Health Professions Advising Program

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The program assists students in pre-professional preparation for careers in all of the health professions including medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, physician assistant, physical therapy, and other allied health professions. Because each of the health professions requires specific preparation, students must work closely with the Advisor for the Health Professions to plan a suitable program of study. This generally involves selection of an appropriate major, required courses, and internships and volunteer service opportunities in the health professions.

Admission to most health professions schools is extremely competitive, requiring strong academic performance, satisfactory scores on standardized admissions tests (e.g. MCAT, DAT, GRE, etc.), and evidence of leadership, service and a working knowledge of the health professions. For medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, and optometry, academic preparation generally includes a minimum of two semesters each of

- General Biology
- General Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- Calculus
- General Physics
- English

In addition, many health professions schools strongly recommend or require Biochemistry, Advanced Biology electives, and other specific courses. For example, medical schools may require biochemistry and social/behavioral sciences (psychology, sociology), NP, PA programs require human anatomy and physiology. It is important to contact the Advisor for the Health Professions to confirm profession specific prerequisites.

While there is no "premed" major, most premedical sciences students complete one of the following majors:

B.S. degree in Biology
B.A. degree in Chemistry
B.S. degree in Biochemistry

However, with careful planning, a student may also complete the premedical sciences courses in combination with a liberal arts major.