A Podiatrist is a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine, known also as a podiatric physician or surgeon, qualified by their education and training to diagnose and treat conditions affecting the foot and ankle. A doctor of podiatric medicine (DPM) is a specialist in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of foot, ankle, and related structures of the leg.

What does a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine do?
DPMs specialize in a variety of areas such as surgery, orthopedics, or public health. DPMs practice sports medicine, pediatrics, dermatology, radiology, geriatrics, or diabetic foot care. A DPM utilized x-rays and laboratory tests for diagnostic purposes, prescribes medications, orders physical therapy, sets fractures, and performs surgery.

While some podiatric physicians will cite compensation as the main reason they chose to pursue podiatric medicine, most will state it was the best fit when comparing the lifestyles of other medical specialties. The average DPM works just over 40 hours a week, which is much below the average work week for most sought after MD or DO specialties.

Frequently, podiatric physicians set their own hours, but often work evenings and weekends to accommodate their patients. Podiatrists who are affiliated with a hospital or clinic may also have on-call schedule, where they respond to all lower extremity related emergencies during weekends and evenings.

### CORE PRE-REQUISITES

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The American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine Application Service (AACPMAS) allows students to apply to all nine of the colleges of podiatric medicine with one online application.
Podiatric Physicians are licensed in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

The Average DPM works just over 40 hours per week and treats approximately 100 patients per week.

After completing 4 years of podiatric medical studies, podiatric physicians apply for a comprehensive 3 year Podiatric Medicine and Surgery Residency (PMSR).

10 Schools and Colleges of Podiatric Medicine in the U.S.

$175,000 average salary in 2012

97% of the students enter a college of podiatric medicine have a bachelor’s degree.

Applicants need 90 semester hours or the equivalent of college credit at an accredited institution to apply.

The 4-year podiatric medical curriculum is robust and rigorous, offering you many challenges and much satisfaction.

Women make up 40% of the applicants and matriculating students in 2012.

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 to 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 25. The exam is structured in the following format:

- 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 exam, students are strongly recommended to complete additional courses in psychology, sociology, molecular/cell biology, genetics, and medical ethics.

General Statistics

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PODIATRY SCHOOLS

Arizona School of Podiatric Medicine at Midwestern University (AZPod)
California School of Podiatric Medicine at Samuel Merritt University (CSPM)
Western University of Health Sciences-College of Podiatric Medicine (WUCPM)
Barry University School of Podiatric Medicine (BUSPM)
Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science (SCPM)
College of Podiatric Medicine & Surgery at Des Moines University (DMU-CPMS)
New York College of Podiatric Medicine (NYCPM)
Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine (OCPM)
Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine (TUSPM)
Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine

Wright State University
College of Science & Mathematics

For additional information please visit our website: https://science-math.wright.edu/pre-health

Or contact the advisors:
Amanda Herbe
amanda.herbe@wright.edu

Harolynn Williams
harolynn.williams@wright.edu

Office: 106 Oelman Hall
(937) 775-3180