The Pre-Medical Sciences Program at the University of Montana is an advising program that helps baccalaureate and post-baccalaureate students become well informed, well prepared applicants to health professions schools and programs in allopathic medicine, chiropractic medicine, dentistry, naturopathy, optometry, osteopathic medicine, physician assistant studies, podiatry and veterinary medicine.

KEYS TO SUCCESS AS A HEALTH PROFESSION APPLICANT

ACADEMIC METRICS: Students interested in a career in the health professions should plan on taking courses in biology, physics, chemistry, and mathematics. These courses will not only prepare you for the rigorous curriculum of a health professions school (medical, dental, veterinary, PA, etc.), but also lead to success on the various standardized tests required at the time of application: MCAT, DAT, GRE, etc. While grades are not the sole determinant of admission to professional school, students should set goals to maintain a high GPA. Pre-Med advisors can help you to determine your best course of study for your degree program and provide resources to prepare for admissions exams.

FAMILIARITY WITH THE FIELD: Health Professions Schools often select candidates who have completed a research experience, shadowed health care professionals and spent freely of their time in a volunteer opportunity. The Pre-Medical Sciences Advising Program can help you find a research lab to work in, volunteer opportunities to participate in and job shadowing experiences. Our program also offers two courses designed to increase students’ familiarity with the field: AHHS 391-Pre-Medical Sciences 101 and AHHS 391-Introduction to Dentistry.

CHARACTER TRAITS: Admissions committees seek candidates who are empathetic and who lead and demonstrate a clear sense of selflessness and desire to give back to their communities. Volunteer experience is a must for a successful professional health school applicant. A long-term volunteer position is also more meaningful than helping out with events sporadically during your tenure at UM. The Pre-Med program can help you find the right volunteer opportunity and connect you with the Pre-Professional Health Sciences Club.

EVALUATIONS OF ABILITIES: Letters of recommendation are a critical piece of your health professions school application. It's important to begin cultivating relationships early with people who know you in and outside of the academic community, and who can speak to your ability to succeed in a professional school. The Pre-Medical Sciences Program also offers a Committee Letter of Recommendation to be submitted with your application to professional schools for those who meet with advisors on a regular basis.

PASSION & COMMITMENT: Your passion and commitment to the field should be apparent through the various activities you’ve engaged in as a Pre-Professional Health student (extra-curricular activities, volunteering, job shadowing, leadership roles, etc.). The Pre-Medical Sciences Program can help you convey that passion and commitment by reviewing your personal statement and conducting a mock interview.

THE Pre-Medical Sciences Program [GrizMed] CONSISTENTLY OFFERS robust and positive advising, with timely access to ANY OF THE ELEVEN ADVISORS. This has HISTORICALLY RESULTED in a long & successful tradition of Health Professions School ACCEPTANCE well above the national average (UM% acceptance vs. National average %).

Contact Us: Program Director: Dr. Mark Pershouse
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Resources:
AMCAS: aamc.org/students/applying/amcas
MCAT: aamc.org/students/applying/mcat
WWAMI: uwmedicine.org/education/wwami
WICHE: wiche.edu

umt.edu/premed
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