Pre-Med Plan

Pre-med is not a major at the University of Kentucky. Students are free to major in whatever they wish while fulfilling pre-med requirements. While selecting a major, students should consider subjects they may find most interesting and challenging and in which they perform best.

The Association of American Medical Colleges states:

"Medical schools recognize the importance of a strong foundation in the natural sciences – biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics – and most schools have established minimum course requirements for admissions. These courses usually represent about one-third of the credit hours needed for degree completion. This approach deliberately leaves room for applicants from a broad spectrum of college majors, including those in the humanities and social sciences. No medical school requires a specific major of its applicants or matriculants. Admission committee members are aware that medical students can develop the essential skills of acquiring, synthesizing, applying, and communicating information through a wide variety of academic disciplines. Nevertheless, many premedical students choose to major in a scientific discipline. Ideally, they do so because they are fascinated by science and perceive that such a major can be the foundation for a variety of career options. Choosing science primarily to enhance one’s chances for admissions to medical school is not in the student's long term best interest. Medical school admission committees seek students whose intellectual curiosity leads them to a variety of disciplines and whose intellectual maturity assures that their efforts are persistent and disciplined." (Medical School Admission Requirements, 2009-2010)

Pre-med requirements differ, but generally include:

- 2 semesters of general chemistry with labs (CHE 105, 107, 111, 113)
- 2 semesters of biology with labs (BIO 150, 151, 152, 153)
- 2 semesters of organic chemistry with labs (CHE 230, 231, 232, 233)
- 2 semesters of physics with labs (PHY 211, 213 or PHY 231, 241, 232, 242)
- 2 semesters of English (ENG 104 and Graduation Writing Requirement)

It is important to refer to individual medical schools of interest for the exact list of prerequisites, exceptions to the list above, and additional course recommendations.

Students enrolled at the University of Kentucky pursuing medical school should visit the pre-med web site below and utilize the pre-professional advising provided by Undergraduate Studies.

Undergraduate Studies
Pre-Professional Advising
109 Miller Hall
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(859) 257-3383
www.uky.edu/UGS/centadv/pre_med.htm