

PRE-MEDICAL PROGRAM

The College of Arts and Sciences offers both three-year and four-year programs leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science for students preparing for the study of medicine. Both programs are based upon the curriculum outlined below. In the three-year program the student must complete at least 90 credit hours while enrolled in the College of Arts and Sciences, and the BS degree is granted upon satisfactory completion of the first year of study at UT Health Science Center's (UTHSC) College of Medicine in Memphis. The requirement for a major is waived for those taking their fourth year in Memphis. This program is not recommended since preference is given to students who are pursuing a degree path other than the three-year program. All students entering the UT College of Medicine in the last five years completed a traditional four-year degree prior to matriculation. In the four-year program, the degree is granted upon completion of 120 or more credit hours while enrolled in the College, including a major of 30 or more hours.

Students pursuing a bachelor's degree in either the three- or four-year program must complete the last 30 hours of credit in residence at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, before entering UTHSC in Memphis.

The pre-medical program includes the specified courses required for admission to the UTHSC College of Medicine. Students wishing to prepare for professional training at institutions other than the UT College of Medicine should consult the websites of those institutions to determine the specific preparation required for admission.

The following is a suggested sequence of courses. Please note that the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Guide and Advising Handbook contains course options for communicating through writing, communicating orally, foreign language, social sciences, arts and humanities, non-US history, global challenges, and connections. All students pursuing a degree must complete the University General Education Requirement.

Based on 2019 Curriculum

FRESHMAN	CREDIT HOURS
English 101-102 or equivalent	6
Biology 150 (or 158) (see Note 1)	3
Biology 160 (or 169) and 159 (or 167)	5
Chemistry 120-130 (or 128-138) (see Note 2)	8
Mathematics (see Note 3)	6-8
Communicating Orally (OC)	3
	31-33

SOPHOMORE	
Chemistry 260-269 and 360-359	8
Physics 221-222 (see Note 4)	8
Intermediate Foreign Language (see Note 5)	6
Arts and Humanities (see Note 6)	3
Non-US History	6
	31

JUNIOR	
Arts and Humanities (see Note 6)	3
Communicating through Writing (WC)	3
Global Challenges (if Biology 150 not taken)	0-3
Social Sciences (see Note 7)	6
Connections (see Note 8)	9
Electives (see Note 9)	4-7
	26-28

TOTAL: 90 hours minimum

SENIOR
 Completion of major program and BA/BS requirements **or** completion of one year at UT Health Science Center in Memphis.

TOTAL: 120 hours minimum

Note 1: Pre-medicine students who have previously completed Biology 101 and 102 may substitute this sequence for Biology 150 if they are not pursuing a Biological Sciences major.

Note 2: The recommended freshman schedule for pre-medical students includes either biology or chemistry during the first semester. This allows students to complete all required and recommended courses by the end of the junior year. A student, however, should carefully consider his/her high school math and science background and level of commitment to the pre-medical program before enrolling in both of these sequences. The pre-requisite to Chemistry 120 is Math 119 (College Algebra) or an ACT math sub score of 25.

Note 3: Math 130 or any calculus course is required as a prerequisite for Physics 221-222. If a student is considering a major in a biological or physical science, he/she should consult an advisor on the selection of the appropriate math sequence. Math placement depends on high school courses and grades, ACT and/or SAT scores, and BA/BS requirements. Students should consult the undergraduate catalog for a complete list of mathematics courses that satisfy the University General Education Requirement.

Note 4: Physics 135 and 136 will also be accepted. EF 151 and 152 will be accepted for Engineering majors.

Note 5: This requirement assumes a student has had enough language background in high school to begin an intermediate language sequence at UT.

Note 6: Students must select one course from List A and one course from List A or B, representing different departments.

Note 7: Students must complete a minimum of two courses from at least two departments. Psychology 110 and Sociology 120 are recommended for MCAT preparation.

Note 8: Students will satisfy the Connections requirement by completing one of the following: a minor or second major, nine credit hours of study abroad course work, or nine hours from a Connections package.

Note 9: Depending on course selection a student may require less than the listed elective hours to reach the minimum total of 90 hours. Biology 240 *Genetics* and Biochemistry and Cellular and Molecular Biology 401 *Biochemistry I* are highly recommended as preparation for the MCAT. Additional recommended courses include: Biology 220-229 *General Microbiology and Lab*; EEB 240 *Human Anatomy*; BCMB 440 *General Physiology*.

FOUNDATIONS & PERSPECTIVES REQUIREMENTS

Students seeking a degree from the College of Arts and Sciences must meet all college requirements, including credit hours, residency, foundations, perspectives, and connections requirements. With the exception of the social science and natural science requirements, there is no preferred way for a pre-medical student to fulfill General Education. The pre-medical student should keep in mind that the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) evaluates critical analysis and reasoning skills; therefore, courses which emphasize these skills (literature, history, philosophy, etc.) should be included in the student's program, either as perspectives requirements or as electives.

CLEP AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT CREDIT

Advanced Placement credit, CLEP, or other non-traditional credit in required science prerequisite courses awarded by the applicant's regionally-accredited college may be honored for fulfilling prerequisite course requirements provided that the applicant has successfully completed an equal number of semester hours in the same discipline in a traditional classroom setting. (Example: UT College of Medicine requires 8 hours of biology and a student was granted 4 hours by CLEP. Student needs to take the remaining 4 hours in a higher level biology in a traditional classroom method.) NOTE: Advanced placement credit in English will satisfy the general hours requirement.

STUDENTS IN OTHER COLLEGES

Students who are currently enrolled in another college, i.e., Engineering or Education, Health and Human Sciences, do not have to fulfill Foundations and Perspectives requirements, but are required to take the following minimum courses for most medical schools:

English 101-102
Biology 150-160, 159
Chemistry 120-130
Chemistry 260-269 and 360-359
Physics 221-222 (or Engineering Fundamentals 151-152)

The following courses are not required by most medical schools, but their content is included on the MCAT.

Biology 240 (Genetics)
Biochemistry and Cellular and Molecular Biology 401 (Biochem I)
Psychology 110 (General Psychology)
Sociology 120 (Introduction to Sociology)

Note that many of the above courses have prerequisites and constitute the minimum requirements for most medical schools. Pre-medical students should review the websites of medical schools they are considering and consult a health professions advisor on a regular basis in 313 Ayres Hall.

SELECTION CRITERIA AT UT HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

1. Successful completion of the pre-medical requirements with grades of C or better earned in each course.
2. Letters of evaluation from three faculty members who have a good awareness of the student's ability.
3. Experience in/exposure to the health field.
4. Total academic performance, with attention given to course content and load, trends in performance, and general commitment to scholarship.
5. Satisfactory scores on the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT).
6. Personal interview with two members of the Committee on Admissions. (Competitively qualified applicants will be invited for interviews after their applications have been reviewed by the Committee.)
7. Other criteria such as extracurricular activities; motivation and goals; research experience; the morals, character, and integrity of the individual; and any disciplinary or civil records that a person may have accrued.

Please note that high GPA and MCAT scores are not by themselves a sufficient basis for entrance into medical school. The Committee on Admissions takes a close look at the total experience of the applicant in making its final decisions. In addition, the Committee on Admissions reserves the right to require additional course work from any applicant. Additional information regarding admissions can be found at <http://www.uthsc.edu/Medicine/Admissions/admissionsrequirements.php>

PROGRAM PLANNING AND SELECTING A MAJOR

The importance of program planning for the pre-medical student cannot be overstressed. It is essential for students to develop their programs carefully and creatively in order to prepare for medical school and pursue

a degree at the same time. Health professions advisors are available to assist the student with program planning; however, in the final analysis, it is the student's responsibility to determine the program that will best satisfy her particular needs.

Because admission to all medical schools is competitive, the pre-medical student is strongly urged to select a major which will enable him to adapt to an alternative program in the event admission to medical school is not achieved. The student may major in any department.

Advisors are available in Arts and Sciences Advising Services, 313 Ayres Hall, to assist pre-medical students as they plan their programs. During a student's fourth semester at the University, they will be assigned to a faculty mentor in the department of the declared major, but they should continue to consult with a health professions advisor in Arts and Sciences Advising Services about the pre-medical program.

A representative from the College of Medicine, UT Health Science Center in Memphis, visits the UTK campus once or twice a year to discuss with interested pre-medical students their plans for attending medical school. Students on the pre-health distribution list will be notified when the representative is coming to campus.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL FILE

During the junior year, students should attend a pre-professional file group meeting to learn about setting up the pre-professional file. Group meetings are scheduled weekly in Arts and Sciences Advising Services, 313 Ayres Hall. In the meeting, students are given information on pre-professional evaluations, AMCAS, and other aspects of the medical school application process.

The most important aspect of the file is the letters of evaluation from faculty members who are familiar with the student's aptitude, ability, and personal characteristics. Two of the evaluations should come from faculty members teaching in science-based disciplines. Students should make every effort to become well acquainted with their professors prior to requesting the evaluations. Once the file has been started, students should maintain contact with the health professions assistant to periodically check on the file and to provide updated contact information.

Arts and Sciences Advising Services will forward your pre-professional evaluation to AMCAS any time after the service opens in the application year. Your written request may be made by faxing or coming to Arts and Sciences Advising Services, 313 Ayres Hall. Requests made by phone cannot be honored. You must have your AAMC ID and AAMC Letter ID to make your request.

For the purposes of AMCAS, the file prepared in Arts & Sciences is considered a *letter packet*, and the primary contact for the packet is the current chair of the health professions.

HEALTH CARE EXPERIENCE

Experience in a health care field is a critical component of the pre-medical student's pre-professional program. To develop a working knowledge of the role and responsibilities of a physician, students should volunteer or work part-time in a health facility and/or

spend extensive time with physicians discussing their profession and professional training. It is best to get exposure to a variety of settings.

Demonstrating exposure to the medical profession has become so important that virtually all of the students accepted into medical schools have worked or volunteered in a clinical setting.

SEMINAR FOR PRE-HEALTH STUDENTS

Each fall semester, Arts and Sciences Advising Services offers a one credit hour course entitled *"Introduction to Health Care Delivery."* This one credit hour seminar course is taught in the Wood Auditorium of the UT Medical Center. The course provides weekly seminars on topics such as managed care, family practice, ethical issues in medicine, malpractice, allied health programs, and many others. The course is listed in the timetable under Interdisciplinary Programs (INPG) 210. The course is open to any interested student.

MEDICAL COLLEGE ADMISSION TEST (MCAT)

The MCAT is a standardized examination designed to help admissions committees predict which of their applicants will perform adequately in the medical school curriculum. The exam assesses mastery of basic biology, chemistry, and physics concepts as well as facility with scientific problem solving and critical thinking. The MCAT is designed to encourage students interested in medicine to pursue broad undergraduate study in the natural and social sciences and the humanities. The MCAT contains four sections: Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems; Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological System; Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior; and Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills. Total scores will be centered at 500, with scores ranging from 472 to 528. Each section will be scored on a range of 118 to 132, with a midpoint of 125.

Nearly all U.S. medical schools require applicants to attempt the MCAT before applying for admission. The MCAT is a computer-based test (CBT) sponsored by the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC). Acceptable scores may not be more than five years old. To meet this requirement, applicants to the 2020 entering class may submit scores from any administration of the MCAT between January 2015 and September 2019. Applicants are advised to prepare adequately and thoroughly for this examination and complete the prerequisites for admission prior to taking this important examination. The cost of the 2019 test is \$315 for early registration and \$370 for registration one to two weeks before the exam date. The AAMC's Fee Assistance Program aids individuals with extreme financial limitations who otherwise could not take the exam.

To register for the MCAT, students should go to the AAMC website at www.aamc.org. In addition to MCAT registration, this website also contains a list of publications available to order as resources for MCAT preparation.

AMCAS AND THE UT COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

The American Medical College Application Services (AMCAS) is a nonprofit centralized application processing service for applicants to U.S. medical schools. All applications for admission to the UT College of Medicine are processed through AMCAS. AMCAS does not render any admission decisions and does not advise applicants where to submit applications or provide any other admission advice. Each participating school is completely autonomous in reaching its decisions. AMCAS provides only the application processing service. Students apply to AMCAS electronically by going to the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) web site: www.aamc.org. Students may submit their applications no earlier than the first week of June and no later than the deadlines set by the medical schools. AMCAS will forward the application to the medical schools the student has designated on the application. Those colleges of medicine wishing to consider the applicant further will request additional information, including the pre-professional evaluation if not already received.

UT Health Science Center accepts applications (through AMCAS) from both residents and non-residents of the state of Tennessee. Each application is screened to ensure that minimum entrance requirements have been met before it is submitted to the Admissions Committee for consideration. The deadline for the submission of the AMCAS application for the 2020 entering class is November 15, 2019.

The Admissions Office at UT Health Science Center will notify applicants when their applications have been received. At a later date, secondary application materials will be requested from applicants who have passed an initial screening and are considered competitive. The UT College of Medicine enrolls 170 students annually.

RESIDENCY POLICY

Applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States at the time of application. Applications are accepted from:

- Tennessee residents
- Residents of the eight states contiguous to Tennessee - Mississippi, Arkansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama
- Children of UT System alumni regardless of their state of residence

As a state-supported institution, qualified Tennesseans are given priority in each entering class. A maximum of ten percent of the matriculants may be non-residents; therefore, nonresidents must possess superior qualifications to be seriously considered for admission.

2018 Entering Class - UT College of Medicine

Profile of Admissions

Number of Applicants	1942
Number of Applicants Interviewed	508
Number of Applicants Accepted	302
Matriculated Applicants	170
Male	98
Female	72
Average Age	24
Age Range	20-40
Underrepresented Minorities	9%
Colleges Attended	57
Students with baccalaureate degrees	100%

Academic Credentials

Science GPA	3.70
Overall GPA	3.76
MCAT CPFBS	127.32
MCAT CARS	127.16
MCAT BBFLS	127.80
MCAT PSBFB	128.24
Total Average	510.52

UTK Information

Applicants Interviewed	131
Applicants Accepted	62
Final Alternates	36

TENNESSEE INSTITUTES FOR PRE-PROFESSIONALS

TIP is a seven-week residential program designed to increase the representation and active participation of underrepresented groups in the healthcare field. TIP provides a unique opportunity for these students to become equipped for what we hope is eventual matriculation into one of the programs at UTHSC. TIP is for residents of Tennessee who wish to pursue a career in dentistry, medicine, nursing, occupational and/or physical therapy, pharmacy, or other health professions. TIP offers activities designed to assist students in realizing their career goals, as well as year-round advice/support. The application deadline is February 15. For more information, visit the website (<https://uthsc.edu/hcp/summer-programs.php#tip>) or contact Health Careers Programs at 901-448-8772 or hcp@uthsc.edu.

ALPHA EPSILON DELTA (AED)

Alpha Epsilon Delta is a pre-health honor society that seeks to provide information and opportunities for students with an interest in the health professions. The Tennessee Beta Chapter of AED is active at The University of Tennessee. AED activities include information sessions on preparing to apply to professional schools, local speakers from the medical community, trips to Tennessee medical schools and health centers, and service activities. The schedule of meetings is available at aedutk.wix.com/aed-utk.

Requirements for national membership include three terms of college (at least one at UT), a cumulative GPA of 3.2, a science GPA of 3.2, and participation in AED sponsored events and meetings. Students interested in AED should first affiliate themselves with the organization as a pledge during the first semester at college attendance at UT. Applications for both pledge status and national membership are available in Arts and Sciences Advising Services, 313 Ayres Hall, and at the organizational website. A student who does not meet the criteria to become a national member may continue as a pledge. Pre-health students wishing to receive notification of pre-health activities and AED events should send an e-mail to asadvising@utk.edu to request to be added to the pre-health distribution list.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE FROM:

Mr. Nelson Strother, Assistant Dean
Admissions and Student Affairs, College of Medicine
University of Tennessee, Memphis
(901) 448-5559
<https://www.uthsc.edu/Medicine/Admissions/>

Arts and Sciences Advising Services
313 Ayres Hall
Knoxville, TN 37996-1325
(865) 974-4481
www.artsci.utk.edu/advising
asadvising@utk.edu

Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
(202) 828-0400
www.aamc.org

INTERNET RESOURCES

Health Professions (General)
DOCTORS' GUIDE TO THE INTERNET
www.pslgroup.com

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS FOR DIVERSITY
www.aamc.org/initiatives/diversity

HEALTHWORLD
www.healthy.net

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
www.jamanetwork.com
HEALTH CAREER PROGRAMS: UTHSC
www.uthsc.edu/HCP

Allopathic Medicine
AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
www.ama-assn.org

Osteopathic Medicine
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF OSTEOPATHIC
MEDICINE
www.aacom.org

Student Doctor Network – Osteopathic Medicine
www.studentdoctor.net/do/

Podiatric Medicine
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF PODIATRIC
MEDICINE
www.aacpm.org

AMERICAN PODIATRIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
www.apma.org

Optometry
THE ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES OF
OPTOMETRY
www.opted.org

Holistic/Naturopathic Medicine
AMERICAN HOLISTIC MEDICINE ASSOCIATION
<https://www.aihm.org/>

Sports Medicine
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SPORTS MEDICINE
www.acsm.org

Chiropractic
THE AMERICAN CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION
www.acatoday.org

Disadvantaged/Minority Student Programs
MEDPREP
www.siumed.edu/medprep

Medical School Interview Feedback
www.studentdoctor.net

The information in this bulletin is subject to revision. Students are strongly encouraged to consult with a health professions advisor on a regular basis.

ADMISSION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, MEMPHIS COLLEGE OF MEDICINE IS AT THE DISCRETION OF THAT COLLEGE; ADMISSION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE, AND COMPLETION OF THE PRE-MEDICINE PROGRAM IN THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES DOES NOT ASSURE ADMISSION TO UTHSC COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE
EEO/TITLE IX/SECTION 504 STATEMENT

The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services.

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