

Medical School Admission

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

The following courses meet requirements for most medical schools; individual school requirements may vary. Complete all required courses before taking the MCAT and applying for admission. Take all required courses during the fall and/or spring semesters at URI (avoid summer or on-line courses).

CHEMISTRY

General Chemistry, two semesters with lab:

- CHM 101 & 102 Lab (3+1 credits)
- CHM 112 & 114 Lab (3+1 credits)

Organic Chemistry, two semesters with lab:

- CHM 227 (3 credits)
- CHM 228 & 226 Lab (3+2 credits)

CHM 191-192-291-292 will satisfy the chemistry requirement for chemistry majors.

ENGLISH

Two semesters (6-8 credits).

Most English (ENG), Writing (WRT), and Literature Courses fulfill this requirement, with the exception of creative writing.

PHYSICS

Two semesters with lab:

- PHY 111 & 185 lab (3+1 credits)
- PHY 112 & 186 lab (3+1 credits)

Two of the three course sequence, PHY 203-204-205 with labs may be substituted.

BIOLOGY

11-12 credits (including two lab courses) meet requirements at most medical schools. Some schools may have additional requirements:

- BIO 101/110 & BIO 103 Lab (3+1 credits).
- CMB 211 Microbiology for CELS and Nutrition Majors only OR CMB 201 Medical Microbiology for all other majors (both courses are 4 credits)
Pre-reqs for both: one semester of biology & one year of chemistry

STATISTICS & MATH

One semester of statistics is required. Some schools also require one semester of calculus:

- STA 307, 308, 409, or 411
- And
- MTH 131 or 141 (both are A1, B3)

SOCIAL SCIENCES

6 credits—one from each group below is recommended (some courses will have prerequisites).

- PSY 113, 232, 254, or 255
- And
- SOC 100, 204, or 224

BIOCHEMISTRY

- CMB 311 (3 credits)
Pre-req: CHM 124 or equivalent

Strongly Recommended:

- BIO/CMB 352 Genetics (4 credits)
Pre-reqs: BIO 101 and BIO 102
Recommended: Completion of CHM101 & 102 + CHM 227 or CHM124

Other Academic Considerations

AP Credits. Students with AP credit equivalent to required courses should take upper-level courses in the same subject. Consult with a pre-health advisor before taking upper-level courses.

Grades: Successful applicants generally achieve a grade point average of 3.6 or higher.

Major: "Pre-Health/Pre-Medical" is not a major at URI. Medical schools do not require or prefer any particular major. Students from almost any major can pursue the pre-medical curriculum in conjunction with their major and general education requirements.

EXPERIENTIAL EXPECTATIONS

Medical Schools look for applicants who have learned about the profession and developed a variety of “soft skills” or “competencies.” The following chart gives examples of work and activities in which medical school applicants from URI have been involved. **NOTE: this chart is intended as a guide, not a checklist:**

CLINICAL

- Blood bank volunteer
- COVID-19 hospital volunteer
- COVID-19 screener
- Emergency department volunteer
- EMT, on or off campus
- Hospice volunteer
- Neonatal unit volunteer
- Operating room assistant
- Scribing—hospital or outpatient/ambulatory care
- Shadowing—multiple specialties
- Volunteer, RI Free Clinic or Clínica Esperanza (scribe, med assistant, and/or patient intake)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Blood drive
- Community farm volunteer
- Connect for Health-Lifespan Hospitals
- Crisis counselor with text line
- Food bank/pantry volunteer
- Habitat for Humanity
- Homeless shelter volunteer
- Non-profit fundraiser
- Non-Violence Center volunteer
- Planned Parenthood volunteer/intern
- Sprout & STEM
- Volunteer at child bereavement center
- Women’s shelter volunteer

RESEARCH

- Coastal Fellow
- Field researcher-summer
- Honors project
- Undergraduate research assistant—multiple departments and programs across the University
- Science and Engineering Fellow
- Social science research
- SURF Fellow (URI INBRE & EPSCoR)

TEACHING, TUTORING, LEADERSHIP

- Course TA
- EMT course instructor
- Orientation leader
- Peer tutor (Academic Enhancement Center, multiple subjects)
- Pre-Health Ambassador
- Resident assistant (in URI residence halls)
- Student athlete advisory board
- Student clubs
- URI 101 mentor

DIVERSITY AND CULTURE

- Courses or research on healthcare disparities
- Courses or research on race, gender, class
- Learning a foreign language
- Muslim Student Association
- Research abroad
- Seeds of Success
- Study abroad
- Women in STEM

POST-GRADUATE (“GAP YEAR”)

- Americorps VISTA
- Clinical or laboratory research assistant—multiple sites, including: Rhode Island Hospital, Women and Infants Hospital, Miriam Hospital, Brigham and Women’s Hospital,
- EMT—paid and volunteer
- Medical assistant
- Medical scribe
- NIH Intramural Research Award
- Scribe program manager
- Teaching abroad

We strongly recommend that all premedical students familiarize themselves with the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Competencies for Entering Medical Students. They are explained on the AAMC website:

<https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/article/core-competencies>