Health Career Prerequisites

What classes do I need to take? Being a pre-health student means that you will be responsible for keeping track of your major requirements (UCR degree requirements) as well as your health profession’s requirements. Below are general requirements for the most common health professions. REMEMBER: These general requirements can vary between schools. **Always double check the prerequisite courses of the schools you plan on applying to.**

Pre-Health Core Requirements

- 1 year of English
- 2 quarters of Calculus
- 1 year of General Chemistry with Lab
- 1 year of Biology with Lab
- 1 year of Organic Chemistry with Lab
- 1 year of Physics with Lab
- 1 quarter of Biochemistry

**In addition** to the core requirements above, a list of common prerequisites for several health professions are:

**Medicine (M.D. / D.O.)**
- 1 quarter of Statistics
- 2 quarters of General Psychology
- 1 quarter of General Sociology

**Dentistry (D.D.S. / D.M.D.)**
- 1 year Human Anatomy & Phys. w/ Lab
- 1 quarter Microbiology w/ Lab

*Recommended*
- Immunology
- Histology
- Molecular Biology
- Genetics

**Pharmacy (PharmD)**
- 1 quarter of Statistics
- 1 year of Human Anatomy & Phys. w/ Lab
- 1 quarter of Microbiology w/ Lab
- 1 quarter of Economics
- 1 quarter of Public Speaking

**Physical Therapy (D.P.T.)**
- 1 year of Human Anatomy & Phys. w/ Lab
- 1 quarter of Public Speaking

*Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry are not required*

**Optometry (O.D.)**
- 1 year of Human Anatomy & Phys. w/ Lab
- 1 quarter of Microbiology w/ Lab

**Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.)**
- 1 year of Anatomy & Phys. w/ Lab
- 1 quarter of Microbiology w/ Lab
- 2 quarters of Soc. / Behavioral Science
- 1 quarter of Genetics

**Podiatric Medicine (D.P.M.)**
- 1 quarter of Microbiology w/ Lab

*Recommended*
- 1 year of Human Anatomy & Phys. w/ Lab

In addition to the core requirements above, a list of common prerequisites for several health professions are:

**Nursing** and **Physician Assistant** programs do not follow the same core requirements as listed above. The prerequisites for these programs are listed below.

**Nursing**
- 1 year of math: college algebra & Statistics
- 1 year of English
- 1 year of Chemistry w/ Lab
- 1 year of Human Anatomy & Phys. w/ Lab
- 1 quarter of Microbiology w/ Lab
- 1 quarter of Psychology
- 1 quarter of Nutrition
- 1 quarter of Public Speaking

**Physician’s Assistant (P.A.)**
- 1 year of math: college algebra & Statistics
- 1 year of English
- 1 year of General Chemistry w/ Lab
- 1 year of General Biology w/lab
- 1 year of Human Anatomy & Phys. w/ Lab
- 1 quarter of Microbiology w/ Lab
- 1 quarter of Psychology

*1 quarter of Organic/Biochemistry and Biology may be required*
It is important to remember to complete both your major requirements and your pre-health requirements as these do not always overlap. Be sure to contact your academic advisor with any questions/concerns you have with enrollment, courses, units offered at UC Riverside that correspond to the pre-health requirements.

**MATH**
- MATH 007A/009A - First Year Calculus
- MATH 007B/009B - First Year Calculus
- STAT 100A - Intro. to Statistics

For students whose AP credit replaced classes above*
- MATH 009C - First Year Calculus
- MATH 010A - Calculus: Several Variables
- MATH 010B - Calculus: Several Variables
- MATH 046 - Intro to Ordinary Differential Equations

**ENGLISH**
- ENGL 001A - English Composition
- ENGL 001B - English Composition
- ENGL 001C - English Composition

For students whose AP credit replaced classes above*
- ENGL 020A - Intro. to British Literature
- ENGL 020B - Intro. to American Literature
- ENGL 020C - Intro. to Critical Perspective
- CRWT 056 - Intro. to Creative Writing
- CRWT 176 - Topics in Craft of Writing

**GENERAL CHEMISTRY**
- CHEM 001A – General Chemistry
- CHEM 011A – General Chemistry Lab
- CHEM 001B – General Chemistry
- CHEM 011B – General Chemistry Lab
- CHEM 001C – General Chemistry
- CHEM 011C – General Chemistry Lab

**CHEMISTRY**
- CHEM 01LC – General Chemistry Lab

**BIOLOGY**
- BIOL 005A - General Biology
- BIOL 05LA /02 - General Biology Lab
- BIOL 005B with lab - General Biology
- BIOL 005C with lab - General Biology

**ORGANIC CHEMISTRY**
- CHEM 08A with lab - Organic Chemistry
- CHEM 08B with lab - Organic Chemistry
- CHEM 08C with lab - Organic Chemistry

**PHYSICS**
- PHYS 002A - General Physics
- PHYS 02LA - General Physics Lab
- PHYS 002B - General Physics
- PHYS 02LB - General Physics Lab
- PHYS 002C - General Physics
- PHYS 02LC - General Physics Lab

**BIOCHEMISTRY**
- BCH 100 - Elementary Biochemistry
- BCH 110 A, B, C - General Biochemistry

**PSYCHOLOGY**
- PSYC 001 - Intro to Psych. (Experimental)
- PSYC 002 - Intro to Psych. (Social Sciences)

**SOCIOLOGY**
- SOC 001 - Intro. to Sociology

**ECONOMICS**
- ECON 002 - Intro. to Macroeconomics
- ECON 003 - Intro. to Microeconomics

**PUBLIC SPEAKING**
- TFDP 050S - Public Speaking

**UPPER DIVISION BIOLOGY**
- BIOL 102 - Introductory Genetics
- BIOL 107A - Molecular Biology
- BIOL 121 - Microbiology
- BIOL 121L - Microbiology Lab
- BIOL 128 - Immunology

**ANATOMY / PHYSIOLOGY**
- BIOL 161A - Functional Anatomy of Vertebrates
- BIOL 161B - Functional Anatomy of Vertebrates
- BIOL 171 - Human Anatomy & Physiology
- BIOL 171L - Human Anatomy & Physiology Lab

UCR does not offer a full year of Human Anatomy and Physiology**

**Please see an HPAC Advisor regarding taking this series outside of UCR.

More information can be found at HPAC.ucr.edu under the “Preparation Requirements” tab.

Have you met with an HPAC advisor?

Pre-health advisors in the Health Professions Advising Center (HPAC) are highly skilled and resourced to discuss and advise on most issues regarding pre-health admissions criteria. Advisors spend a great deal of time discussing pre-health course requirements, co-curricular involvement, personal statement review, professional test preparation, and much more.

If you have not seen an HPAC advisor or have questions regarding a pre-health path, please contact HPAC to set up an appointment.