



Articulation Office – Counseling Services & Special Programs

ADVISEMENT INFORMATION FOR TRANSFER MAJORS

PRE-MEDICINE

Contrary to what many students assume, there is no "pre-med" major. "Pre-med" represents a pattern of courses required for admission to a school of medicine. A prospective medical school student may choose almost any major they wish. ***However, all medical schools require students to complete specific science, math, and general education coursework prior to admission.***

There are eight medical schools in California. Five of these are operated by the University of California (Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, San Diego, and San Francisco). The three private schools are University of Southern California, Stanford University, and Loma Linda University. Preparation for admission requires high scholarship in three or usually four years of pre-medical science, math, and general education study.

Typically medical schools will evaluate an applicant's abilities and personal qualities through several factors: college coursework and GPA (*both cumulative GPA and science GPA*); scores on admissions test (*e.g. MCAT*); personal statement and interview; in-depth letters of recommendation; practical volunteer experience in a health profession, and research experience in biological, medical, behavioral, or physical sciences. Extracurricular activities such as student clubs, organizations, athletics, and community involvement are recommended.

Students are advised to make normal progress toward a baccalaureate degree in a major of their choice. Admission requirements may vary from one medical school to another. When planning coursework, students are urged to contact a Saddleback College counselor and to refer to the college catalog/bulletin of the intended medical school for detailed information about the offerings, requirements, and selection process.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

The following courses are a composite of minimum admission requirements to medical schools in general:

Recommended Lower-Division Preparation: BIO 3A, 3B; *CHEM 1A, 1B; 12A, 12B; PHYS (2A and 2B); or PHYS (4A and 4B) [*preferred*]; MATH 3A, 3B; ENG 1A, 1B, and *an additional English course.*

***NOTE:** Students who have not completed a year of high school chemistry should enroll in CHEM 3 prior to CHEM 1A. Also note that CHEM 3 and CHEM 1A assume knowledge of Algebra I and Algebra II in high school (MATH 253 or MATH 255 at Saddleback College), and that physics courses require either trigonometry or calculus as prerequisites. Refer to the Saddleback College catalog for prerequisites and corequisites for all the science and math courses.

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NOTES:

- Contact each college/university that you are interested in. Ask them to send you information about their "Pre-Medicine" program; selection criteria, GPA requirements, and other pertinent admissions information. Also, ask for information about their campus, services, housing, etc. Meet with college/university representatives when they visit Saddleback College.
- Contact each medical school in which you are interested. Acquire each medical school's admission requirements. Special attention should be paid to non-academic requirements, e.g. medical-related experience, volunteerism, etc.
- Visit each school to which you are considering transferring.
- Research careers related to your chosen major.
- For additional transfer information, consult Saddleback College's Transfer Student Home Page: www.saddleback.edu/ss/tc/TRANSFERSTUDENTPAGE.html