

So, You want to be a Doctor!

The guidelines provided below provide the most competitive curriculum path for pre-meds. It is very difficult to be accepted into medical school, and we want to give you a head start in your freshman year. It is important that you take the MCAT in **April** of your junior year, thus **you should have the following science classes completed**.

First year

First Semester Freshman

Chemistry 1 & L (CHM 2045 & L)
 College Algebra (MAC 1105)

Second Semester Freshman

Chemistry 2 & L (CHM 2046 & L)
 Calculus (MAC 2233)

Second Year

First Semester Sophomore

Biodiversity & L (BSC 1011 & L)
 Organic Chem. 1 (CHM 2210)

Second Semester Sophomore

Biological Principles & L (BSC 1010 & L)
 Organic Chem. 2 & L (CHM 2211 & L)

Second Year - SUMMER

College Physics 1 (PHY 2053) & General Phys 1 Lab (PHY 2048L)
 College Physics 2 (PHY 2054) & General Phys 2 Lab (PHY 2049L)

Third Year (Take MCAT in April)

First Semester Junior

Biochemistry 1 (BCH 3033)
 Genetics (PCB 3063)
 Human Morph & Function 1 & L
 (PCB 3703 & L)

Second Semester Junior

Microbiology & L (MCB 3023 & L)
 Human Morph & Function 2 & L
 (PCB 3704 & L)

Note: These science and math courses should be part of and in addition to your CORE requirements. Medical Schools want to see that students can successfully carry a full course load each semester. Most medical schools have academic course loads that are at least twice as intense as your undergraduate course load.

Premed students should be aware that when calculating grade point averages for admission into medical schools **all** grades earned are considered. This includes courses taken for forgiveness. Therefore, it is recommended that every semester you perform at your highest level.

Choosing a Major:

Undergraduate can declare pre-med as a major until they complete 60 credits. At that time undergraduates pursuing pre-professional studies must select traditional academic areas for their major. For someone intending a career in health care, the most obvious and convenient choice of a major is in the sciences. A non-science major is also acceptable. However, if you select a non-science major it may involve more careful

program planning. Students who excel in more than one field improve their chances of being accepted into a professional school program.

Faculty Advisor:

Although you are working with an Academic Coordinator, you are highly encouraged to make contact with the major department to get an assigned faculty advisor.

Pre-Health Professions Office at FAU:

All pre-health students are encouraged to read the Pre-Health Professions Handbook, located online at: www.science.fau.edu/preprof.htm

You will want to seek out the services of the Pre-Health Professions Office. The office is set up to assist FAU students in obtaining admission to the professional school of your choice. However, it is YOUR responsibility to ensure that you are well qualified for admissions. The pre-Health Professions Office is located in the Science and Engineering building at FAU, Room 234. You must be in junior standing to set up a folder with the office.

Pre-Med Listserv:

The Charles E. Schmidt College of Science has set up a Pre-Med Listserv so that pre-med students can communicate with each other. E-mail messages sent to the list are forwarded to everyone who has subscribed to the list. Also, updates on pre-med workshops and other news are announced on the list. To subscribe to the list, send an email to Majordomo@wise.fau.edu with the following one line message in the body:

**SUBSCRIBE PREMED-L Name <email>
End**

Getting Experience:

It is extremely important to get health care experience early on in your undergraduate education. You may do so by shadowing a health care professional or volunteering in a hospital, clinic, hospice, or other health care facility.

College of Biomedical Sciences:

This college was founded in large part through the generosity of the Schmidt Family Foundation and will provide training in medicine and the biomedical sciences in partnership with the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. The first class of the medical school partnership between FAU and Miami began Fall 2004. Students now have the opportunity to complete all four years of training at FAU's Boca Raton campus. Students will be required to meet the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine admissions requirements and apply through the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine.

*For more information on premed/ pre-professional career planning, please access the following web sites:

<http://www.studentdoctor.net>

<http://www.aamc.org/>

<http://www.ama-assn.org/>

<http://www.kaplan.com/index.html>

<http://www.premmed.edu/MedGuide.html>