

# Pre-Podiatry Academic Prerequisite Guide 2009/2010

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

## Overall Academic GPA

The average overall GPA for Podiatry School as reported by the American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine (AACPM) in 2008 was 3.3 on a 4.0 scale.

## Science GPA

The average overall science GPA for Podiatry School as reported by the AACPM in 2008 was 3.1 on a 4.0 scale.

## MCAT, GRE, DAT

Most podiatry schools require the MCAT prior to admission, but some will accept the GRE or DAT in lieu of this requirement. Average scores for entering podiatry students in 2008 were as followed: Verbal Reasoning = 7.0, Physical Sciences = 7.1, and Biological Sciences = 7.5. Podiatry schools will not accept MCAT scores more than three years old. It is **not** recommended to take the exam before completing all pre-requisite courses.

## Required Courses

For most schools, a minimum of 90 credit hours or three years college coursework must be completed before admission to podiatry school will be granted. However, over 95% of students who are accepted have completed a bachelor's degree.

Required course for entry to podiatry schools is as follows:

English Composition	ENGL 1010 ENGL 1020	6-8 hrs.
General Chemistry	CHEM 1110/11 CHEM 1120/2	8 hrs.
Organic Chemistry	CHEM 2010/11 CHEM 2020/21	8 hrs.
General Physics	PHYS 2010/11 PHYS 2020/21	8 hrs.
General Biology	BIOL 1110/11 BIOL 1120/21	8 hrs.

## Recommended Courses

Recommended courses for entry to podiatry school are as follows:

Pre-Calculus II	MATH 1720	3 hrs.
Probability and Statistics	MATH 1530	3 hrs.
Biology	BIOL 1130/31	12 hrs.
Biology Electives	*Multiple Choices	4-8 hrs.
Humanities & Social Science	*Multiple Choices	35 hrs.

## Majors

Students are not limited by what major they must choose, however, it is best to talk with a medical professions advisor before determining a major. A major must be selected by the time a student reaches 60 credit hours.

## The Application Process

Students may apply to Podiatry school through the AACPM, [www.aacpm.org](http://www.aacpm.org). Applications are generally available in September prior to the year of entry.

During the application process, most schools will require three letters of recommendation to be submitted, one of which must be from a Podiatrist. Therefore it is imperative for students to establish a strong relationship with the person whom the student is volunteering/shadowing.

## Related Experience

Students should volunteer or shadow during their entire college tenure. Podiatry schools want to know that a student has worked in the field, seen what is involved and still has the desire to continue in that profession. Although a precise number of hours are not usually indicated, students should work in the field as much as possible without sacrificing grades.

## Extracurricular Activities

Pre-Podiatry students should engage in extracurricular activities to demonstrate leadership ability, while also pursuing their academic course loads and volunteer/shadowing experience. Students should visit the SORC located on the first floor of the Culp center or [www.etsu.edu/sorc](http://www.etsu.edu/sorc) for more information regarding extracurricular activities. It is not beneficial to simply join an organization, you must demonstrate leadership qualities!

## Volunteer Opportunities

Podiatry 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 podiatry field.

## **Concerns**

Students must meet with their pre-professional and academic advisor each semester. Furthermore, students who are Athletes or in the Honors College must also seek advisement from those parties. Serious consequences can occur if students fail to meet with advisors, such as not graduating 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-Podiatry Students:

### Fall Freshmen Year

Course	Credit Hours
CHEM 1110/1111	4
BIOL 1110/1111	4
MATH 1720	3
ENGL 1010	3
Elective	3
	17

### Fall Sophomore Year

Course	Credit Hours
CHEM 2010/2011	4
PHYS 2010/2011	4
SPCH 1300	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
	17

### Spring Freshmen Year

Course	Credit Hours
CHEM 11120/1121	4
BIOL 1120/1121	4
MATH 1530	3
ENGL 1020	3
Elective	3
	17

### Spring Sophomore Year

Course	Credit Hours
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.**