

PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM...

Note: Students identify their career goals by choosing the Pre-Medicine advising track, but they still must choose an official major. Pre-Medicine is not an official major, most Pre-Med students choose to major in Biology.

Medicine is the science and art of healing humans. It includes a variety of health care practices evolved to maintain and restore health by the prevention and treatment of illness. Contemporary medicine applies health science, biomedical research, and medical technology to diagnose and treat injury and disease, typically through medication, surgery, or some other form of therapy.

Students interested in a career in medicine will eventually need to earn a Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree AFTER completing a bachelor's degree. Medical Schools are looking for students who have a strong foundation in mathematics and the sciences that relate most to medicine: biology, general chemistry, organic chemistry, and physics. Entrance requirements at most medical schools include completion of course work in biology, mathematics, chemistry, physics, and English. Although Pre-Medicine majors at Pitt-Bradford chose any major, students are encouraged to study a major with a heavy concentration in the sciences like Biology, Chemistry or Sports Medicine in preparation for medical school requirements.

A liberal arts education is another key ingredient to becoming a physician thus the importance of the general education requirements at Pitt-Bradford. Medical schools want candidates who have a well-rounded undergraduate college experience. Students should take courses in the humanities, social sciences and composition in preparation for the "people" side of medicine. The ideal physician understands how society works, and can communicate well. Extracurricular activities in college also are important. Students should volunteer at a local hospital or clinic to gain practical health care experience.

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REQUIRED SKILLS

- A Concern for People
- An Inquiring Mind
- A Rational Approach
- An Open Mind
- Ability to Handle Pressure
- Hard Work
- Patience
- Decisiveness
- Humility

POSSIBLE EMPLOYERS

- Private Practice
- Hospital
- Immediate Care Clinic
- Health Clinic
- Military
- Sports Organization
- Law Firm
- Insurance Company
- College/University

TYPES OF MEDICINE

Allergy and Immunology
Anesthesiology
Cardiovascular Diseases
(Cardiology)
Dermatology
Endocrinology
Family Medicine/Practice
Gastroenterology
Hematology

Internal Medicine
Nephrology
Neurology
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Oncology
Ophthalmology
Orthopedic Surgery
Otolaryngology
Pathology

Pediatrics
Psychiatry
Pulmonary Diseases
Radiology
Rheumatology
Surgery
Urology

PRE-MEDICINE

University of Pittsburgh at Bradford Pre-Medicine Curriculum

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Students interested in applying to medical school should start the admission application process at the end of their junior year. Students should consult their pre-medicine advisor to assist with the application process. Most medical schools require students to take the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), which analyzes one's knowledge of the basic sciences, reading and writing, and problem-solving skills. The key factors affecting acceptance to medical school include the following:

- Successful completion of required undergraduate courses
- Grade point average
- Performance on the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)
- Extracurricular activities
- Letters of recommendation from the pre-health professions committee
- Interviews with medical school admissions committees

MINIMUM COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR MEDICAL SCHOOL:

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 Organic Chemistry I

CHEM 0207 Organic Chemistry I Lab

CHEM 0208 Organic Chemistry II

CHEM 0209 Organic Chemistry II Labs

ENG 0101 English Composition I

ENG 0102 English Composition II

PHYS 0101 Introduction to Physics I

PHYS 0102 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

PSY 0201 Statistics

SOC 0101 Introduction to Sociology

Students pursuing a career as a Physician will spend four years in medical school (after earning an undergraduate degree) and then three to eight years in residency training. During medical school students will be required to take and pass various parts of the United States Medical Licensing Examination. After completing a residency or fellowship, Physicians must obtain a medical license to practice medicine which is defined by each state.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Medical Association

www.ama-assn.org

American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)

www.aafp.org

Pennsylvania Medical Society

www.pamedsoc.org

AAPS - Association of American Physicians and Surgeons

www.aapsonline.org

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT CAREERS IN MEDICINE AT:

Mahalo

www.mahalo.com/how-to-become-a-doctor

Association of American Medical Colleges

www.aamc.org/students/considering/gettingin/

Occupational Outlook Handbook

www.bls.gov/oco/ocos074.htm

Career Services

www.upb.pitt.edu/career.aspx