



Pre-Medicine/Dentistry prep at Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC)

What is Pre-Medicine/Dentistry?

Most pre-medicine/dentistry students are science majors (biology or chemistry), but a student can major in almost any discipline provided the required science courses are completed when applying to professional schools. These professional schools expect non-science majors to perform very well in science courses.

What Is the Pre-Medicine/Dentistry curriculum?

Course requirements vary considerably among the numerous professional graduate programs. Prerequisites for entry into these programs typically include; 8 credits of biology (BIOL 101, 102, at HACC), 16 credits of chemistry (CHEM 101, 102, 203, 204 at HACC), 8 credits of physics (PHYS 201, 202 or 211, 212, at HACC as determined by the transfer institution), and mathematics through calculus (MATH 121, at HACC). Students should refer to HACC transfer check sheets, if available, and work with their HACC advisor in preparation for transfer to the Bachelor Degree granting institution. Additionally, students are expected to complete all requirements for a Bachelor Degree with pre-medicine/dentistry advising.

What are the characteristics of a successful Pre-Medicine/Dentistry student?

There are approximately 141 accredited schools of medicine and approximately 65 accredited schools of dentistry in the United States. All are highly competitive, have strict course prerequisites, and require students to plan a strategy early in their college career. To be competitive when applying to these professional schools, students should accumulate a grade point average of at **least** 3.4 (on a 4.0 scale) for their Bachelor Degree and perform above average on Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) or Dental Admissions Test (DAT). It is also competitive that pre-medicine/dentistry students participate in an internship experience in order to become acquainted with the field prior to making formal application to selected professional programs. Leadership, community/human service and a willingness to volunteer contribute to the “personal qualities” of successful pre-medicine/dentistry students. All interested students should visit the American Medical Association website, www.ama-assn.org, or the American Dental Association website, www.ada.org, for further information. Students will be advantaged by transferring from HACC to a Bachelor Degree granting school with a pre-medicine/dentistry option where students are advised by pre-medicine/dentistry advisors in prerequisite courses, (MCAT) or (DAT) preparation, application procedures and current trends in admission. It would be a further advantage to transfer to a Bachelor Degree granting school that has an affiliation with a school(s) of medicine or dentistry.