

# Medicine • Dentistry • Optometry • Veterinary Medicine Preparation

## Pre-professional programs

### Coordinators and Co-Chairs, Health Professions Advisory Committee:

Karen Keller, Assistant Professor,  
Department of Biology,  
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- Students applying for professional school should stay in contact with the Health Professions Advisory Committee. The committee interviews candidates for professional school and supplies a committee letter of recommendation to the applicants' prospective school. This procedure enhances the students' application prospects.

### Summary of Requirements for Medical, Dental, Optometry & Veterinary Medicine Pre-Health Professions Program

1. Students intending to enter health professions schools should plan their academic programs carefully to meet pre-professional, university and major requirements.
2. Pre-health professions students should continually examine the catalog of the institution they plan to attend in order to complete courses required by the professional school and to fulfill additional entrance expectations. Students should bear in mind that requirements change and they should maintain contact with any professional schools they want to attend.
3. A science major is not a prerequisite for medical school; therefore, a major should be selected in which the student has a high aptitude and interest and which provides career alternatives. A proper course selection is most important; consequently, we highly recommend early consultation with the chair of the department of your selected major, who will assign you to a pre-health professions advisor.
4. Though students may choose any major, most pre-health professions students at FSU select biology or chemistry as majors. The Pre-Health Professions Option outlined in the Biology section of this catalog should be selected by students majoring in Biology. Chemistry students planning medical school and other pre-health professional programs complete either the Biochemistry concentration or Traditional Track outlined for the Chemistry major. Students opting to minor in either department are advised to use sections 5 and 6 below as a guide to course selection.

5. Professional schools generally require a demonstrated proficiency in the basic sciences. The following courses are among the minimum requirements for students planning to prepare for medical, dental, optometry or veterinary school.

BIOL 149 and 160	General Biology I and Intro to Zoology	8 cr.
CHEM 201 and 202	General Chemistry I and II	8 cr.
CHEM 311/312 and 321/322	Organic Chemistry I and II	8 cr.
PHYS 215, 216 or 261, 262	General Physics I, II or Principles of Physics I, II	8 cr.
MATH — 2 courses	*See options in #6	6 cr.

6. Some professional schools require and many recommend additional courses as minimal requirements. The following list should be used as a guide for course selection by students in any major.

BIOL 302	Animal Physiology	4 cr.	CHEM 320	Quantitative Analytical Chemistry	4 cr.
BIOL 304	Microbiology	4 cr.	CHEM 455, 456, 457	Biochemistry Lec. I & II and Lab	6 cr.
BIOL 310	Cell Biology	4 cr.	ENGL 338	Technical Writing	3 cr.
BIOL 321	Anatomy & Physiology I	4 cr.	MATH 120	Pre-Calculus	3 cr.
BIOL 322	Anatomy & Physiology II	4 cr.	MATH 109 or 380	Probability & Statistics	3 cr.
BIOL 350	Genetics	3 cr.	MATH 236, 237, 238	Calculus I, II, III	12 cr.
BIOL 401	Genetics Laboratory	1 cr.	PHIL 313	Biomedical Ethics	3 cr.
BIOL 404	Histology	4 cr.	SOCI 367	Sociology of Medicine	3 cr.
BIOL 427	Comparative Anatomy	4 cr.			
BIOL 435	Molecular Biology	4 cr.			

7. Biochemistry I (CHEM 455) is an entrance requirement at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine.

8. Almost all professional schools require applicants to take certain standardized examinations.

Medical Schools	—	Medical College Admission Test (MCAT). For students taking the MCAT, introductory courses in psychology and sociology are recommended.
Dental Schools	—	Dental Admissions Test (DAT)
Optometry Schools	—	Optometry Admission Test (OAT)
Veterinary Schools	—	Graduate Record Exam (GRE)

You may obtain information about the tests from Career Services.