



WHAT TO DO

- Explore:** Careers
Majors
Campus activities
Community
- Enjoy:** All of the above
Find your passion
Make time for you
- Focus:** Grades
Standardized tests
(MCAT, DAT, GRE,
etc.)
Service
Application process

Introduction to the Prehealth Advising Program

Clark's Prehealth Advising Program prepares students to attend medical school and other health professional training programs.

Whether you hope to become a physician, pharmacist, dentist, or another type of health professional, Clark is committed to helping you find the right path. Our low student-faculty ratio means you will get to know your professors through small classes and research collaboration. Outside of Clark, Worcester abounds with hospitals and other healthcare settings for opportunities to intern, volunteer, network, job-shadow, and more.

CORE COURSES

Most health professional schools require you to take specific courses during your undergraduate career, so it's important to plan your schedule early. Courses required by most medical schools include the following, as well as biochemistry, statistics, and behavioral science courses such as psychology or sociology:

- Introductory Chemistry (two semesters)
- Introductory Biology (two semesters)
- Introductory Physics (two semesters)
- Organic Chemistry (two semesters)
- English (two semesters)

"My decision to choose Clark is reaffirmed every day. I like that people aren't afraid to be themselves. Everybody has their own thing."

— LUCYNA KOGUT '18, MEDICAL STUDENT, UMASS MEDICAL SCHOOL



58+

years advising Clark students pursuing health careers

PREHEALTH

DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY



Explore and navigate Clark curriculum



Connect and engage with communities



Discover and pursue your passions



Develop professional skills



Reflect, design and plan

YEAR 1

YEAR 2



Learn about prehealth

Attend an orientation session for the prehealth program (premedical, pre dental, etc.). Talk with the prehealth adviser.



Follow your passions

There is no statistical evidence that the choice of major significantly affects an applicant's chances of being accepted to medical school. Follow your passions and academic interests when you select your major.



Start strong

Plan your course of study (four years) to include all required courses. Develop good study habits and time-management skills to help you attain good grades.



Expand your interests

Try out extracurricular activities that develop valuable personal attributes and provide relevant experience, such as sports, clubs, student government, community service, or volunteering in a medical setting.



Build your skills

Look for employment or volunteer opportunities that add to your skills and experience and build the personal attributes you want to have.



Learn about campus resources

Make ClarkYou your default homepage and explore student resources related to academics, campus life, and health and wellness.



Stay the course

Continue working on study habits and time management to improve your grades or keep them at a high level in increasingly rigorous courses.



Choose a major

Focus on a path that allows you to complete and excel in all required courses plus other learning opportunities that will help you on standardized exams.



Get connected

Foster relationships with faculty who will write letters of recommendation. Reach out to the Prehealth Advising Office to learn about the resources we offer.



Lay the foundation

Begin preparing for standardized exams (MCAT, DAT, GRE, etc.) by reviewing science courses you have taken, using commercially available study guides, and taking practice exams.



Explore research opportunities

As with anything you do, passion and commitment to excellence are key to success in research.



Focus on your career goals

Reach out to the Career Connections Center for help in exploring internships. Search ClarkCONNECT for alumni that can serve as mentors to help guide you along your path and provide job-shadowing or other opportunities. Look for employment that provides relevant experience.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

CAREER OPTIONS

Graduates work in diverse fields of medicine as well as in dentistry, veterinary medicine, genetic counseling, occupational therapy, pharmacy, public health, and more.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Alumni have gone on to top medical, dental, veterinary and other programs across the country including Harvard Medical School, Tufts, Vanderbilt University and more.

YEAR 3



Continue to prepare

Get ready for the standardized exams: take practice exams, identify weak areas, study, repeat.



Look ahead

Review the application process for your professional pathway, focusing on requirements and deadlines. Register early to take the MCAT. If you have not already done so, contact the Prehealth Careers Advising Office and let them know you intend to apply. Start requesting letters of reference from faculty.



Use your resources

Consult with your advisers about crafting your personal statement — arguably the most important single page you will ever write — and completing your experience descriptions.



Refine your plans

Make final decisions about which schools to apply to. Complete the AMCAS application (or another as needed). Take the MCAT. The steps to apply to medical school are also part of the Premed Checklist.



Keep building skills

Find a job or research fellowship that keeps you engaged in a health-related field.



Pre-flight check

Take a deep breath, look around you, see what's going on in the world (especially in the world of healthcare), and start thinking about how you would answer questions in an interview.

YEAR 4



Stay on track

Complete courses required for your major, graduation from Clark, and your intended professional program.



Put yourself out there

Practice interviewing. Plan your finances and consult with your professors about exam schedules so that you will have the money and time required for interviews.



Work with us

Keep our office apprised of all communications with schools, especially interview dates. If you do not get interviews, consult with us about preparing to reapply or exploring alternatives. (See: What if I'm not accepted?)



Plan ahead

Be sure to get your financial aid applications in on time — the earlier the better. Delaying your financial aid package can jeopardize your ability to choose the most cost-effective school.



No regrets!

Do not fear a gap period after graduation. Take the time necessary to make yourself the best applicant you can be. With more relevant experience, greater maturity, and demonstrated commitment to your profession of choice, you will make a much stronger impression on admissions committees.



Keep investing in yourself

Consider a postbaccalaureate program as needed to address any academic deficiencies (such as weak GPA or missing prerequisites).



AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR!

Training programs look for strong academic work, personal attributes, and skills.

Successful applicants demonstrate passion and the ability to excel in whatever they do. They often work as EMTs, volunteer at hospitals, or spend time in healthcare settings aligned with their prospective career path. They also show leadership, compassion, communication skills, and other valuable traits, and leave a positive legacy in their community. Sustained community engagement in non-clinical environments, through volunteerism and other activities, is as important as academic excellence.

CONNECT WITH US!

Arthur M. Sackler Sciences Center, S228

950 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01610

clarku.edu/departments/prehealth/
508-793-7119

Advising

We are here to help through your Clark career and beyond.

We help you navigate the requirements and options associated with finding the right health profession. Our advising services are available to all Clark students and alumni.

CLARK
UNIVERSITY



Challenge Convention.
Change Our World.

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clarku.edu