

Preparing for the Health Professions at Kalamazoo College

Students preparing for entrance to graduate training in the health professions can major in any academic department as long as they fulfill the pre-requisites for the graduate program. It is important to note that medical schools do not discriminate against non-science majors.

Students preparing for a health profession at K can use the following curriculum as a general guideline but must pay close attention to pre-requisites specific for each profession. In addition, you must work closely with your academic advisor to make sure you are fulfilling requirements for graduation and for your major.

FIRST YEAR

BIOL 112
CHEM 110
CHEM 120
MATH 112 (or 110 AND 111)

SECOND YEAR

BIOL 246
CHEM 210
CHEM 220
PHYS 150
PHYS 152

UPPER LEVEL COURSEWORK (varies with program; consult catalog or curriculum guide)

BIOL/CHEM 352
BIOL 322
BIOL 370

HEALTHCARE EXPERIENCE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Recent (post high school) demonstrated interest in whatever profession you are preparing for is an absolute requirement for admission. Your desire to “help others” is demonstrated through community service.

HEALTH STUDIES CONCENTRATION

The Health Studies Concentration offers a broad, multidisciplinary perspective of healthcare so even if you don't formally complete the concentration, you may choose to take some of the recommended classes. It provides a broader survey of healthcare-related topics for the science major while providing a solid foundation in scientific principles and methods for the non-science major. See your academic catalog for details.

EMAILING LIST AND WEBSITE

To receive important announcements and information about upcoming events, put yourself on the Health Sciences information emailing list by sending an email to dkiino@kzoo.edu.

The Health Sciences web site located at <http://www.kzoo.edu/hsc> is a valuable resource for you containing links to many other health professions-related sites.

OFFICE HOURS (Dow 114)

Tuesdays 2-4
Thursdays 9-11
Other times by appointment

PROFESSOR DO's and DON'Ts (remember, you will need letters of evaluation from them later!)

DO...

Show a genuine interest in the subject. Science and medicine are multidisciplinary and the best clinicians and researchers have deep conceptual understandings of multiple disciplines and are

able to make connections between them. That is the strength of a liberal arts education and that is what we're all about at K (as you heard from our Convocation speakers).

DON'T say...

"Will I need to know this for the test?"

"But I need an A to get into medical school!" (Whether it's earned or not.)

"I don't really need to understand math because I'm going to be a clinician."

Below are qualities professional programs will assess when considering you for admission.* Be mindful of these as you begin your college career.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AND INTELLECTUAL ABILITY

INTELLECTUAL CAPACITY AND RETENTION: Ability to integrate and work with a large quantity of information and the ability to remember.

INTELLECTUAL KEENNESS AND DEPTH: Ability to quickly grasp, analyze and understand complex material and concepts.

ORIGINALITY AND IMAGINATION: Ability to envision and define new perspectives, arrangements, approaches.

RESOURCEFULNESS: Ability to manage resources already at hand, and to develop and manage new resources.

MOTIVATION FOR THE PROFESSION

ENJOYMENT OF AND COMMITMENT TO: (1) the study and application of science; (2) interacting and working with others; (3) providing service and assistance to others; and (4) the specific functions and activities of health delivery.

INDUSTRY: Application, energy perseverance, stamina and endurance.

INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS: Ability to work with and get along with others, rapport, cooperation, attitudes toward supervision.

EMPATHY: Sensitivity to the needs of others, consideration and tact.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS: Clarity of expression and articulation in oral and written communications.

PERSONALITY

MATURITY AND EMOTIONAL STABILITY: Personal development, ability to cope with life situations, performance under pressure, mood stability, consistency in ability to relate to others.

JUDGMENT: Ability to analyze an operational problem with common sense and decisiveness.

SELF-CONFIDENCE: Assuredness, capacity to achieve with awareness of own strengths and weaknesses.

INDEPENDENCE: Ability to act autonomously with productivity and comfort.

MORAL CHARACTER: Personal integrity and honesty.

DEPENDABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY: Reliability, promptness, conscientiousness.

*Adapted, with permission, from the University of Wisconsin Medical School's secondary application.

Health Professions Curriculum Guide

Discipline	Pre-professional Core Curriculum	Program-Specific Recommendations to Add to the Pre-professional Core						
		MD DO DDS	DVM	Chiropractic	Optometry Podiatry	Pharmacy	Physical Therapy	Physician Assistant Nursing
Biology	BIOL 112 BIOL 246	BIOL 123 BIOL 322 BIOL 370	BIOL 123 BIOL 370** BIOL 322** BIOL 376 PED 205**	BIOL 123 BIOL 376	BIOL 123	BIOL 123 BIOL 222 or H. anatomy BIOL 322*	BIOL 123 BIOL 218 or H. anatomy* BIOL 376*	BIOL 123 BIOL 222 or H. anatomy* BIOL 376* BIOL 322*
Chemistry	CHEM 110 CHEM 120 CHEM 210 CHEM 220	BIOL/CHEM 352*	BIOL/CHEM 352*	BIOL/CHEM 352*	BIOL/CHEM 352*			BIOL/CHEM 352*
Psychology	PSYC 101 OR PSYC 210				1 additional for OD		2 Additional*	1 Additional*
Physics		PHYS 150* PHYS 152* PHYS 210	PHYS 150* PHYS 152* PHYS 210	PHYS 150* PHYS 152* PHYS 210	PHYS 150* PHYS 152*	PHYS 150 PHYS 152	PHYS 150* PHYS 152*	
Math		MATH 112 or MATH 110/111 MATH 260	MATH 112 MATH 260	MATH 112	MATH 112 MATH 260	MATH 112 MATH 260	MATH 260*	MATH 260*
Composition/ Literature		WRIT130* 2 additional LIT AOS*	WRIT 130*		WRIT130* 2 additional LIT AOS*			
Other		PHIL 105 PHIL 305		Additional Soc Sci		ECON 106		PHIL 105 PHIL 305 Additional Soc Sci

*required pre-requisite

**required for MSU CVM

Programs Requiring More than One Quarter of Calculus

Medical*	Quarters	
UCSD	3	(calc, stats, OR CS)
Florida International	2	
Johns Hopkins	2	
Harvard	2	
Wash U	2	
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Dental**		
Boston University	2	(2nd can be stats)
Harvard	3	
Stony Brook	2	(2nd can be stats)
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Veterinary***		
Florida	2	(2nd can be stats)
Louisiana State	2	(2nd can be stats)
Pennsylvania	2	(2nd can be stats)
Tufts	2	(2nd can be stats)

About 25% of schools require 2 quarters of mathematics so students should plan to take either an additional quarter of calculus or a quarter of statistics in addition to MATH 112 (or MATH 110/111).

*2010-2011 Medical School Admissions Requirements (MSAR), AAMC 2009.

**ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools 2009, ADEA 2009.

***Veterinary Medical School Admission Requirements 2009, AAVMC 2008.