

MEDICINE

Recommended Coursework

Most medical schools recommend students to take the following courses. Additional courses are required by some schools (in parenthesis). If you are interested in attending a certain medical school, you should look up their specific requirements. Bio 190 is recommended before taking Bio 225 or Bio 221. Some medical schools will not accept AP credits in place of these courses and additional science courses will have to be completed to satisfy the requirements. All recommended coursework should be taken for a grade and not as a pass/fail class.

1 year of General Biology	Bio 225/225L/221/221L
1 year of General Chemistry	Chem 151/151L/152/152L
1 year of Organic Chemistry	Chem 301/301L/302/302L
1 year of General Physics	Phys 136/136L/137/137L or Phys 270/270L/271/271L
1 year of English comp/lit (Molecular/Cell Biology/Genetics) (Calculus) (Biochemistry)	USD GE Requirement Bio 300 & Bio 482 or Bio 480 Math 150 recommended Chem 331

MCAT

The Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) is a standardized test that is usually required as part of the application for medical school. It consists of four sections: verbal reasoning, physical science, writing sample, and biological science. The MCAT needs to be taken at least one year before you begin medical school and it is very strongly suggested it is taken in April rather than August. For more specific information about the MCAT, visit the website (www.aamc.org/students/mcat/start.htm).

Extracurricular Activities

There are a variety of extracurricular activities that enhance an application to medical school. It is best to have experiences that are meaningful and that you learn a lot from, rather than numerous activities where your involvement is minimal. Get involved in something you are interested in, whether on or off campus. Clinical experience is always helpful if you are interested in a career in medicine and a lot can be learned from it. Many medical schools look favorably upon research experience. Visit the Student Organizations website for on-campus involvement (www.sandiego.edu/associatedstudents/studentorgs/).

Useful Websites

Tomorrow's Doctors (tomorrowsdoctors.org)
Student Doctor Network (www.studentdoctor.net)
Application Services (www.aamc.org/audienceeras.htm)
Careers in Medicine (www.aamc.org/students/cim)
Medical Schools (www.aamc.org/medicalschoools.htm)
International Medical Schools (www.aaimg.com/misst.html)
Financing Medical School (www.aamc.org/students/financing/start.htm)