Chiropractic is a health care profession that focuses on disorders of the musculoskeletal system and the nervous system, and the effects of these disorders on general health. Chiropractic care is used most often to treat neuromusculoskeletal complaints, including but not limited to back pain, neck pain, and pain in the joints of the arms or legs, and headaches.

Doctors of Chiropractic practice a drug-free, hands-on approach to health care that includes patient examination, diagnosis and treatment. Chiropractors have broad diagnostic skills and are also trained to recommend therapeutic and rehabilitative exercises, as well as to provide nutritional, dietary and lifestyle counseling.

Chiropractic school will take approximately four years to complete, and during this time, students spend around 4200 hours in the classroom and labs. The first two years are spent in the classroom and lab, whereas the final two years are spent performing hands on training with actual patients.

Once training is completed, students will need to become licensed in the state where they intend to practice. In most states, this typically means taking and passing an exam after graduation. Most states will use the four part test designed by the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners. All Chiropractic Examining Board requires candidates to complete a 12 month clinical internship to obtain licensure. Licensure is granted following successful completion of all state/provincial and national board exams so long as the chiropractor maintains malpractice insurance.

**Required Skills:**

- Active Listening
- Reading Comprehension
- Critical Thinking
- Speaking
- Complex Problem Solving
- Time Management
- Judgment and Decision Making
- Writing
- Science
- Social Perceptiveness

**Possible Employers:**

- Medicine and Dentistry
- Customer and Personal Biology
- English Language
- Therapy and Counseling
- Administration and Management
- Psychology
- Clerical
- Education and Training
- Personnel and Human Resources

**Professional Organizations:**

- American Chiropractic Association  [www.acatoday.org](http://www.acatoday.org)
- International Chiropractors Association  [www.chiropractic.org](http://www.chiropractic.org)
- World Chiropractic Alliance  [www.worldchiropracticalliance.org](http://www.worldchiropracticalliance.org)
- Congress of Chiropractic State Associations (COCSA)  [www.cocsa.org](http://www.cocsa.org)

**Find out more about careers in chiropractic at:**

- ChiropracticSchools.com  [www.chiropracticschools.com](http://www.chiropracticschools.com)
- The Council on Chiropractic Education  [www.cce-usa.org/Accredited_Doctor_Chiro.html](http://www.cce-usa.org/Accredited_Doctor_Chiro.html)
- Career Services  [www.upb.pitt.edu/career.aspx](http://www.upb.pitt.edu/career.aspx)
Students can identify their career goals by following the Pre-Chiropractic advising track however this is not an official Pitt-Bradford major. Students interested in this career must select an official major while completing the pre-Chiropractic requirements. Most students pursuing admission to a Chiropractic college choose to major in Biology.

PRE-CLINICAL CHIROPRACTIC REQUIREMENTS
Students interested in earning a Doctor of Chiropractic (DC) degree must complete a minimum of 60, 75, or 90 (depending on the school) credits at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford before applying to a chiropractic college. The trend these days for Chiropractic colleges is moving more to requiring a four-year Bachelor’s Degree for admissions.

PRE-CHIROPRACTIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Minimum prerequisites, which must be completed with the grade of a C or higher include:

- BIOL 0101 Introduction to Cell and Molecular Biology
- BIOL 0102 Introduction to Biodiversity
- CHEM 0101 General Chemistry I
- CHEM 0102 General Chemistry II
- CHEM 0206/0207 Organic Chemistry I and Lab
- CHEM 0208/0209 Organic Chemistry II and Lab
- COMM 0104 Public Speaking (highly recommended)
- ENG 0101 English Composition I
- ENG 0102 English Composition II
- Humanities/Social Sciences
- PHYS 0101 Introduction to Physics I
- PHYS 102 Introduction to Physics II OR
- PHYS 0201/0203 Foundations of Physics I with lab
- PHYS 0202/0204 Foundations of Physics II with lab
- PSY 0101 Introduction to Psychology

Students are encouraged to participate in an internship with a local chiropractor while at Pitt-Bradford for that “extra edge” needed for admission to a Chiropractic program. Students are encouraged to contact the Chair of the Pre-Health Professions Committee early in their junior year. The committee will review the student’s qualifications, faculty evaluations, and conduct an interview before writing a recommendation letter to the chiropractic schools. Pre-Chiropractic students are usually required to have a 3.4 or higher GPA to be eligible for a committee recommendation letter.

Program Contact: Dr. Lauren Yaich, vaich@pitt.edu, 814-362-0260, 232D Swarts Hall

GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
2.0 Cumulative Grade Point Average, 120 Earned Credit Hours, 30 Hours of Upper Level Courses (1000 level or above)
NOTE: This guide is unofficial. Completing the requirements on this sheet does NOT guarantee degree completion. Official degree completion information can be found in MY.PITT.EDU. Contact your Faculty Advisor and/or the Registrar’s Office with questions or concerns.