

### **Chemistry:** 2 Semesters

- \*General Chemistry I: CHEM 1031 + CHEM 1033
- \*General Chemistry II: CHEM 1032 + CHEM 1034

### **Organic Chemistry:** 2 Semesters

- \*Organic Chemistry I: CHEM 2201 + CHEM 2203
- \*Organic Chemistry II: CHEM 2202 + CHEM 2204

### **\*Tested on the MCAT**

### **Biology:** 2 Semesters

- \*Intro. to Organismal Biology: BIOL 1111
- \*Intro. to Cellular & Molecular Bio.: BIOL 2112

### **Physics:** 2 Semesters

*Physics requirement dictated by major. Content covered in Physics 2021 / 2022 is recommended.*

- \*Physics I: PHYS 2021 (or 1061 or 1021)
- \*Physics II: PHYS 2022 (or 1062 or 1022)

## Required by SOME Medical Schools

### **Math:** 2 Semesters

*Math requirements vary greatly. Some schools recommend Calculus or Statistics while others need just 2 semesters of college-level math.*

Calculus I: MATH 1041

Calculus II: MATH 1042

Statistics: MATH 1044, PSY 1003, SOC 1167, BIOL 3312

### **English:** 2 Semesters

*Some schools consider any [writing intensive](#) course.*

Analytical Reading & Writing: ENG 0802

Intellectual Heritage I: IH 0851

Intellectual Heritage II: IH 0852

### **\*Social Sciences:** 2 Semesters

\*Intro to Psychology: PSY 1001 or PSY 1901

\*Intro to Sociology: SOC 1576 (or 1176, or 1976)

### **Upper Level Sciences:**

*Refer to schools of interest to determine if any additional sciences are required. Recommended courses below:*

\*Biochemistry: CHEM 3401, 4401 or BIOL 4375

Genetics: BIOL 2296

Cell Structure and Function: BIOL 3096

Mammalian Anatomy: BIOL 2233

Mammalian Physiology: BIOL 3334

Histology: BIOL 2235

# Sample Timeline

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester	Summer
<b>Year 1</b>	Chemistry I	Chemistry II Biology I	<i>Exposure to Medicine</i> <i>Community Service</i>
<b>Year 2</b>	Organic Chemistry I Biology II	Organic Chemistry II Psychology Sociology	<i>Continue Volunteering</i> <i>Research</i>
<b>Year 3</b>	Physics I Biochemistry <i>MCAT Prep</i>	Physics II <i>MCAT Prep</i>	<b><i>MCAT Exam by May/June</i></b> <b><i>Apply to Medical School by June/July</i></b> <i>Secondary Applications</i>
<b>Year 4</b>	Any Additional Requirements <i>Medical School Interviews</i>	Any Additional Requirements <i>Medical School Interviews</i>	<i>Take a break before Medical School!</i>

This timeline is an example of how you may wish to take courses *in a perfect world*. Timing of these courses may change due to placement exams or major requirements. In addition to these courses, each student will fit in any classes required by their major. Develop an academic plan based on the sequence above that is tailored to your needs so that you and your advisor can discuss your plan.

Visit Temple's bulletin to view the availability and prerequisites of each course: [www.temple.edu/courses](http://www.temple.edu/courses)

## ePortfolio

ePortfolio is a tool that will help students stay organized for a professional school application. Through the ePortfolio process, students will set up a 'mock application' that includes GPAs and professional development experiences. **ePortfolio drafts are due to PPHS June 30<sup>th</sup> two years before students plan to enter professional school.** Competitive students who complete the ePortfolio are considered for an interview by the Pre-Professional Health Evaluation Committee. Interviewed students will be offered a committee letter of recommendation and may have additional letters sent from PPHS to professional schools as they apply.



*The circle to the right represents four areas that are important for admission to professional school. As you embark on your journey to medical school, think about ways to enhance each of these four sections.*

# Applying to Medical Schools

**Application Process:** A centralized application service is available through the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) for MD granting schools or the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Service (AACOMAS) for DO granting schools. Applications are submitted one year before students expect to enter medical school and are available for submission in early June. Schools view applicants on a rolling basis – apply early when the application opens!

**Undergraduate Major:** There is no preferred major for medical school. Students should select a major that they find interesting and consider a strength.

**GPA:** Medical schools will consider both a student’s overall and math/science GPA. Math/science GPA is calculated using scores from any course taken in the departments of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Math. **An overall and math/science GPA of 3.5 or above is preferred. GPAs below 3.0 will need to consider Post-Baccalaureate coursework / programs before applying.**

**Medical College Admission Test (MCAT):** The following subjects are tested on the MCAT. Any courses in these areas should be completed prior to taking the exam. This test is often taken the same summer in which the student applies to professional school (one year before walking through the doors of medical school). A test date in May would allow a student to see their scores before applying when the application opens in June. Remember, take time to prepare for the exam. The latest you should take it is by the first week of September of the year before you expect to enter medical school.

**Biology**  
**Chemistry**  
**Organic Chemistry**  
**Physics**

**Biochemistry**  
**Psychology**  
**Sociology**  
**Critical Reasoning**

**Professional Development:** Medical schools will first review your numbers (overall GPA, Math/Science GPA, MCAT scores). If these are in a competitive range, they will then assess your extracurricular and volunteer experiences. Exposure to Medicine, community service, and research encompass an important part of your preparation for medical school. Demonstrated experiences in healthcare, clinical health settings in particular, need to be a part of your profile for future admission.

**Letters of Recommendation:** Medical schools will highly prefer a Committee Letter (a Committee Letter from PPHS serves as a cover letter for your individual letters from faculty and mentors). A Committee Letter **will not replace** the need to have other recommendation letters! A Committee Letter will, however, better highlight your strengths as an applicant. Begin to consider letter writers early. Letters may be submitted to PPHS from letter writers directly by using the “Letter of Recommendation Form” on the PPHS Canvas site.

*NOTE: Committee Letters will **only** be sent to AMCAS or AACOMAS through PPHS from applicants who have: (1) completed the ePortfolio process in the appropriate timeframe; and (2) interviewed with a member of the Pre-Professional Health Evaluation Committee. Letter packets will be sent for students who have established a relationship with PPHS.*

## **Additional Resources:**

Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC): [www.aamc.org](http://www.aamc.org)  
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM): [www.aacom.org](http://www.aacom.org)