

## Medicine (M.D. & D.O.) and Podiatric Medicine (D.P.M)

<b>Degree</b>	<p>There are three types of practicing physicians in the U.S.:</p> <p>The M.D. degree refers to <i>allopathic</i> physicians.</p> <p>The D.O. degree refers to <i>osteopathic</i> physicians.</p> <p>The D.P.M. degree refers to <i>podiatric</i> physicians.</p> <p>The curriculum for each type of program is very similar, however D.O.'s are usually trained in an additional technique called Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine. Historically, Osteopathic physicians have been trained using a holistic view of medicine and caring for the "whole patient." There is also a strong emphasis on primary care, although D.O.'s may specialize in any area of medicine.</p> <p>Podiatric physicians specifically diagnose and treat disorders of lower leg. They can specialize in areas such as sports medicine, dermatology, or surgery.</p>
<b>Prerequisite Courses</b>	<p>The following are UF courses required for most medical schools. Requirements vary from school to school, so it is your responsibility to check requirements of individual programs:</p> <p><b>General Chemistry:</b> CHM2045/L <b>and</b> CHM2046/L or CHM2051;OR CHM2047/L (CHM2054L may be substituted for CHM2045L and CHM2046L)</p> <p><b>General Biology:</b> BSC2010/L <b>and</b> BSC2011/L <b>Organic Chemistry:</b> CHM2210 or CHM2212 <b>and</b> CHM2211 or CHM2213 <b>and</b> CHM2211L (CHM3217, CHM3218, and CHM2211L may substitute)</p> <p><b>Physics:</b> PHY2053/L or PHY2048/L or PHY2060 <b>and</b> PHY2054/L or PHY2049/L or PHY2061</p>

	<p><b>Biochemistry:</b> BCH4024 or CHM3218</p> <p><b>Math:</b> MAC2311 or MAC3472 <b>and</b> STA2023</p> <p><b>English:</b> Two semesters of any English department course. Examples are ENC1101, ENC1102, ENC3254, LIT2110)</p> <p><b>PSY2012</b> and <b>SYG2000</b> are recommended for students taking the MCAT in 2015 or later.</p>
<p><b>Major</b></p>	<p>You may choose ANY major and go on to medical school.</p> <p>Medical schools do not have a preference for any particular major. Choose a major based on your own personal interests and strengths. It doesn't need to be a science major; majors in the social sciences or humanities are just fine as long as you take the prerequisite courses. We recommend that non-science majors take a few additional science courses beyond the prerequisites.</p>
<p><b>Application Services</b></p>	<p>Many students choose to apply to both allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, but others choose to only apply to one or the other. If you want to apply to both of these types of schools, you will need to fill out a primary application for each centralized application service.</p> <p>For M.D. schools: <b>AMCAS</b> American Medical College Application Service</p> <p>For D.O. schools: <b>AACOMAS</b> American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Service</p> <p>For D.P.M. schools: <b>AACPMAS</b> American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine Application Service</p> <p>NOTE: The public medical schools in Texas use a separate application service, called <b>TMDAS</b>: Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service. Students</p>

	<p>wishing to apply to these schools must submit a separate TMSDAS application.</p>
<p><b>Admissions Test</b></p>	<p>MCAT: Medical College Admissions Test</p> <p>The current MCAT includes the following test sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Verbal Reasoning</li> <li>-Physical Sciences (General Chemistry and Physics)</li> <li>-Natural Sciences (Biology and Organic Chemistry)</li> <li>-Writing Sample</li> </ul> <p><b>A new version of the MCAT is being released in 2015.</b></p> <p>The proposed test sections for the revised MCAT are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems</li> <li>-Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems</li> <li>-Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior</li> <li>-Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills</li> </ul> <p>Students who plan to take the 2015 or later MCAT are advised to complete PSY2012, SYG2000, STA2023, and BCH4024 or CHM3218 in addition to the other prerequisite courses prior to taking the MCAT. Additional courses such as Genetics, PSY3213L, SYG2010, and SYP3000 may also help prepare you for the new exam.</p>
<p><b>Timing of Application</b></p>	<p>Most medical schools conduct admissions on a rolling basis, which gives preference to candidates who apply early in the application season. For your best chance of admission in any given year, you should apply within one month of the opening date of your application service(s).</p> <p>M.D. (Allopathic) schools: <b>AMCAS</b> Opens in early June each year, for the following</p>

	<p>year's entering class. You can begin working on your application in early May.</p> <p>D.O. (Osteopathic) schools: <b>AACOMAS</b> Opens in early June each year, for the following year's entering class. You can begin working on your application in May.</p> <p>D.P.M. (Podiatric) schools: <b>AACPMAS</b> Opens in early August each year, for the following year's class.</p> <p>NOTE: Most Texas schools do not participate in AMCAS. Students wishing to apply to these schools must submit a <b>TMDSAS</b> application, which opens in early May each year, for the following year's entering class.</p>
<p><b>Reference Guide for School Selection</b></p>	<p>For M.D. schools: Medical School Admissions Requirements Guidebook (MSAR), available online and in book format (the two formats complement each other; they do not duplicate information).</p> <p>For D.O. Schools: Osteopathic Medical College Information Book, available as a free download or in book format.</p> <p>For D.P.M. schools: Links to information about the nine podiatric medical schools can be found on the AACPM website.</p>
<p><b>Number of schools to apply to</b></p>	<p>For M.D.: schools, 12 to 18 schools (out of over 130) is a common number of medical schools to which to apply. The average number of schools UF students apply to is 14.</p> <p>For D.O.: schools, 6 to 10 schools (out of ~30) is a common number of schools to which to apply.</p> <p>For D.P.M.: schools, 2 to 3 schools (out of 9) is a common number of schools to which to apply.</p> <p>You will usually have your best chance of admission at the public medical school(s)</p>

	<p>in your state of residency. You should also consider other schools that accept a reasonable number of out-of-state students.</p> <p>For guidance on choosing schools, watch our workshop on Choosing Schools, use the references above, and visit individual school websites to refine your list.</p>
<p><b>Letters of Recommendation</b></p>	<p>We recommend a packet of 5 individual letters for most programs (this varies by school, check individual school requirements):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Two letters from science professors who have taught you in a lecture course</li> <li>-One letter from a non-science professor who has taught you in a lecture course</li> <li>-Two character letters (from a non-relative, practicing physician, research supervisor, volunteer coordinator, etc.)</li> </ul> <p>Note: Most Osteopathic medical programs require a letter from a D.O.</p>
<p><b>Personal Attributes and Experiences</b></p>	<p>Pre-medical students should engage in extracurricular activities that develop and demonstrate the personal attributes that are valued in physicians. Students are encouraged to participate in meaningful health-related volunteering, community service, shadowing, research, and leadership experiences that will help them gain an understanding of the profession and their future patients. See our Prepare section to learn more.</p>
<p><b>Special Programs for Pre-Med Students at UF</b></p>	<p><b>Medical Honors Program:</b> This is a combined B.S.-M.D. degree for students interested in pursuing an accelerated medical training program. Typically students will complete three years of undergraduate study and then begin medical school in the fourth year. The first year of medical school will count towards the undergraduate degree program and as the first year of medical school at University</p>

	<p>of Florida College of Medicine. At the end of the seven years, the student will have earned both a Bachelor of Science and a M.D. Learn more about MHP at <b>University of Florida College of Medicine.</b></p>
<p><b>Florida Programs</b></p>	<p>The programs in Florida are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Florida Atlantic University</b></li> <li>• <b>Florida International University</b></li> <li>• <b>Florida State University</b></li> <li>• <b>University of Central Florida</b></li> <li>• <b>University of Florida</b></li> <li>• <b>University of Miami</b></li> <li>• <b>University of South Florida</b></li> <li>• <b>Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine - Bradenton (D.O.)</b></li> <li>• <b>Nova Southeastern University (D.O. and M.D.)</b></li> <li>• <b>Barry University (D.P.M.)</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Resources</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>American Medical Association</b></li> <li>• <b>Association of American Medical Colleges</b></li> <li>• <b>American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS)</b></li> <li>• <b>Liaison Committee on Medical Education</b></li> <li>• <b>American Osteopathic Association</b></li> <li>• <b>American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine</b></li> <li>• <b>American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Service (AACOMAS)</b></li> <li>• <b>American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine (AACPM)</b></li> <li>• <b>Podiatric centralized application service (AACPMAS)</b></li> </ul>