



Pre-Health Advising

Pre-Med Course Planning Guide

REQUIRED BY MOST PROGRAMS

Course Subjects	Course Numbers and Semesters Offered	MCAT Topic?
General Chemistry with lab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CHEM 11a (fall, summer) CHEM 11b (spring, summer) CHEM 18a lab (fall, summer) CHEM 18b lab (spring, summer) OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CHEM 15a Honors (fall) CHEM 15b Honors (spring) CHEM 19a Honors lab (fall) CHEM 19b Honors lab (spring) 	Yes
Biology with lab	BIOL 14a (fall, spring) BIOL 15b (fall, spring, summer) * BIOL 12b lab (fall, summer) – <i>prereq: BIOL 15b</i> OR BIOL 18b lab, Biology majors only (fall) - <i>prereq: BIOL 15b</i> BIOL 12a lab (spring, summer)* - <i>prereq: BIOL 12b & 14a</i> OR BIOL 18a lab, biology majors only (spring) - <i>prereq: BIOL 14a & 18b</i>	Yes
Organic Chemistry with lab	CHEM 25a (fall, summer) – <i>prereq: 1 year of General Chemistry with lab</i> CHEM 25b (spring, summer) CHEM 29a lab (fall, summer) CHEM 29b lab (spring, summer)	Yes
Physics with lab	PHYS 10a (fall) PHYS 10b (spring) PHYS 18a lab (fall) PHYS 18b lab (spring)	Yes

REQUIRED BY SOME PROGRAMS

Course Subjects	Course Numbers and Semesters Offered	MCAT Topic?
Biochemistry	BCHM 88b (fall, summer) – <i>prereq: BIOL 14a & 15a; 1 year of organic chem. w/lab</i> OR BCHM 100a (fall, spring) – <i>prereq: 1 year of organic chem w/lab</i>	Yes

Statistics*	MATH 8a (fall, spring, summer) OR BIOL 51a (spring) – <i>prereq: BIOL 14a & BIOL 15b</i> OR PSYC 51a (fall, spring, summer) – <i>prereq: PSYC 10a or instructor permission</i>	Yes
Psychology	PSYC 10a (fall, spring)	Yes
Sociology	SOC 1a (fall, spring, summer), others NOTE: Sociology course strongly recommended if not majoring/minoring in HSSP, psychology, sociology, or anthropology.	Yes
Calculus*	MATH 10a (fall, spring, summer) – <i>prereq. MATH 5a or placement</i>	No
English/Writing	At least 6 credits—can be completed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UWS • Any English dept. course • A course in a related department with literature in the title (e.g., HSSP 118: <i>Viewing medicine and Health Policy through the lens of literature</i>) • A non-science designated WI and taught in the English language 	Helpful

* Many schools require 1-2 semesters of college mathematics, and calculus can be used to fulfill this requirement. Statistics or other college level math courses will also fill this requirement. Many schools still **recommend** calculus, so be sure to check the requirements of individual schools in which you are interested. The following schools require calculus:

- Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
- University of California-Riverside
- Johns Hopkins University
- Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences School of Medicine (*will accept statistics in lieu of calculus*)
- Washington University-St. Louis
- Virginia Tech Carilion

** Physiology is not required by programs but would be helpful for MCAT: BIOL 42a (fall, summer) – *prereq: BIOL 14a & BIOL 15b*.

Sophomore Check-In with pre-health advisors would be helpful and is highly recommended. More information could be found on <https://www.brandeis.edu/academic-services/pre-health-advising/prepare/sophomore-check-in.html>

Prerequisite courses vary from school to school. It's very important that you check the websites of schools you know you want to apply to in order to make sure you're taking the courses they require. The courses in this table are a summary of the most common requirements.