**Introduction:** This information is based on the general requirements of (>50%) medical schools across the nation. It will be up to each student to research schools of interest and to finalize any remaining requirements.

- It is strongly advised that students take every course tested on the MCAT (marked with *).
- Medical schools do not require any particular major. Students should select a major based on academic strengths and interests.
- Each student should develop an academic plan based on their investigation of medical school requirements and the requirements for their degree.
- A draft of this academic plan needs to be reviewed with the student’s Advisor from their major.

### Required by **MOST** Medical Schools

**Chemistry:** 2 Semesters
*General Chemistry I: CHEM 1031 + CHEM 1033
*General Chemistry II: CHEM 1032 + CHEM 1034

**Organic Chemistry:** 2 Semesters
*Organic Chemistry I: CHEM 2201 + CHEM 2203
*Organic Chemistry II: CHEM 2202 + CHEM 2204

**Biology:** 2 Semesters
*Introduction to Biology I: BIOL 1111
*Introduction to Biology II: BIOL 2112

**Physics:** 2 Semesters
Physics requirement dictated by major. Content covered in Physics 2021 / 2022 is recommended.
*Physics I: PHYS 2021 (or 1061 or 1021)
*Physics II: PHYS 2022 (or 1062 or 1022)

### Required by **SOME** Medical Schools

**Math:** 2 Semesters
Math requirements vary greatly. Some schools recommend Calculus or Statistics while others need just 2 semesters of college-level math.
Calculus I: MATH 1041
Calculus II: MATH 1042
Statistics: MATH 1044, PSY 1167, PSY 1003, SOC 1167, BIOL 5312

**English:** 2 Semesters
Some schools consider any writing intensive course.
Analytical Reading & Writing: ENG 0802
Mosaic I: IH 0851
Mosaic II: IH 0852

*Tested on the MCAT

**Social Sciences:** 2 Semesters
*Introduction to Psychology: PSY 1001
*Introduction to Sociology: SOC 1176 (or 1576)

**Upper Level Sciences:**
Refer to schools of interest if any additional sciences are required. Recommended courses below:
*Biochemistry: BIOL 4375 or CHEM 4401
Genetics: BIOL 2296
Cell Structure and Function: BIOL 3096
Mammalian Anatomy: BIOL 2233
Mammalian Physiology: BIOL 3334
Histology: BIO 2235
Sample Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
<th>Summer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Chemistry I</td>
<td>Chemistry II Biology I</td>
<td>Exposure to Medicine Community Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry I Biology II</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry II Psychology Sociology</td>
<td>Continue Volunteering Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Physics I Biochemistry MCAT Prep</td>
<td>Physics II</td>
<td>MCAT Exam by May/June Apply to Medical School by June/July Secondary Applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Any Additional Requirements Medical School Interviews</td>
<td>Any Additional Requirements Medical School Interviews</td>
<td>Take a break before Medical School!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This timeline is an example of how you may wish to take courses *in a perfect world*. Timing of these courses may change due to placement exams or major requirements. In addition to these courses, each student will fit in any classes required by their major. Develop an academic plan based on the sequence above that is tailored to your needs so that you and your advisor can discuss your plan.

*Visit Temple’s bulletin to view the availability and prerequisites of each course: [www.temple.edu/courses](http://www.temple.edu/courses)*

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ePortfolio

ePortfolio is a tool that will help students stay organized for a professional school application. Through the ePortfolio process, students will set up a ‘mock application’ that includes GPAs and professional development experiences. ePortfolio drafts are due to PPHS June 30th two years before students plan to enter professional school. Competitive students who complete the ePortfolio are considered for an interview by the Pre-Health Evaluation Committee. Interviewed students will be offered a committee letter of recommendation and may have additional letters sent from PPHS to professional schools as they apply.

*The circle to the right represents four areas that are important for admission to professional school. As you embark on your journey to medical school, think about ways to enhance each of these four sections.*

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Pre-Professional Health Studies (PPHS)  
Mitten Hall, Suite 110 | 215-204-2513

[www.temple.edu/healthadvising](http://www.temple.edu/healthadvising)  
healthadvising@temple.edu
Application Process: A centralized application service is available through the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) for MD granting schools or the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Service (AACOMAS) for DO granting schools. Applications are submitted one year before students expect to enter medical school and are available for submission in early June. Schools view applicants on a rolling basis – apply early when the application opens!

Undergraduate Major: There is no preferred major for medical school. Students should select a major that they find interesting and consider a strength.

GPA: Medical schools will consider both a student’s overall and math/science GPA. Math/science GPA is calculated using scores from any course taken in the departments of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Math. An overall and math/science GPA of 3.5 or above is preferred. GPAs below 3.0 will need to consider Post-Baccalaureate coursework / programs before applying.

Medical College Admission Test (MCAT): The following subjects are tested on the MCAT. Any courses in these areas should be completed prior to taking the exam. This test is often taken the same summer in which the student applies to professional school (one year before walking through the doors of medical school). A test date in May would allow a student to see their scores before applying when the application opens in June. Remember, take time to prepare for the exam. The latest you should take it is by the first week of September of the year before you expect to enter medical school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biology</th>
<th>Biochemistry</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic Chemistry</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>Critical Reasoning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Professional Development: Medical schools will first review your numbers (Overall GPA, Math/Science GPA, MCAT scores). If these are in a competitive range, they will then assess your extracurricular and volunteer experiences. Exposure to Medicine, community service, and research encompass an important part of your preparation for medical school. Demonstrated experiences in healthcare, clinical health settings in particular, need to be a part of your profile for future admission.

Letters of Recommendation: Medical schools will highly prefer a Committee Letter (Committee Letters from PPHS serve as a cover letter for your individual letters from faculty and mentors). A Committee Letter **will not replace** the need to have other recommendation letters! A Committee Letter will, however, better highlight your strengths as an applicant. Begin to consider letter writers early. Letters may be submitted to PPHS from letter writers directly by using the “Professional School Recommendation Form” on the PPHS website.

**NOTE:** Letters will only be sent to AMCAS or AACOMAS through PPHS from applicants you have: (1) completed the ePortfolio process in the appropriate timeframe; (2) interviewed with a member of the Pre-Health Evaluation Committee; and (3) supplied exam scores. Visit PPHS as you first enroll at Temple University for more details.

Additional Resources:
Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC): [www.aamc.org](http://www.aamc.org)
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM): [www.aacom.org](http://www.aacom.org)