

# Pre-Medical Academic Prerequisite Guide 2009/2010

\*\*\*There are academic prerequisite variations between Medical Schools. Therefore, it is up to each student to research the school(s) of interest for specific requirements.\*\*\*

## Overall Academic Grade Point Average (GPA)

The overall academic GPA for the 2009 entering class at Quillen College of Medicine at ETSU was 3.67 as of June 10, 2009.

## Biology/Chemistry/Physics/Mathematics (BCPM) GPA

The overall BCPM GPA for the 2009 entering class at Quillen College of Medicine at ETSU was 3.62 as of June 10, 2009.

## Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)

Medical schools require students to take the MCAT. The test contains four sections including Physical Science, Biological Science, Verbal Reasoning and a Writing Sample. The 2009 average MCAT scores for Quillen College of Medicine as of June 10, 2009 were as follows: Verbal Reasoning = 9.2, Physical Sciences = 8.7, Biological Sciences = 9.4, and Writing Sample = 0. It is **not** recommended to take the exam before completing all pre-requisite courses.

Students should plan to take The Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) at the end of their junior year of college. The MPA office will assist students with questions and information pertaining to the MCAT.

## Required Courses

Quillen College of Medicine requires the following courses to be completed before admission to medical school:

General Chemistry (with labs)	CHEM 1110/11 CHEM 1120/21	8 hrs.
Organic Chemistry (with labs)	CHEM 2010/11 CHEM 2020/21	8 hrs.
General Physics (with labs)*	PHYS 2010/11 PHYS 2020/21	8 hrs.
Biology (with labs)	BIOL 1110/11 BIOL1120/21	8 hrs.
Communication Skills**		9 hrs.
<u>Course Electives</u>		<u>49 credit hrs.</u>
Total (minimum)		90 credit hrs.

\*Calculus-based (PHYS 2110/20) physics is recommended.

\*\* Recommended courses include: ENGL 1010, ENGL 1020, and either SPCH 1300, SPCH 2300 or SPCH 2320

## Recommended Courses

Although the following are not required, completing the courses with high grades will demonstrate a student's academic ability to succeed when applying to medical school.

Biology III (with lab)	BIOL 1130/31	4 hrs.
Literature	Multiple Choices	3 hrs.
Pre-Calculus II	MATH 1720	3 hrs.
Probability and Statistics	MATH 1530	3 hrs.
Calculus I and II	MATH 1910, MATH 1920	8 hrs.
Humanities (minimum)	Multiple Choices	12 hrs.
Social Sciences (minimum)	Multiple Choices	9 hrs.
Using Information Technology	CSCI 1100	3 hrs.
General Genetics (with lab)	BIOL 3100, BIOL 3141 (lab)	5 hrs.
Comparative Anatomy	BIOL 3220	4 hrs.
Biochemistry (with lab)	BIOL 4147/57 or BIOL 4167/77	5 hrs.
Molecular Biology	BIOL 4647	3 hrs.
Cell Biology (with lab)	BIOL 3150/51	5 hrs.
Vertebrate Embryology	BIOL 3230	4 hrs.

## Majors

*Pre-medicine is not a major*, therefore students must choose a major/minor by the time they reach 60 credit hours. Medical schools are interested in seeing academic excellence in the sciences and mathematics; however, students do not have to major in those disciplines. Students should choose a major/minor that they enjoy. The MPA Coordinator will assist students in selecting a major.

## The Application Process

Students should start the application process approximately 18 months prior to when they desire to enter medical school. For example, if a student plans to begin Medical School in August 2010, he/she should begin application preparation in January 2009 (Junior Year). Most all medical schools participate in the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS). The website is [www.aamc.org](http://www.aamc.org).

Many medical schools require students to submit a Composite Evaluation Letter of Academic Work during the application process if available through their University. ETSU's MPA office provides this service to students free of charge and will assist students through the process.

## Related Experience

Students should volunteer/shadow during their entire college tenure. Medical schools want to know that a student has worked in the field, observed what is involved and still has the desire to continue in that profession. Although a precise number of hours are not usually indicated by most medical schools, students should gain as much experience as possible without sacrificing grades and other extracurricular activities.

## Extracurricular Activities

Pre-Medical students should engage in extracurricular activities to demonstrate leadership ability, while also pursuing their academic course loads and volunteer/shadowing experience. ETSU has many organizations that students can join, including a Pre-Medical Student Organization. If you are interested, please contact the MPA Office for more information. Students should visit the SORC located on the first floor of the D.P. Culp Center or visit [www.etsu.edu/sorc](http://www.etsu.edu/sorc) for more information regarding opportunities for extracurricular activities. It is not beneficial to simply join an organization, you must seek leadership opportunities!

## Volunteer Opportunities

Medical schools are looking for candidates who express a commitment to community service. Students should seek volunteer projects that focus on giving back to their community. Students are encouraged to also look for volunteer opportunities related to the medical field.

## Concerns

Students must meet with their pre-professional and academic advisor each semester. Furthermore, students who receive scholarships, participate in specialized ETSU programs, etc. (i.e., Athletes, Honors College) must also seek advisement from those parties. *Serious consequences can occur if students fail to meet with advisors (i.e., failure to graduate on schedule, not taking the appropriate courses to prepare for the MCAT, etc.).*

## Take Note

Be cautious when putting anything on social networking sites and the internet (such as MySpace, Facebook, YouTube, Email, Voicemail, Mobile Text Messaging, Twitter, and blogs).

Email addresses should also be considered when corresponding with professional schools. Remember that first impressions can also be based on correspondence. Is your email address appropriate for professional communication?

Messages and images you send electronically are reflections of your judgment and potential suitability for Professional Careers. Self-deprecating behaviors shared on an accessible venue can be viewed and/or shared by anyone, resulting in detriment to your acceptance into a Professional School.

**\*\* PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS DO LOOK AT INTERNET SOURCES WHEN CONSIDERING CANDIDATE APPLICATIONS!!!**

## Suggested Two Year Schedule for Pre-Medical Students

### Fall Freshmen Year

<b>Course</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
CHEM 1110/1111	4
BIOL 1110/1111	4
MATH 1720	3
ENGL 1010	3
Elective	3
	15-17

### Fall Sophomore Year

<b>Course</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
CHEM 2010/2011	4
PHYS 2010/2011	4
MATH 1920	4
SPCH 1300	3
Elective	3
	18

### Spring Freshmen Year

<b>Course</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
CHEM 11120/1121	4
BIOL 1120/1121	4
MATH 1910	4
ENGL 1020	3
Elective	3
	18

### Spring Sophomore Year

<b>Course</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
CHEM 2020/2021	4
PHYS 2020/2021	4
Elective	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
	17

**\*Students should maintain a minimum of 17-19 credit hours each semester.**