

**Medical School Prerequisites**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_   
ID: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Primary Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*Standard pre-requisites for most medical schools Recommended courses (some med schools may require these*

*and MCAT preparation: courses) \*Highly Recommended for MCAT preparation:*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **COURSE** | **GRADE** | **COURSE** | **GRADE** |
| BIOL 106 Introductory Biology: Organismal |  | STAT 212 Intro to Statistical Methods |  |
| BIOL 107 Introductory Biology: Cell |  | BIOL 315 Gross and Microanatomy\* |  |
| CHEM 105 Principles of Chemistry I |  | BIOL 353 Advanced Human Physiology\* |  |
| CHEM 106 Principles of Chemistry II |  | PHYS 101 General Physics I |  |
| CHEM 345 Organic Chemistry I |  | PHYS 102 General Physics II |  |
| CHEM 348 Organic Chemistry II |  | MBIOS 401 Cell Biology |  |
| BIOL/MBIOS 301 General Genetics\* |  | ENGL 101 Composition |  |
| MBIOS 303 Introductory Biochemistry |  | ENGL 301 or 402 Professional/Technical Writing |  |
| MBIOS 304 General Microbiology Lab\* |  | PHIL 365 Biomedical Ethics |  |
| MBIOS 305 General Microbiology \* |  | PSYCH 105 Intro to Psychology  and/or SOC 101 or 102 |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cumulative GPA’s | F 20\_\_ | F 20\_\_ | F 20\_\_ | F 20\_\_ | F 20\_\_ |
|  | S 20\_\_ | S 20\_\_ | S 20\_\_ | S 20\_\_ | S 20\_\_ |

**Medical admissions committees will consider:**

**Completion of prerequisite courses** (check with each medical school)   
**GPA:** 3.5 + higher   
**MCAT Scores:** Test is made up of 4 sections scored between 118-132. Total ranging from 472-528. You want to get 508+ to be in the top 75th percentile of a large range of schools.   
**Letters of Evaluation:** 2 from science professors, 1 from an additional professor, 1-2 from physicians, 1 from a person who knows you well. Each should write about your integrity, judgement, ethics, reliability, strengths and weaknesses.  
**Experience:** Significant time spent volunteering, evidence of leadership experience, research and shadowing physicians.  
**Compassion:** Evidence of honest, forthright concern and empathy for the sick, elderly, injured, or disabled.   
**Personal statement:** Your opportunity to make a case as to why you are the best candidate. Incorporate why you want to be a physician, steps you have taken to accomplish this goal (reflection), provide background information, explain special situations, and describe where you see yourself in the future.  
**The personal interview:** Evaluation of students may include several 30-60 minute personal interviews used to assess the applicant's maturity, motivation, communication skills, knowledge of the profession, and desire to contribute to society through medicine. MMI’s are also common. Revised May 2017

# Timeline/Checklist for Pre-Medical Studies at WSU

**First Year (Freshman)**

* Explore coursework. You can select ***any*** major of study. Combine the prerequisites for medical school with any academic field.
* Besides meeting with your academic (major) advisor, also meet with your pre-health specialist in HPSC.
* Work on earning a strong GPA.
* Get some experience. Volunteer and shadow. However, focus on maintaining a strong GPA first.

**Second Year (Sophomore)**

* Continue to volunteer, shadow and increase your activity and responsibility in clubs (leadership).
* Get experience with research (optional, but recommend by some medical schools).
* Meet with pre-health specialist.
* Explore medical schools (DO, MD or DPM). Look at mission statements, faculty, pre-requisites & past cohort stats.
* Begin studying for the MCAT (summer after second year).

**Fall Semester Junior Year**

* Attend HPSC Pre-Med Junior Info. Meeting.
* Continue to shadow and volunteer. Begin to reflect on this experience for your personal statement.
* Draft personal statement.
* Register for MCAT. Register early, test sites fill up quickly. May is an ideal time to take the test (after finals).
* Faculty Evaluators (letter of evaluation): request evaluators (see front side). All should speak about you as a person, your work ethic, and your integrity.
* Look up specific schools to which you plan to apply to find their particular requirements.

**Spring Semester Junior Year**

* Intense preparation for MCAT. Treat studying as if it is a three-credit course.
* *WSU DOES NOT WRITE COMMITTEE LETTERS.* In lieu of a committee letter, see number of letters of evaluation required on front side of this guide.
* Provide your evaluators with a Resume or CV, complete personal statement and HPSC guide for evaluators. Check to see that your recommendations are in before leaving for the summer.
* Know how to order transcripts from all institutions at which you have been a student.
* On all applications use your WSU email. You need a stable, professional email address for the application cycle.

**Summer Between Junior and Senior Year**

* Take MCAT, preferably in May.
* Send thank you notes to your evaluators.
* AMCAS/AACOMAS/AACPMAS Applications: Open a current cycle account in May/June.
* Before you leave for the summer, submit transcript requests to the Registrar to be sent as soon as spring grades are recorded. Do the same for other institutions where you received credit.
* Submit your application **as early as possible**. Preferably, first week in June. Verification takes 4-6 weeks to process. Medical schools have rolling enrollment (first come, first served).

**Fall Semester Senior Year**

* *Secondary Applications*: respond as soon as you get them (within two weeks). Some schools automatically send these to every applicant. Some schools send out to students who meet a minimum set of qualifications, and others send only to students in whom they are interested.
* Interviews (late fall): Practice and prepare. Plan wardrobe. We strongly suggest that you attend an *Interview Basics Workshop, Small Group Interviews,* and an *MMI Workshop* early in the fall semester. If you get an interview before these workshops let your HPSC specialist know.

**Spring Semester Senior Year**

* *Decision Notification*: If you are accepted to more than one school, be sure to notify the schools that you will not be attending. In most cases, you should only hold one acceptance at a time. Make deposits.
* Financial Aid: Work with financial office of the medical school to submit FAFSA forms. This paperwork must be done between January and April.
* If you are on a waitlist, continue to inform the school of your interest. Ask where you are on the wait list.
* If you have not received an acceptance in this cycle, meet with the HPSC to learn what might be done to make your future application more competitive. Remember the average age of incoming medical students is 24-25. Apply the feedback given to you from medical school deans and the HPSC following your rejections. Reapply, work on other plans, and continue preparation for a later application. The HPSC will be here for you continuously.