

Medicine

There are two types of physicians: M.D. (Medical Doctor) and D.O. (Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine). M.D.s are also known as allopathic physicians. While both MD.s and D.O.s may use all accepted methods of treatment, including drugs and surgery, D.O.s place special emphasis on the body's musculoskeletal system, preventive medicine and holistic patient care. D.O.s are most likely to be primary care specialists although they can be found in all specialties. Physicians work in or more of several specialties, including, but not limited to, anesthesiology, family medicine, pediatrics, cardiology, psychiatry, surgery and more. Learn more at aspiringdocs.org

Required Courses: Check individual schools.

General Biology - Bio 240, Bio 240L, Bio 242, Bio 242L

General Chemistry - Chem 151, Chem 151L, Chem 152, Chem 152L

Organic Chemistry - Chem 301, Chem 301L, Chem 302, Chem 302L

General Physics - Phys 136, Phys 136L, Phys 137, Phys 137L or Phys 270, Phys 270L, Phys 271, Phys 271L

English – FYW and advanced writing course within major

Calculus – Math 150 (AP accepted for medical school)

Biochemistry – Chem 331 (needed for MCAT)

Psychology – Psych 101

Statistics – Math 120, Psyc 260, or Biostatistics (Biostats preferred by Harvard and Dartmouth)

Some schools recommend:

Genetics - Bio 300

Molecular Biology – Bio 482

Cell Biology - Bio 482 or Bio 480

Microbiology – Bio 342 or 214

Anatomy and Physiology - Bio 212, 213

Sociology – Soci 101

Spanish

Schools that require Anatomy/Physiology:

The University of Arizona, Phoenix require and will accept one of the following options:

Bio 478 (1 semester of Vertebrate Physiology)

Bio 320 (1 semester of Comparative Anatomy of Vertebrates)

Bio 212 and Bio 213 (2 semesters of Anatomy and Physiology)

University of Arizona, Tucson requires 2 semesters of Anatomy/Physiology (either Bio 212 and Bio 213 or Bio 478 and Bio 320)

These courses will satisfy the requirements for most medical schools. Make sure that you check for additional requirements at your selected schools. Most schools want you to have completed the required courses prior to the time of application. Take all required classes for a grade; Pass/Fail is not acceptable. Grades below a “C” are not considered passing for most medical schools.

MCAT

Taken upon completion of prerequisites and before application to medical school.

Extracurricular Activities

Clinical Volunteer/Shadowing: Experiences in medical settings are important ways for students to learn about the field of medicine.

Research: Research experiences are strongly recommended by many medical schools especially for students with science majors. Choose any type of research that interests you – on or off campus – paid or unpaid.

Community Service/Leadership: There are many opportunities on and off campus to become involved. It's always best to find something meaningful and to participate in it over time.