

Pre-Professional Advisement

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Universitycollege.edu/advising/preprofessional

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Pre-Professional Pathway

- Major selection
 - Academic interest and talent
 - Prerequisite course overlap
 - Viable parallel plan
- Shadowing/observing
- Experiences
- Preparing for Application
- Application
 - Traditionally between junior and senior year
- Undergraduate graduation
- Matriculation

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Areas of Interest

- [Medical School](#)
- [Dental School](#)
- [Physician Assistant School](#)
- [Physical Therapy School](#)
- [Occupational Therapy School](#)
- [Pharmacy School](#)
- [Optometry School](#)

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Medical School- Freshman Year Prep

- Select a major
 - Common choices: biology, chemistry
- Take prerequisite coursework 
 - Freshman appropriate
- Shadow physicians
 - Different specialties
- Get involved
 - Join RSOs
 - Pre Health Society
 - Volunteer at a hospital or clinic

General Biology (8 hours)

- BSC 196 
- BSC 197 

General Chemistry (8 hours)

- CHE 140 
- CHE 141 

Organic Chemistry (9 hours)

- CHE 230 & 231
- CHE 232 & 233


Biochemistry (3 hours)

- CHE 242 or 342

Mathematics (4 hours)

- MAT 145 

English Composition (6 hours)

- ENG 101 
- ENG 145


College Physics (10 hours)

- PHY 108
- PHY 109


Statistics (3 hours)

- PSY 138

Psychology (6 hours)

- PSY 110 
- PSY 200 level

Sociology (3 hours)

- SOC 106 

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Medical School- Admission Criteria

- GPA
 - Cumulative
 - Science & Math (BCPM)
 - Non-science and math
- Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT)
- Shadowing experience
- Extracurricular involvement
- Letters of evaluation
- Personal statement

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Medical School- IL Admission

- Chicago Medical School (Rosalind Franklin)
 - Median GPA: 3.62
 - Median MCAT: 511
 - Class size: 191
- Stritch School of Medicine (Loyola)
 - Median GPA: 3.71
 - Median MCAT: 507
 - Class size: 159
- Feinberg School of Medicine (Northwestern)
 - Median GPA: 3.9
 - Median MCAT: 519
 - Class size: 163
- Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine (Midwestern)
 - Avg. GPA: 3.61
 - Avg. MCAT: 506
 - Class size: 207
- Rush Medical College
 - Median GPA: 3.73
 - Median MCAT: 512
 - Class size: 136
- Southern Illinois University-C
 - Median GPA: 3.8
 - Median MCAT: 507
 - Class size: 71
- Pritzker School of Medicine (University of Chicago)
 - Median GPA: 3.90 CUM
 - Median MCAT: 520
 - Class size: 91
- University of Illinois (Chicago, Rockford, Peoria, Urbana)
 - Median GPA: 3.73
 - Median MCAT: 512
 - Class size: 317

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Dental School- Freshman Year Prep

- Select a major
 - Common choices: biology, chemistry
- Take prerequisite coursework 
 - Freshman appropriate
- Shadow dentists
 - Different specialties
- Get involved
 - Join RSOs
 - Pre Dental Society
 - Volunteer at a hospital or clinic

Anatomy & Physiology (8 hours)

- BSC 181
- BSC 182



General Biology (8 hours)

- BSC 196 
- BSC 197 

Microbiology (4 hours)

- BSC 260

General Chemistry (8 hours)

- CHE 140 
- CHE 141 


Organic Chemistry (9 hours)

- CHE 230 & 231
- CHE 232 & 233

Biochemistry (3 hours)

- CHE 242 or 342

English Composition (6 hours)

- ENG 101 
- ENG 145

College Physics (10 hours)

- PHY 108
- PHY 109

Statistics (3 hours)

- PSY 138

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Dental School- Admission Criteria

- GPA
 - Cumulative
 - Science
 - Non-science
- Dental Admissions Test (DAT)
- Shadowing experience
- Extracurricular involvement
- Letters of evaluation
- Personal statement

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Dental School- IL Admission

- Midwestern University College of Dental Medicine
 - Mean GPA: 3.45
 - Mean DAT: 20.7
 - Class size: 130
- Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine
 - Mean GPA: 3.58
 - Mean DAT: 19.6
 - Class size: 50
- University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry-E
 - Mean GPA: 3.62
 - Mean DAT: 20.7
 - Class size: 70

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Physician Assistant School- Freshman



Year Prep

- Select a major
 - Common choices: biology, chemistry
- Take prerequisite coursework 
 - Freshman appropriate
- Shadow physician assistants
 - Different specialties
- Get certified
 - CNA, EMT, technician, etc.
- Get involved
 - Join RSOs
 - Pre Health Society
 - Volunteer at a hospital or clinic

Anatomy & Physiology (8 hours)

- BSC 181
- BSC 182



General Biology (8 hours)

- BSC 196 
- BSC 197 

Microbiology (4 hours)

- BSC 260

General Chemistry (8 hours)

- CHE 140 
- CHE 141 


Organic Chemistry (9 hours)

- CHE 230 & 231
- CHE 232 & 233

Biochemistry (3 hours)

- CHE 242 or 342


English Composition (6 hours)

- ENG 101 
- ENG 145

Medical Terminology (3 hours)

- HSC 105

Psychology (6-9 hours)

- PSY 110 
- PSY 213 and/or PSY 350

Statistics (3 hours)

- PSY 138

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Physician Assistant School- Admission Criteria

- GPA
 - Cumulative
 - Science
 - Non-science
 - Course subject
- General Record Examination (GRE)
- Direct patient care hours
- Shadowing experience
- Extracurricular involvement
- Letters of reference
- Personal statement

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Physician Assistant School- IL

Admission

- **Midwestern University**
 - Avg. GPA: 3.79
 - Avg. GRE: 60% Q, 62% V, 69% A
 - Class size: 86
- **Northwestern University**
 - Avg. GPA: 3.67
 - Avg. GRE: 69% Q, 79% V, 83% A
 - Class size: 30
- **Rosalind Franklin**
 - Avg. GPA: 3.451
 - Avg. GRE: Above 50% in all areas
 - Class size: 68
- **Rush University**
 - Avg. GPA: 3.58
 - Avg. GRE: not available
 - Class size: 30
- **Southern Illinois University-C**
 - GPA: at least 3.2
 - Avg. GRE: not available
 - Class size: 40
- **Dominican University**
 - Avg. GPA: 3.45
 - Avg. GRE: 48% Q, 54% V, 59% A
 - Class size: 30

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Physical Therapy School- Freshman Year



Prep

- Select a major
 - Common choices: exercise science, biology
- Take prerequisite coursework 
 - Freshman appropriate
- Observe physical therapists
 - Different settings
- Get involved
 - Join RSOs
 - Pre Health Society
 - Volunteer at a hospital or clinic



Anatomy & Physiology (8 hours)

- BSC 181 or KNR 181/183
- BSC 182 or KNR 182/184

General Biology (8 hours)

- BSC 196 
- BSC 197 

General Chemistry (8 hours)

- CHE 140 
- CHE 141 


Upper Level Science (4 hours)

- BSC or CHE 200+

College Physics (10 hours)

- PHY 108
- PHY 109



English Composition (6 hours)

- ENG 101 
- ENG 145

Medical Terminology (3 hours)

- HSC 105


Psychology (9 hours)

- PSY 110 
- PSY 213 
- PSY 350

Statistics (3 hours)

- PSY 138

Mathematics (4 hours)

- MAT 121 or MAT 145 

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Physical Therapy School- Admission Criteria

- GPA
 - Cumulative
 - Science
 - Science and math
 - Prerequisites
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- Observation experience
- Extracurricular involvement
- References
- Personal statement

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Physical Therapy School- IL

Admission

- **Bradley University**
 - Avg. GPA: 3.67
 - Avg. GRE: 60% V, 55% Q, 59% A
 - Class size: 24
- **Governors State University**
 - Avg. GPA: 3.5
 - Avg. GRE: not available
 - Class size: 35
- **Midwestern University**
 - Avg. GPA: 3.66
 - Avg. GRE: 44% V, 43% Q, 39% A
 - Class size: 56
- **Northern Illinois University**
 - GPA: at least 3.00
 - Avg. GRE: not available
 - Class size: 36
- **Northwestern University**
 - Avg. GPA: 3.70
 - Avg. GRE: 67% V, 64% Q, 68% A
 - Class size: 95
- **Rosalind Franklin**
 - Avg. GPA: 3.65
 - Avg. GRE: 64% V, 55% Q, 59% A
 - Class size: 50
- **University of Illinois Chicago**
 - Avg. GPA: 3.82
 - Avg. GRE: 63% V, 62% Q, 68% A
 - Class size: 60

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Occupational Therapy School- Freshman Year Prep

- Select a major
 - Common choices: therapeutic recreation, psychology
- Take prerequisite coursework 
 - Freshman appropriate
- Observe occupational therapists
- Get involved
 - Join RSOs
 - Pre Health Society
 - Volunteer at a hospital or clinic


Anatomy & Physiology (8 hours)

- BSC 181 or KNR 181/183
- BSC 182 or KNR 182/184


Biology (3 hours)

- BSC 101 


Physics (3-4 hours)

- PHY 102 or 105 

Psychology (9 hours)

- PSY 110 
- PSY 213
- PSY 350

Humanities (3 hours)

- Anthropology or sociology 

Medical Terminology (3 hours)

- HSC 105

Statistics (3 hours)

- PSY 138

Some programs require Introduction to OT. Since this course is not offered at ISU, students can take it online through schools with OT programs or at a community college with an OTA program.

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Occupational Therapy School- Admission Criteria

- GPA
 - Cumulative
 - Prerequisites
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- Observation experience
- Extracurricular involvement
- Letters of reference
- Personal statement

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Occupational Therapy School- IL

Admission


- Chicago State University (MOT)
 - GPA: at least 3.0
 - GRE: not required
 - Class size: 30
- Governors State University (MOT)
 - GPA: at least 3.0
 - GRE: required
 - Class size: 28
- Midwestern University (OTD)
 - Avg. GPA: 3.56
 - GRE: not required
 - Class size: 50
- Elmhurst College (MOT)
 - GPA: minimum 3.2
 - GRE: prefer 300 combined, 4.0 A
- Rush University (OTD)
 - GPA: at least 3.0
 - GRE: 302 combined, 4.0 A
 - Class size: 36
- University of Illinois Chicago (MS)
 - Avg. GPA: 3.77
 - Avg. GRE: 50% on all
 - Class size: 46
- University of Illinois Chicago (OTD)
 - Can co-enroll with MS acceptance

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Pharmacy School- Freshman Year Prep

- Select a major
 - Common choices: chemistry, biology
- Take prerequisite coursework 
 - Freshman appropriate
- Get pharmacy tech certified
- Get involved
 - Join RSOs
 - Pre Health Society
 - Volunteer at a hospital or clinic

Anatomy & Physiology (8 hours)

- BSC 181
- BSC 182



General Biology (8 hours)

- BSC 196 
- BSC 197 

Microbiology (4 hours)

- BSC 260

General Chemistry (8 hours)

- CHE 140 
- CHE 141 


Organic Chemistry (9 hours)

- CHE 230 & 231
- CHE 232 & 233

Biochemistry (4 hours)

- CHE 242 or 342


Mathematics (4 hours)

- MAT 145 

Economics (4 hours)

- ECO 105


English Composition (6 hours)

- ENG 101 (B or better) 
- ENG 145 (B or better)

College Physics (10 hours)

- PHY 108
- PHY 109


Communications (3 hours)

- COM 110 (B or better) 

Statistics (3 hours)

- PSY 138

Psychology or Sociology (3 hours)

- PSY 110 or SOC 106 

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Pharmacy School- Admission Criteria

- GPA
 - Cumulative
 - Science
 - Non-science
 - Math
- Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT)
- Pharmacy experience
- Extracurricular involvement
- References
- Personal statement

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Pharmacy Affiliation- UIC

- Apply after 3 semesters
- Direct entry from high school
- 3.5 GPA
- All prerequisite courses taken at ISU
- Extracurricular involvement

Required Pre-Pharmacy Prerequisite Coursework	Required Number of Courses ¹		Suggested Illinois State University Prerequisite Course(s) ²
	Semester	Quarter	
I. Communication	3	3	
Written communication	1	1	ENG 101, IDS 100 or ENG 145
Verbal communication	1	1	COM 110 or 123
Additional (written or verbal)	1	1	Select a third course from above or verify the use of a course not listed. ²
II. Life Sciences	6	7-8	
General Biology with labs	2	3	BSC (196, 197)
Anatomy and Physiology	2	2 or 3	BSC (181, 182) (183 optional lab)
Microbiology with lab	1	1	BSC 260
Advanced Biology	1	1	Genetics (BSC 219) is recommended, but molecular or cellular biology also fulfill this requirement. Any other course must focus on the human body.
III. Physical Sciences	6	8	
General (inorganic) chemistry with labs	2	3	CHE (140, 141)
Organic Chemistry with labs	2	3	CHE (230, 231, 232, 233)
Physics	1	1	PHY 108 or 110
Biochemistry	1	1	CHE 242 or 342
IV. Mathematics/Statistics	2	2	
Calculus (integrals and derivatives)	1	1	MAT 145
Statistics	1	1	MAT 250 or PSY 138
V. Humanities	1	1	Courses such as history, philosophy, religion, literature, art appreciation
VI. Social and Behavioral Sciences	1	1	Courses such as sociology, psychology, anthropology, political science, economics, geography

Rachel Van Den Broek- rachelv@uic.edu

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Pharmacy School- IL Admission

- Chicago State University College of Pharmacy
 - Avg. GPA: 3.1
 - PCAT: required, no minimum
 - Class size: 90
- Midwestern University College of Pharmacy
 - Avg. GPA: 3.25
 - PCAT: required, no minimum
 - Class size: 200
- Roosevelt University College of Pharmacy
 - Avg. GPA: 3.2
 - PCAT: required, no minimum
 - Class size: 74
- Rosalind Franklin College of Pharmacy
 - Avg. GPA: 3.0
 - PCAT: recommend 55% or higher
 - Class size: 65
- Southern Illinois University-E College of Pharmacy
 - Avg. GPA: 3.53
 - PCAT: required, no minimum
 - Class size: 82
- University of Illinois Chicago
 - Avg. GPA: 3.4
 - PCAT: recommend 70% or higher
 - Class size: 210

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Optometry School- Freshman Year Prep

- Select a major
 - Common choices: chemistry, biology
- Take prerequisite coursework 
 - Freshman appropriate
- Shadow optometrists
- Get involved
 - Join RSOs
 - Pre Health Society
 - Volunteer at a hospital or clinic

Anatomy & Physiology (8 hours)

- BSC 181
- BSC 182



General Biology (8 hours)

- BSC 196 
- BSC 197 

Microbiology (4 hours)

- BSC 260

General Chemistry (8 hours)

- CHE 140 
- CHE 141 


Organic Chemistry (4 hours)

- CHE 230 & 231



Biochemistry (3 hours)

- CHE 242 or 342

Mathematics (4 hours)

- MAT 145 

English Composition (6 hours)

- ENG 101 
- ENG 145 


College Physics (10 hours)

- PHY 108
- PHY 109

Statistics (3 hours)

- PSY 138

Psychology (3 hours)

- PSY 110 

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Optometry School- Admission Criteria

- GPA
 - Cumulative
 - Science
 - Non-science
- Optometry Admission Test (OAT)
- Shadowing experience
- Extracurricular involvement
- Letters of reference
- Personal statement

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Optometry School- IL Admission

- Chicago College of Optometry (Midwestern)
 - Avg. GPA: 3.26
 - OAT: 300 or higher recommended
 - Class size: 60
- Illinois College of Optometry
 - Avg. GPA: 3.38
 - Avg. OAT: 315
 - Class size: 166

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Pre-Professional Courses

- Designed for students in year prior to application
 - Typically juniors
- **IDS 194: Careers for Health Professionals**
 - Fall semester
 - Understand and prepare for application
 - Mock interviews, guest speakers, etc.
- **IDS 298A02: Professional Practice Mentorship**
 - Spring semester
 - Mentorship experience

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Committee Letters

- Compiled packet of recommendation
 - Medical school applicants
 - Dental school applicants
- Written on behalf of ISU by the Pre-Health Committee
 - Pre-Professional Advisor
 - Science faculty
- Interview with committee
- Feedback on application materials

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Example Experiences

- Pre-Health Society
- Pre-Dental Society
- Departmental organizations
- Alternative breaks
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters
- PATH
- Volunteer at BroMenn or OSF
- And many more!



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Food for Thought

- **Use your time wisely!**
 - Professional programs are looking for well rounded students that demonstrate stellar academics but also have meaningful and educational experiences
 - Be smart in the way you fill your free time
- **Save your money!**
 - Both preparing for and attending professional school are expensive

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Next Session

#1 Conference Sessions
Begins at 3:20pm

Page 12-13 in Schedule Book for options

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