**PRE-MEDICAL PROGRAM**

**Wright State University**

**What do Medical Schools look for in an applicant?**

- GPA of at least 3.5; science GPA near 3.5
- MCAT scores above 24 (28 to be competitive)
- Healthcare experience
- Community Service / volunteering
- Involvement in extracurricular activities
- Strong letters of evaluation
- Outgoing personality, leadership skills, compassion, empathy, team skills and **Holistic Review**…. what does this mean? It is defined as a flexible, individualized way of assessing an applicant’s capabilities by which balanced consideration is given to experiences, attributes and academic metrics (E-A-M) and, when considered in combination, how the individual might contribute value as a medical student and future physician.

Medical schools analyze a broad range of attributes, including those related to the applicant’s skills and abilities, personal and professional characteristics, and demographic factors.

**Wright State University offers all the courses** necessary to meet the requirements for admission to any medical school in the United States. In addition, all required courses are offered two to three times a year to accommodate students’ schedules.

It is important to note that students who want to go to medical school will always have their best chance of getting accepted to medical schools in the state of Ohio, as long as they are Ohio residents. Ohio is fortunate to have seven medical schools, six of which grant the MD degree (allopathic medical schools) and one which grants the DO degree (osteopathic medical school). Osteopathic medical schools incorporate Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment (OMT) within their medical education and students are eligible to participate in all the same specialties offered by allopathic medical schools.

**CORE PRE-REQUISITES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>BIO 1120, 1150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>PHY 1110, 1120</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>CHM 1210, 1220</td>
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<tr>
<td>O-Chemistry</td>
<td>CHM 2110, 2120</td>
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<td>English</td>
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<td>*Mathematics</td>
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<td>*Human A&amp;P</td>
<td>ANT 3100, 3120</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Biochemistry</td>
<td>BMB 42100, 4230</td>
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*Calculus, Biochemistry, and Human A&P are strongly recommended and required by some medical schools

**AP Credits:** Some students may have credit for some of the above courses through advanced placement (AP) from high school. In those cases, the medical schools usually want the students to take additional upper level classes, beyond the minimum listed above.

**Cultural Competency:** students are also encouraged to take electives such as women studies, African American studies, medical sociology, health communication, social inequality, and race and ethnicity to better understand how social, educational, economic, familial, and racial and gender dynamics impact the health care industry.
What is the MCAT?

Simply put, the MCAT (Medical Colleges Admissions Test) exam helps admissions officers identify which students are likely to succeed in medical school. It helps identify those students who have a basic knowledge of the science and strong critical thinking.

The MCAT is scored from 1-45 with the national average being 24. The exam is structured in the following format:

- Physical Sciences (PS)
- Verbal Reasoning (VR)
- Writing Sample (WS)
- Biological Sciences (BS)

The PS, VR and BS sections are worth 15 points each; the WS portion is graded on an alphabetic scale, from a low of J to a high of T.

Early Assurance Program (EAP)

A good predictor of how a student will do on the MCAT is how s/he does on the ACT, so take the ACT seriously and post the highest score you can. Some schools, such as Wright State University have started EAPs based on accepting a few applicants at the end of their sophomore year of college, using their ACT scores as one of the criteria for consideration. The EAP then gives students a conditional acceptance based upon finishing their bachelor’s degree before they start medical school. For additional information about this program, visit www.med.wright.edu/eap/

MCAT2015

The MCAT is changing in 2015 for examinees applying to medical school in 2016. The new exam will have four sections:

- Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems
- Chemical and Physical Foundations of Living Systems
- Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior
- Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills

To prepare for this new exam, students are strongly recommended to complete additional courses in psychology, sociology, molecular/cell biology, genetics and medical ethics.

Ways Students Prepare for Medical School

College students take advantage of a wide variety of programs to prepare for a career in medicine or science. The following shows the percentage of students who participated in:

- Volunteer or worked in the health care field (94%)
- MCAT preparation course (63%)
- Laboratory Research (60%)
- Summer academic enrichment (12%)
- Post-baccalaureate program; career changers (8%)
- Post-baccalaureate program; academic enhancement (7%)

Choice of Major

Unbeknownst to many college students, there is no such thing as the “best” major for those bound for medical school. In fact, no medical school requires a specific major for its applicants. Even so, many students choose to major in a scientific discipline because they are fascinated by science and believe that such a major will be the foundation for a variety of career options. However, this does not enhance your chances for admissions. Admissions committees welcome students who intellectual curiosity leads them to a wide variety of disciplines, including social sciences, liberal arts and humanities.

Straight to Medical School from College….or Not?

If a year or more has passed since you graduated from college, you’re not alone. Almost 50% of matriculating medical students have a “gap” year between college and medical school of at least twelve months.