

PRE-PROFESSIONAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

OVERVIEW

A pre-professional program is a cooperative educational program, usually with another university, by which students complete part of their work at Lewis University before moving on to a second institution to further their education. In most cases in the health sciences, students will earn two degrees, the Bachelor of Science in Biology from Lewis and the professional degree, such as the M.D. or D.D.S., from the professional school.

Pre-professional programs in the health sciences include:

- Pre-Chiropractic
- Pre-Dentistry
- Pre-Medicine
- Pre-Optometry
- Pre-Pharmacy
- Pre-Physician Assistant
- Pre-Physical Therapy
- Pre-Veterinary Medicine

HIGHLIGHTS

At Lewis University we provide our students with a comprehensive, competitive background to prepare each student for his/her professional career. Students are individually advised each semester with great care and attention being given to student completion of professional program prerequisites and preparation for the respective standardized tests. In light of the highly competitive nature of school admissions and the emphasis placed on entrance exams, admittance into a pre-professional program at Lewis University requires a minimum composite score of 23 on the ACT exam in order to maximize student success. Any student not meeting the requirement may enter the Biology Program and matriculate to the pre-professional program after successfully completing General Biology I and II and General Chemistry I and II with no less than a “B” in each course. It is strongly suggested that each student continue this 3.0 (“B”) average throughout his/her undergraduate career to further ensure post-graduate success.

Lewis University does have some articulation agreements as well as dual admission agreements with colleges for Lewis students who meet the criteria to complete their professional degree.

CONTACT

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PRE-CHIROPRACTIC

Recent changes in chiropractic education have made it necessary for students to complete a baccalaureate program prior to entrance in several programs, locally and nationally. For this reason, we strongly suggest the student consider which chiropractic program(s) are of interest so that the Pre-Professional Advisor may work with the student to meet program prerequisites. Lewis has dual admission programs with Logan College of Chiropractic Medicine and Palmer College of Chiropractic.

PRE-DENTISTRY

A strong foundation in humanities, arts, and sciences is required for the successful Dental School applicant. While a student may apply to a college of dentistry after completion of three years in a pre-dentistry program, the majority of successful applicants have obtained a bachelor's degree. Students in this program must plan each semester's course of studies with the Pre-Professional Advisor of the Biology department.

PRE-MEDICINE

(Includes Allopathic, Osteopathic and Podiatric Medicine)

Students in this program must plan each semester's course of studies with the Pre-Professional Advisor of the Biology department. Specific courses in the humanities, arts, and social studies that will prepare students for the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) will be noted. Assistance for students in choosing the proper sequence of science and mathematics courses will also be provided.

It should be noted that medical colleges in the United States require matriculating students have earned a bachelor's degree. Because of the crucial need to organize the Pre-Medical student's curriculum, it is imperative that interested students meet with the pre-medical advisor prior to registration.

PRE-OPTOMETRY

Specific courses in the humanities, arts, and social studies, in addition to a strong background in the natural sciences, are essential for the student wishing to pursue a post-graduate education in Optometry. For this reason, it is imperative that interested students identify prospective Schools of Optometry early in their undergraduate education and meet with the Pre-Professional Advisor on a regular basis.

PRE-PHARMACY

As of Fall 2001, federal mandates require that all pharmaceutical programs omit the bachelor's degree option in their curriculum. Hence, an undergraduate degree has become more important for admittance to a school of pharmacy. Students in this program must plan each semester's course of studies with the Pre-Professional Advisor of the Biology department. Lewis has a dual admission agreement with Midwestern University, Chicago College of Pharmacy.

PRE-PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

A baccalaureate degree must be earned by the date of matriculation. Students in this program must plan each semester's course of studies with the Pre-Professional Advisor of the Biology department.

PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY

This program is designed for the student who plans to pursue a master's or doctoral degree after graduation. Students in this program must plan each semester's course of studies with the Pre-Professional Advisor of the Biology department.

PRE-VETERINARY MEDICINE

Matriculation to colleges of veterinary medicine is highly competitive in great part due to the limited number of institutions nationally. It is important for the pre-veterinary student to maintain high standards, both academically and personally, and associate him/herself with volunteer programs and/or internship opportunities (which can be secured through the aid of the Pre-Professional Advisor). Students in this program must plan each semester's course of studies with the Pre-Professional Advisor of the Biology department.