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.

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 in medical school, 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: Medical Schools select candidates who have completed a research experience and shadowed health care professionals. The Pre-Medical Sciences Advising Program can help you find a research lab to work in and job shadowing experience. Our program also offers two courses designed to increase students familiarity with the field AHHS 394 – Medical Professions Preparation and Overview and AHHS 395 – 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 pieces of your medical 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 professional school. The Pre-Medical Sciences Program also offers a Committee Letter of Recommendation to be submitted with your application.

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.

KEYS TO SUCCESS AS A HEALTH PROFESSION APPLICANT

CONTACT US:
Program Director: Dr. Mark Pershouse
Skaggs Building 281, (406) 243-4769
mark.pershouse@umontana.edu
http://biomed.health.umt.edu/users/markpershouse

Program Coordinator: Jen Geist
Skaggs Building 340, (406) 243-4341
jennifer.geist@umontana.edu

WEBSITES:
UM PRE-MED: http://www.umt.edu/premed
AMCAS: https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/amcas/
MCAT: https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/
WWAMI: http://uwmedicine.washington.edu/Education/WWAMI
WICHE: http://www.wiche.edu

Why use the pre-medical sciences program at UM?
Because it works! University of Montana students who seek advising through the Pre-Medical Sciences Program are much more likely to be accepted to a health professions school than those who do not.

Why use the pre-medical sciences program at UM?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>UM Pre-Med</th>
<th>UM Non-Pre-Med</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHO’S MY ADVISOR?

Many majors within the sciences, social sciences and humanities can provide strong preparation for medical school, as long as the prerequisites for professional school are fulfilled along the way. Therefore, the Pre-Medical Sciences Advising Program gives students the opportunity to interact with advisors from diverse disciplines. Please note that your pre-med advisor does not take the place of your academic advisor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
<th>MEETS WITH...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Mark Pershouse</td>
<td>X4769</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mark.pershouse@umontana.edu">mark.pershouse@umontana.edu</a></td>
<td>Pre-Dentistry students, Post-Baccalaureate students &amp; all students getting ready to apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Jason Granvold</td>
<td>X2293</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jason.granvold@umontana.edu">jason.granvold@umontana.edu</a></td>
<td>Freshmen &amp; transfer students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Bruce Bowler</td>
<td>X6114</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bruce.bowler@umontana.edu">bruce.bowler@umontana.edu</a></td>
<td>Biochemistry majors &amp; Pre-Physician Assistant students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kerry Bright</td>
<td>X4105</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kerry.bright@umontana.edu">kerry.bright@umontana.edu</a></td>
<td>Pre-Veterinary Medicine students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Chuck Dumke</td>
<td>X6176</td>
<td><a href="mailto:charles.dumke@umontana.edu">charles.dumke@umontana.edu</a></td>
<td>Health &amp; Human Performance majors (including freshmen)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Steve Lodmell</td>
<td>X3693</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stephen.lodmell@umontana.edu">stephen.lodmell@umontana.edu</a></td>
<td>Biology majors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. James McKusick</td>
<td>X2541</td>
<td><a href="mailto:james.mckusick@umontana.edu">james.mckusick@umontana.edu</a></td>
<td>Liberal Arts majors &amp; all students in the Davidson Honors College (including DHC freshmen)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Holly Thompson</td>
<td>X2070</td>
<td><a href="mailto:holly.thompson@umontana.edu">holly.thompson@umontana.edu</a></td>
<td>Chemistry majors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

YEAR 1 SUMMER

- Complete medical school prerequisite course requirements
- Build professional relationships for letters of recommendation
- Engage in community service/volunteer opportunities
- Select a major
- Gain clinical experience/job shadow
- Gain research experience

YEAR 2

- MCAT preparation and exam
- Application Preparation
- Collect letters of recommendation
- WICHE Application
- Certify state residency

YEAR 3 SUMMER

- Submit application materials
- Interviews

YEAR 4

- Take the MCAT
- Submit letters of recommendation
- Complete the WICHE application
- Certify state residency

Scholarships: Being a Pre-Medical Sciences student is demanding in terms of academics and extracurricular activities (research, volunteering & job shadowing). As such, we know it can be hard to hold a job while attending school and recognize the need for financial support during a student’s academic career. The UM Pre-Medical Sciences program offers a wide range of scholarships to students pursuing health professions school.

**Pre-Med/Pre-Professional Health Sciences Club**

Want to be more involved? Consider joining the Pre-Professional Health Sciences/Pre-Med Club! This group provides mutual peer support and community access for students pursuing an interest in medicine, no matter what field you plan to enter. Meet medical professionals and admissions representatives, get involved in volunteer activities, practice the MCAT and much more!

**TIME LINE**

**SUGGESTED COURSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HEALTH PROFESSION SCHOOL PREREQUISITE</th>
<th>UM COURSE NUMBER</th>
<th>UM COURSE NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biology (one year general biology with lab)</td>
<td>BIOB 160N, BIOB 170N, BIOB 171N</td>
<td>Principles of Living Systems, Principles of Biological Diversity, Principles of Biological Diversity Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry (one year general chemistry with lab; one year organic chemistry with lab)</td>
<td>CHMY 141N, CHMY 143N, CHMY 221, CHMY 222, CHMY 223, CHMY 224</td>
<td>College Chemistry I &amp; Lab, College Chemistry II &amp; Lab, Organic Chemistry I Lab, Organic Chemistry II Lab, Organic Chemistry II Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry (one year)</td>
<td>BCH 480, BCH 482</td>
<td>Advanced Biochemistry I, Advanced Biochemistry II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics (one year with lab)</td>
<td>PHYS 205N, PHYS 206N, PHYS 207N, PHYS 208N</td>
<td>College Physics I, College Physics I Lab, College Physics II Lab, College Physics II Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics (one semester calculus, one semester statistics)</td>
<td>M 171, STAT 216</td>
<td>Calculus I, Introduction to Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences (one semester psychology, one semester sociology)</td>
<td>PSYX 100S, SOCI 101S</td>
<td>Introduction to Psychology, Introduction to Sociology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The curriculum above represents the minimum required courses for entrance to professional school. Because there are several options for completing the program of study, please meet with your appropriate Pre-Medical Sciences Advisor to determine the best course of study to satisfy degree requirements and medical school prerequisites.

**AHHS 394: Medical Profession Preparation & Overview/Honors**

Interested in a career in the health professions? This survey course is designed for students considering a career as a medical provider by reviewing the experience of being a medical student, the health care system, and ethical issues involved in the doctor/patient experience.

**AHHS 395: Introduction to Dentistry**

Interested in Dentistry? This course provides students with basic introductory knowledge of dental medicine and hands-on experience to determine if this health profession career is right for you!

**Student Profile:** Laura Bricklin, Bainbridge Island, WA

**Major:** Human Biological Sciences

**Outside of class:** Pre-Professional Health Sciences Club, Study Jam tutor, volunteer, snow boarder, water polo enthusiast

**”The Pre-Medical Sciences advising program has been a great resource to me throughout my undergraduate career at the University of Montana. Advisors and staff are always available to answer questions and do so happily. I am so thankful for the support of this program in helping to achieve my goals. Their guidance has been invaluable.”**

---

**Health Profession School Acceptance Sites**

- **Acceptance Sites**
  - WICHE Application
  - Collect letters of recommendation
  - MCAT preparation and exam
  - Submit application materials
  - Interviews