

This document is meant to serve as a guide to students interested in applying to Medical School. It is not a degree plan.

What is the Best Major for Pre-Meds?

- Any major is acceptable for admission to medical school. Study whatever you are interested in and do well. You will spend a lot of time taking science classes in medical school.
- Typically, 75% of students that enter medical school majored in the physical, natural, or social sciences. The remaining 25% came from another discipline.
- Medical school requires the ability to process a tremendous amount of information gained from reading. Being a doctor requires working with people, some of whom, from a different culture or socio-economic background. A major or minor in the humanities or social sciences can be helpful in improving reading and inter-personal skills and improve MCAT scores.
- Studying a foreign language expands the pool of patients you can work with, improves your knowledge and skills in the English language, and can distinguish you from other Medical School Applicants.
- A Liberal Arts major that works hard and is successful as an undergraduate will likely work hard and be successful in medical school.
- Spend your time in college learning how to learn by studying a subject you are interested in.

There is a set of required courses for medical school.

Required Classes For Medical School Admission

BIO111 Cell and Molecular Biology (4)

BIO112 Ecology and Evolution (4)

CHE 111/CHE 111L General Chemistry I (4)

CHE 112/CHE 112L General Chemistry II (4)

CHE 361/CHE 361L Organic Chemistry I (4)

CHE 362/CHE 362L Organic Chemistry II (4)

PHY 131 College Physics I (5)

OR PHY 201 University Physics I (4)

PHY 129 Success in College Physics I

PHY 132 College Physics II (5)

OR PHY 202 University Physics II (4)

PHY 129 Success in College Physics II

ENG 101 Reading, Writing, and Rhetoric (3) OR ENG 105 First Year Writing Seminar (3)

ENG 102 Research, Writing and Rhetoric (3) OR ENG 301 Advanced Composition (3)

The University of Louisville School of Medicine has an additional Math requirement. Calculus is preferred. These math classes are recommended even if you have no plans to apply to Louisville, and are typically required for a major in a natural science.

MAT 114 College Algebra, 120 Trigonometry, or 122 Precalculus (3)

STA 270 Applied Statistics I (3) or STA 215 Introduction to Statistical Reasoning

OR

MAT 234 Calculus I (4) or MAT 261 Calculus with Applications for Science

BIO 111, BIO 112, CHE 111, and CHE 112 should be taken your freshman year or as early as possible. These courses are pre-requisites for the rest of the required biology and chemistry courses.

Classes that Cover Material on the MCAT

BIO 331 Cell Biology (3)

BIO 348 Vertebrate Physiology (3)

CHE 430/CHE 432L Biochemistry –Macromolecules (4)

CHE 431 Biochemistry –Metabolism (3)

PSY 200 Introduction to Psychology (3)

PSY 280 Lifespan Development (3)

PSY 300 Social Psychology (3)

PSY 308 Abnormal Psychology (3)

SOC 131 Introduction to Sociology (3) or SOC 235 Social Problems (3)

SOC 232 Social Statistics (3)

ANT 377 Medical Anthropology (3)

Students typically take the MCAT during the spring semester of their junior year; so do not put off taking the courses that prepare you for the MCAT.

Useful links for Med School Applicants

The Association of American Medical Colleges

<https://www.aamc.org>

Information about the MCAT

<https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/about/>

Free MCAT preparation

<https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/mcat>

<http://www.mcatquestion.com>

<http://www.princetonreview.com/medical/free-mcat-practice-test.aspx>

<http://www.kaptest.com/mcat/mcat-practice/free-mcat-practice-test>

Shadowing Physicians

<https://www.aamc.org/students/aspiring/experience/280582/shadow-doctor.html>

<http://medicalschoollhq.net/how-to-effectively-shadow-a-physician-as-a-premed-student/>

Internships/ Training Programs

<http://www.hhmi.org/programs/science-education-research-training>

<https://www.training.nih.gov/programs/sip>

http://clinicalcenter.nih.gov/training/students/summer_internships.html

<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/research/intramural/education/summer/>

<http://www.cincinnatichildrens.org/education/research/surf/default/>

<https://med.uc.edu/rose>

<http://louisville.edu/medicine/diversity/student-pipeline-programs/professional-education-preparation-program-pepp>

<http://louisville.edu/hsc/diversity/student-pipeline-programs/summer-medical-and-dental-education-program-smdep>