

Preparation for Graduate and Professional Study

Health Professions

Students pursuing full four-year degree programs as premedical or pre dental preparation normally earn the Bachelor of Science degree with a major in either biology or chemistry, but they are free to follow any degree program provided they complete the specific premedical or pre dental requirements.

Students should familiarize themselves with the general admission requirements of the profession which they aspire to enter in addition to those of specific schools of their choice. The Coordinator of Pre-Health Professions Studies, Dr. Gwendolyn Kinebrew of the Biology Department, is available for individual advising. In addition, general meetings are held each year to provide information for each class level. Faculty advisors in the biological and physical sciences are also available to act in an educational and advising capacity. Students are encouraged to avail themselves of these resources.

The Health Professions Advisory Committee is the university agent which recommends students to medical and dental schools. The committee, rather than individual faculty members, issues letters of recommendation. The recommendation of the committee is based not only on academic performance but also on factors such as integrity, industry, maturity, judgment, and social development.

Post-baccalaureate students who have not received their undergraduate degree from John Carroll may use the Health Professions Advisory Committee as the source for their letter of recommendation if they so choose. Normally such students should have completed 24 semester hours of course work at John Carroll, which may include the semester in which they interview before the committee.

Current admission practices of health professional schools suggest student qualifications considerably higher than the minimum C average required for graduation. Normally, therefore, a letter of evaluation will be written only for applicants to medical school who have achieved a grade-point average of 3.0 overall and 3.0 in science courses (biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics), and for applicants to dental school who have achieved a grade-point average of 2.75 overall and 2.75 in science courses (biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics).

Medicine

The requirements of medical schools are summarized in *Admission Requirements of American Medical Colleges*, published annually by the Association of American Medical Colleges. Applicants for medical school must take the Medical College Admission Test. Since this test is usually taken in late spring of the junior year, premedical students should have completed or be completing the basic requirements for medical school by that time. Those requirements are generally one year each of general chemistry, organic chemistry, physics, biology, and math. They are usually fulfilled at

Graduate and Professional Study

John Carroll by taking CH 141-144 and 221-224; PH 125, 125L, 126, and 126L; BL 155-158; and MT 135-136 (MT 228 may be substituted for MT 136). A bachelor's degree is almost invariably required.

John Carroll also participates in two special programs for premedical students: (1) the Dual Admission Program is an early-decision program for high school students in conjunction with the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine and must be applied to during the early part of the senior year in high school; (2) the MEDStart Program, offered with the Medical College of Ohio, is an early-decision program for John Carroll first-semester juniors. Details of these programs are available on the JCU website (/prehealth) or from the coordinator of pre-health professions studies.

Dentistry

The Council on Dental Education of the American Dental Association lists the minimum educational requirements for admission to a dental school as follows: (1) Students must successfully complete two full years of study in an accredited liberal arts college. (2) In most states, the basic requirements of pre-dental education are the same as those of premedical education noted above. Those requirements are generally one year each of general chemistry, organic chemistry, physics, biology, and math. They are usually fulfilled at John Carroll by taking CH 141-144 and 221-224, PH 125, 125L, 126, 126L, BL 155-158, and MT 135-136. (3) Students must complete a minimum of 64 credit hours from liberal or general education courses, such as English, mathematics, philosophy, and religious studies, which give breadth to their educational background. Applicants must take the Dental Aptitude Test. This test is usually taken in late spring of the junior year, by which time the basic pre-dental requirements should be completed. Although students with only two or three years of undergraduate education are occasionally admitted to schools of dentistry, that is the exception rather than the rule.

In addition to medicine and dentistry, there are a number of occupations available in the health-care delivery area that are in the process of expanding. Students are encouraged to explore and consider such fields as podiatry, physical therapy, occupational therapy, pharmacy, nursing, optometry, veterinary medicine, and physician assistant. Most of these occupations require a baccalaureate degree with additional education at the graduate level. Information and advising are available from the coordinator of pre-health professions studies.