

Charleston Southern University
Pre-Professional Program
PRE-MEDICINE

Charleston Southern University offers students an opportunity to pursue Pre-Professional studies in the area of Pre-Medicine. Because of the competition, the majority of students entering medical school have a baccalaureate degree. If a student has a math SAT below 550-600 or math placement below MATH 122 (Elementary Functions), it will take at least one year longer to graduate unless chemistry is taken in Summer classes.

What is Pre-Medicine?

Pre-Medicine refers to a student engaging in a course of study, including the selection of a major and a minor and the selection of elective courses, under the guidance of a pre-medicine advisor, all with the eye toward improving the student's ability to perform well in medical school and consequently, the likelihood of admission to the medical school of the student's choice.

Designation as Pre-Medicine

Pre-Medical students are encouraged to officially designate that they are working in this program. This designation can be added or deleted from the student's advising information using the *Declaration of Major/Minor form*. The form can be turned in at the Office of Academic Advising or the Registrar's Office. Declaring this program of study will allow the Office of Academic Advising to assign the student to a pre-medicine advisor.

Freshman Pre-Medicine Advisors

Dr. Rebecca Hanckel

Sophomore, Junior, Senior Pre-Med Advisors

Dr. Rebecca Hanckel

Science Department telephone – (843) 863-8091

Choice of Major and Minor

Pre-Medicine is **NOT** a major. Pre-medical students have the option of majoring or minoring in any area of their interest. Charleston Southern University offers the following majors that would be good choices:

Biology Biochemistry Chemistry

Course Selection

Pre-medicine advisors will advise the student to make selections from courses that particularly enhance medical school education. Freshman advisors can assist future course selection by recommending courses at the lower level (100/200) and other courses that are prerequisites for future work.

Taking the MCAT

Scores from the new Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) are required to be considered for medical school. The test should be taken no more than two years prior to the time of application and no later than the fall of the year of application.



All students need to prepare for the Early Decision Program, which means taking the MCAT in the 1st semester of your Junior year (May) or 17 months before planning to enter medical school.

Suggested Courses to Prepare for the MCAT

BIOL 141: Zoology & Lab
BIOL 215: Human Anatomy & Lab
BIOL 220: Microbiology & Lab
BIOL 380: Genetics & Lab
BIOL 422: Ecology & Lab
CHEM 121 & 122: College Chem I & II & Lab
CHEM 301 & 302: Organic Chem I & II & Lab
CHEM 310 & 311: Biochemistry I & II & Lab
ENGL 111 & 112: Comp & Rhetoric I & II
MATH 130: PreCalculus
PHYS 201 & 202: Intro Physics I & II & Lab

Freshman students should register for mathematics and chemistry in the first semester in order to graduate within a 4-year period.

Selectivity Index for medical school

- With the following you will be interviewed,
- Bachelor degree with a minimum 3.3 GPA and a score of a minimum 27 on the MCAT
- With the following you may be interviewed
- Bachelor degree with less than a 3.3 GPA but with a MCAT score greater than 27
- With the following you will not be considered
- Bachelor degree students with less than a 27 on the MCAT (minority or rural 25)

A history of taking weak academic loads, withdrawing from hard courses and/or going to institutions other than their home institution to take these hard courses will be considered in evaluating the strength of the applicant.

In 1998, there were 553 qualified South Carolina residents applying for the available 165 slots.

Revised 11/4/02

Office Of Academic Advising