Pre-Professional Advising Office
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Pre-Med Quick Facts

Advised Pre-MCAT

Biology - BIOL 1107/L & 1108/L
General Chemistry - CHEM 1211/L & 1212/L
Organic Chemistry - CHEM 2211/L
Physics - PHYS 1111 & 1112 or 1211 & 1212
Biochem - BCMB 3100 or BCMB 4010 & 4020
Statistics - STAT 2000 or BIOS 2010
VPHY 3100 or CBIO 3710 or PMCY 3000

MCAT Cost - $345*

Recommended Pre-MCAT

Psychology - PSYC 1101
Sociology - SOCI 1101

*Offered multiple times per year, plan to take the MCAT only once.

Average Matriculant Numbers	
	• **Overall GPA: 3.7** • **Science: 3.7** • **MCAT: 513*** ~85th Percentile*

Grade Trends

- Strong science and overall GPAs are essential
- Positive grade trends matter
- Negative grade trends are cause for concern (repeated withdrawals, poor science grades, excessive science coursework outside UGA)

Show you can handle rigorous scientific content.

Typical Medical School Prerequisites

Biology - BIOL 1107/L & 1108/L
General Chemistry - CHEM 1211/L & 1212/L
Organic Chemistry - CHEM 2211/L & 2212/L
Physics - PHYS 1111 & 1112 or 1211 & 1212
Biochemistry - BCMB 3100 or BCMB 4010 & 4020
Statistics - STAT 2000 or BIOS 2010
English - ENGL 1101 & 1102

UGA Course Equivalents Listed - always verify with your target schools! (This is not a definitive list)

To prepare for a career in medicine, focus on building a strong foundation in academics and experience in different medical settings. There is no single "best" major for pre-med students—choose a field you truly enjoy, as you're more likely to succeed in it. Be sure to meet with a pre-health advisor in the Pre-Professional Advising Office to create a plan that fits your goals.

Application Type	GPA Used	Includes Courses In
M.D. (AMCAS)	BCMP GPA	Biology, Chemistry, Math, Physics
D.O. (AACOMAS)	BCP GPA	Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Some schools may also require: calculus, behavioral sciences, upper level biology courses, additional humanities, etc.
AP/IB credits may not be accepted by all med schools

1st & 2nd Year

Build Credentials

First Semester: Focus on adjusting to college

Second Semester & on: Shadow, Volunteer, Network with Faculty and Students

Do not wait until junior year to begin!

3rd Year

Fall: Continue Experiences, Register for MCAT

Jan-May: Study for MCAT

Feb-April: Write Personal Statement, & obtain Letters of Evaluation

April-early June: Take MCAT

May: AMCAS/AACOMAS Application

Summer Before 4th Year

Early June: Submit AMCAS/AACOMAS

June: Take situational judgement test if needed

July: Prepare secondary applications

August: Complete secondary applications

4th Year

Fall: Interviews conducted in late August through Spring; Continue Experiences (Shadowing, Research, Volunteering, etc.)

Spring: Graduate!

Shadowing

- Start early, summers and breaks are an ideal time to shadow
- Observation-only experience with physicians (hands-off)
- Shadow a variety of specialties (primary care, surgery, etc.)
- Build a connection for a letter of evaluation
- No required number of hours (40+) - more variety = better insight
- Consider a UGA/PPAO pre-health study abroad program

Step outside your comfort zone, cold call, email and network to secure opportunities.

Clinical Experiences

(Patient Engagement)

Clinical Volunteering or employment in:

- Hospital and other medical facilities
- Free Clinics
- Memory Care Centers
- Mobile Clinics
- Hospice

Certifications

(Optional)

- Active patient care involvement though certification
- Examples: Medical Assistant, EMT, Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Scribe, Phlebotomy Technician, etc.
- Can be a good option for those taking a gap year

Note: Hands on experience should only happen only if you are certified or have received proper on the job training.

Non-Medical Volunteering

- Shows service-mindedness & empathy
- Gains experience in diverse social issues
- Focus on long term involvement
- Look for opportunities to show leadership roles when possible

Do what you are passionate about!

Undergraduate Research

- Highly encouraged for most applicants
- Start as early as freshman/sophomore year
- Commit to at least a year to a specific lab/project.
- Be ready to explain your work on multiple levels: Elevator pitch vs In-depth discussion
- M.D./Ph.D. candidates need substantial research experience

Letters of Recommendation

- Large lecture classes make it harder to connect, so be intentional in building relationships with professors
- Attend office hours regularly
- Engage during class & labs
- Develop relationships over a period of time for a strong letter

Choose Letter Writers Wisely

- Pick people who know you well
- Choose strong, specific letters over generic letters
- Ask early and give plenty of notice

LOE Sources	Additional Notes
2-3 Science Faculty	**Biology, Chemistry, etc. – often required. Lecture, not lab.**
Research Mentor	**Great addition, but may not count as a science faculty letter.**
Physician (M.D./D.O.)	**Strongly encouraged**
Non-Science Faculty	**Optional for most, but shows well-roundedness**
Other Options	**Volunteer coordinators, employers, etc.**

Minimum Allowed:

- Most schools require at least 3
- **Typical submission**: 4–6 letters

Maximum Allowed:

- **M.D. programs**: Up to 10 letters
- **D.O. programs**: Up to 6 letters