

PRE-MEDICINE

Updated 06/30/09

Name: _____ ID #: _____

Degree Requirements for students seeking matriculation to Loma Linda University:

1. If you are planning to attend another university, please visit the Office of Pre-Health Professions early during your academic career so that we may assist you in meeting for Medical School.
2. **G.P.A:** To be competitive students should have a 3.5 or higher in both their overall and science (BCPM-Biology, Chemistry, Physics & Math) GPA.
3. **B.A. Degree:** A degree is required to attend Medical school.
4. **AP and CLEP:** These exams do not meet Medical School requirements for any science class, and will not be accepted.
5. **Application deadline:** Applications are submitted during the end of the junior year. AAMCAS (American Association of Medical Schools Application Service) usually opens in May/June. It is important that you apply as early as possible as this improves your chances of acceptance.

	Domain/Course(s)	Units
	Required Courses:	
	General Biology I (BIOL 111 & Lab)	5
	General Biology II (BIOL 112 & Lab)	5
	General Biology III (BIOL 113 & Lab)	5
	General Chemistry I (CHEM 111 & Lab)	5
	General Chemistry II (CHEM 112 & Lab)	5
	General Chemistry III (CHEM 113 & Lab)	5
	Organic Chemistry I (CHEM 371)	3
	Organic Chemistry II (CHEM 372 & Lab)	4
	Organic Chemistry III (CHEM 373 & Lab)	4
	General Physics I (PHYS 231 & Lab)	5
	General Physics II (PHYS 232 & Lab)	5
	General Physics III (PHYS 233 & Lab)	5
	College English I (ENGL 111)	3
	College English II (ENGL 112)	3
	College English III (ENGL 113)	3
	Recommended Courses:	
	Highly Recommended: Biochemistry (CHEM 491, 492. The lab is not required)	3
	Introduction to Medicine (MDCN 204)	2
	Calculus (MATH 131)	4
	Upper Division Biology Courses: Histology (BIOL 434), Anatomy (BIOL 446 & Lab), Physiology (BIOL 466 & Lab)	5
	Interpersonal Communication (COMM 244)	5
	Psychology (two courses): Recommended: Physician Patient Communication (PSYC 482B)	8

Timeline

	Freshman		Junior
1.	Meet with your Academic CSAS Coach.	1.	Go to the OPHP website and print out the recommendation packet (www.lasierra.edu/departments/prehealth). Complete and submit by the deadline.
2.	Become acquainted with the Office of Pre-Health Professions.	2.	Take the MCAT by the summer of your junior year.
3.	Join the Pre-Medical Club.	3.	Take prep course for the MCAT.
4.	Explore the field of Medicine e.g. shadow, take intro to Med.	4.	Prepare for your interview with Medical schools.
5.	Attend the Pre-Health Conference.		
	Sophomore		Senior
1.	Meet with the Office of Pre-Health Professions	1.	Complete all classes for your degree and Medical school
2.	Participate, e.g. mission's trips, volunteer, shadow, clubs, salsu.	2.	Complete your Medical school interview
4.	Get to know your science teachers.	3.	Wait for your acceptance letter (This can take awhile).
	Attend pre-health seminars and the Pre-Health Conference.	4.	Graduate and Matriculate

The Office of Pre-Health Professions is dedicated to providing quality service to La Sierra University students, faculty and staff. Our primary goal is to address your pre-professional needs. As a service-based department, we accept walk-ins on a daily basis. We endeavor to answer all of your questions about careers in the health field; no question is too small for our attention. We are located in Palmer Hall, home of the Chemistry department and next door to the Thaine B. Price Science Complex.

Office of Pre-Health Professions

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Career opportunities and related occupations: A growing and aging population will contribute to the overall increase in the number of physicians needed, especially in underserved areas, such as inner city and rural areas. Outstanding career opportunities can be found in these locations. Because of efforts nationally to control health care costs and limitations on use of specialty services, a lower number of specialists will be in demand. Therefore, prospects are best for those choosing general or internal medicine, as well as geriatric and pediatric medicine. However, unlike the situation several decades ago, physicians face radically different choices of where and how to practice as new patterns of practice are becoming the norm. Physicians may choose from a variety of settings such as working in a managed care system (HMO, PPO), a clinic, hospital, laboratory, industrial, or military venues, or in a combination of these. Physicians are currently becoming more attuned to health promotion and prevention of disease by providing education and information to help individuals adopt healthier lifestyles.

Educational Qualifications: The minimum educational requirement for entry into most US and Canadian medical schools is a 4-year Bachelor's degree (any major). Additionally, many applicants have formal education beyond a BA/BS, and may also have had a variety of experiences in the health care field. In medical school, students spend most of the first two years in laboratories and classrooms studying the basic sciences such as anatomy, biochemistry, physiology, pharmacology, medical ethics and other subjects with some clinical exposure. During the last two years, students proceed through clinical rotations working with patients in hospitals, which consists of on-the-job training in one or more specialties, under the direction of experts in that discipline. Once completed the physician must pass national board exams before they are licensed to practice medicine. Many states also require the passing of state board exams.

Overall, becoming a physician requires physical, emotional and intellectual stamina and lots of perseverance. It takes the desire to work with and for people, and particularly, the ability to use critical thinking to solve problems. Prospective physicians must be prepared to study throughout their careers to keep up with medical advances, and to be flexible enough to respond to changes in the healthcare system.

Salary: The national average income for physicians is \$140,000-177,000 and the average income for California is \$119,000-168,000. For the most updated information on salaries visit: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics at <http://www.bls.gov/bls/blswage.htm>.

Websites:	Loma Linda University:	Professional Organizations
<p>La Sierra University: www.lasierra.edu/departments/prehealth</p> <p>Loma Linda University: www.llu.edu</p>	<p>School of Medicine Loma Linda University Loma Linda, CA 92350 Phone: 909-558-4467 Website: www.llu.edu/llu/medicine/</p>	<p>American Medical Association 515 N. State Street Chicago, IL 60654 Phone: (800) 621-8335 Website: www.ama-assn.org/</p>