

# URI PRE-HEALTH PROFESSIONS ADVISING PROGRAM

[www.uri.edu/hpr/pre-health](http://www.uri.edu/hpr/pre-health)

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*Schedule appointments via e-Campus advising: Click on "Professional/Honors" tab located at top-right.*

Listed below are the courses required by medical and dental schools as prerequisites for admission. These courses should be taken before applying to the programs. Other courses such as psychology may be required for some programs. This worksheet is **only** a guideline to the requirements of most programs. It is strongly recommended that the courses listed below be taken during the regular semesters (not summer) at URI. **Required coursework should be completed before taking the required entrance examination.**

**BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES** Two semesters are required. Additional coursework in genetics, cell biology, microbiology, and molecular biology is useful preparation for medical or dental school. (See reverse side.) The minimum requirement is:

\_\_\_ BIO 101 4 credits

\_\_\_ BIO 102 4 credits

## CHEMISTRY

Two semesters **general chemistry** :

**AND**

Two semesters **organic chemistry**:

\_\_\_ CHM 101 w/ 102 (3+1 credits)

\_\_\_ CHM 227 (3 credits)

\_\_\_ CHM 112 w/ 114 (3+1 credits)

\_\_\_ CHM 228 w/226 (3+2 credits)

**PHYSICS** Two semesters are required. Physics 203, 204 and 205 with labs may be substituted if required by the major.

\_\_\_ PHY 111 w/ 185 (3+1 credits)

\_\_\_ PHY 112 w/ 186 (3+1 credits)

**MATHEMATICS** Not all programs stipulate a calculus requirement, but the most competitive candidates complete two semesters of calculus.

\_\_\_ MTH 131 or 141 (3 credits)

\_\_\_ MTH 132 or 142 (3 credits)

## ENGLISH

\_\_\_ WRT 104, 105, or 106 (3 credits)

\_\_\_ An upper-level ENG Literature\* (3 credits) [not poetry]

\*If planned carefully this may also fulfill the literature gen ed requirement.

**BIOCHEMISTRY** Required or STRONGLY recommended by most programs. Expected to be a requisite by 2015.

\_\_\_ BCH 311 (3 credits)

**STATISTICS** Some programs require, and many recommend, statistics. Expected to be a requisite by 2015.

\_\_\_ STA 307, 308,409 or 411 (3 credits)

**Prerequisites for Physician Assistant graduate programs vary.** *Physics is not usually required, however human anatomy, physiology, microbiology and upper-level psychology usually are. A single semester of calculus followed by a course in statistics is acceptable and one semester of organic chemistry (CHM 124) is adequate for PA programs. Most PA programs have strict guidelines for direct patient-contact hours, ranging from 50 to 2,000 verifiable hours.*

***"Pre-Health" is not a major and students from any major can opt to take the pre-health curriculum in conjunction with their major and general education requirements. Professional schools expect applicants to have maintained a challenging, broad-based undergraduate course load, however, you should be careful never take more credits than you can manage successfully. Successful applicants will achieve a grade point average of 3.5 and above.***

In addition to the requisites listed on the reverse side, the following courses are wise choices for students preparing for professional school in health fields. In addition, students must complete all requirements for their chosen major and general education requirements.

Pre-health students are also strongly encouraged to participate in the Honors Program.

**Other Suggested Biology/Microbiology Coursework**  
(plus labs as required)

Strongly recommended, but not required:

**MIC 211** Microbiology

**BIO 352** Genetics (Cross-listed as BCH 352/ASP352/ PLS 352)

**BIO 341** Principles of Cell Biology

**BIO 437** Fundamentals of Molecular Biology

Other good options, not required:

**BIO 201** Animal Physiology or **BIO 242/244** (Human Physio.)

**BIO 302** Animal Development

**BIO 121** Human Anatomy or

**BIO 304** Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy

**BIO 445** Endocrinology

**BIO 453** Advanced Cell Biology

**MIC 333** Immunology & Serology

**MIC 334** Virology

**MIC 335/BCH 435** Biology & Genetics of Cancer

→ “Research Methods” coursework is beneficial.

**\*\*Note:** Courses marked with (A), (L) or (S) may fulfill fine arts and literature, letters or social science general education requirements respectively. Students with majors that follow the College of Arts & Sciences Basic Liberal Studies Requirements: be mindful of the one-course-per-discipline rule. e.g. You may not have all six credits come from the same course code.

**^Note:** The American Association of Medical Colleges is planning to unveil a new MCAT for 2015. This new test will require general knowledge of sociology and psychology. Therefore, it is recommended that you plan ahead and take SOC 100 and PSY 113, which may also fulfill social science general education requirements.

The pre-health advisor is supplemental to, not in place of, the major advisor. If you have an advisor hold on e-Campus, please see your major advisor. **Students planning to pursue a medical or dental degree should regularly attend workshops and events offered by the Health Professions Advisory Program.**

Most medical and dental schools require that a **committee letter** of recommendation from the home institution accompany a student’s application for admission. To seek such endorsement students must provide the Health Professions Advisory Committee with a dossier including five letters of recommendation (3 from science faculty) in the spring of the calendar prior to the year in which they would commence their medical/dental program (i.e. 16-18 months prior to entry). Physician Assistant programs and veterinary schools do not require committee letters, however these students are welcome and encouraged to attend relevant workshops and events.

In addition to strong academics and standardized test scores, applicants to graduate health professional programs are expected to have shadowed practitioners, sought out other medically-related experiences and demonstrate a strong desire to serve others. Research experience is not required, but competitive applicants often partake in research.

**Check the website ([www.uri.edu/hpr/pre-health](http://www.uri.edu/hpr/pre-health)) each semester for upcoming events and activities.**

**Courses to Consider for Gen Ed\*\* & Free Elective Credits**

**BPS 203** Herbal Medicines & Functional Foods

**ENG 357** Literature and Medicine (A)

**HIS 116** History of Western Science (L)

**HIS 117** History of Medicine (L)

**HIS 351(h)** Historical Perspectives on Women and Health (L)

**HPR xxx** Various Honors Program classes. See web.

→ **note:** **HPR 309** Global Challenge of Emerging Infectious Disease

**PHL 212** Ethics (L)

**PHL 215** Science and Inquiry (L)

**PHL 314** Ethical Problems in Society & Medicine (L)

**PHP 114** Responsible Health Care (S)

**PHP 143** Sustainable Solutions for Global Health (S)

**PSY 113 General Psychology (S)^**

**PSY 232** Developmental Psychology (S)

**PSY 300 (h)** Quantitative Methods in Psychology

**SOC 100 General Sociology (S)^**

**SOC 224** Health, Illness and Medical Care

**SOC 300** Topics in Sociology

**THN 360** Impact of Death of Behavior (L)