SIU Southern Illinois University CARBONDALE

HEALTH PROFESSIONS OFFICE

Pre-requisite course requirements for US Dental, Medical, Optometry, and Podiatry Schools

Pre-health professions is not a major. Students must choose a major by the end of the freshman year. Transfer students must declare a major by the end of their first semester following transfer. Popular majors include Physiology, Biological Sciences/Biomed Track, Microbiology, and Chemistry. A non-science major may be considered, but may increase time to graduation. Students, regardless of major, must complete all pre-requisites with a grade of C or better, and must have a strong science GPA to be competitive.

Minimum & Recommended Coursework for Illinois and Missouri Schools

Prerequisite courses must transfer with a C or better. Students must have earned a baccalaureate degree with a minimum GPA of 3.00 on a 4.0 scale.

FIELD OF STUDY	MINIMUM & RECOMMENDED COURSES
English	**ENGL 101; ENGL 102; CMST 101;** Advanced writing and communications courses*
Biology	**BIOL 211; BIOL 213;** BIOL 305* or MICR 302*; BIOL 306**, 409**
Humanities*	PHIL 104**; PHIL 105**
Inorganic Chemistry	**CHEM 200, 201, 202; CHEM 210, 211, 212**
Organic Chemistry[1]	**CHEM 340, 341; CHEM 442/443; CHEM 350;** Strongly recommend: CHEM 351*
Mathematics	**MATH 108 AND 109 OR MATH 111 OR 150 OR 141; MATH 282**
Microbiology	**MICR 301;** Recommend: MICR 403, 453
Physics	**PHYS 203A, 253A, 203B, 253B**
Physiology	**PHSL 301* and PHSL 310*;** Recommend: PHSL 401 a, b; PHSL 410 a, b
Psychology & Sociology	**PSYC 102; SOC 108;** Strongly recommend: PSYC 302**, 312**, 402**
Health Professions Prep	SCI 201

Bolded courses meet the minimum school requirements.

*Denotes courses appropriate for the MCAT beyond the required courses.

**Strongly recommended. Most schools require all the courses listed under Strongly recommend.

DISCLAIMER: Pre-requisites are listed as guidelines only. Students should contact the Office of Admissions of any schools to which they intend to apply to determine the exact science coursework required.

Pre-med students: To be well prepared for the MCAT, you will need courses in basic biology, anatomy, physiology, physics, and chemistry, biochemistry, and statistics. Both Introduction to Psychology and Introduction to Sociology are recommended, and at least one 300-level psychology course. Four chemistry laboratories are required for medical school. Either the Organic II lab OR the Biochem lab may be taken, or both.

Pre-dental students: SIU SDM requires two semesters of organic with lab and one semester of biochemistry (lecture only). No physics on the DAT, but may be required for admission. Also consider art classes in ceramics, pottery, stained glass and other hobbies that develop manual dexterity and perceptual ability.

Pre-optometry students: MICRO 301 and calculus are required. UMSL requires 2 psychology courses, SCO requires 1 psychology and 2 social science.

Regional Medical Schools:
SIU School of Medicine,