



## Prospective Student FAQ's

### **General Questions**

#### **What high school classes should I take to prepare for a pre-health track?**

There are no set courses that you have to take, but an introductory course in biology, chemistry, calculus or physics can be beneficial as an overview of the subject. If your high school offers advanced courses in the sciences, math or statistics, they could help prepare you for college courses.

#### **Should I take AP science courses?**

Sure, if you are interested in taking AP coursework, go for it. Be sure to have your scores sent to Emory. We can evaluate whether or not to apply the credit towards your Emory transcript. Emory only accepts 4/5 on AP and 5/6/7 on IB tests.

#### **What if my school doesn't offer AP science/math courses?**

That's ok. You will have no problem fitting in the necessary pre-requisites for professional school during your undergraduate career.

#### **I'm considering pre-med/pre-health, why should I choose Emory?**

Emory University has an entire pre-health staff dedicated to serving as a resource for you. The Pre-Health Mentoring Office (PHMO) offers a multitude of resources throughout your undergraduate career to help you become a competitive applicant.

Emory has a robust pre-health advising/support system and offers advising and opportunities to students considering pre-health tracks beginning in the first year. The PHMO has a director and two full time advisors who work with pre-health students. In addition, the Career Center also has two pre-health career counselors.

The PHMO has a peer mentor program that connects upperclassmen with first year students and others new to the pre-health track.

All pre-health students are encouraged to participate in the Pre-Health Holistic Review (PHHR) during the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year to assess pre-health goals and accomplishments, review plans and make suggestions/referrals.

Emory offers a composite letter to students applying to medical, dental, podiatric, optometry or veterinary school.

PHMO advisors will work with students at any stage of the pre-health journey until you are applying to graduate schools (the Career Center takes over as primary advisors at that time).



### **What is the most popular major for pre-health/pre-med students?**

Pre-health/pre-med students major in lots of different subject areas. We encourage students to major in what they are passionate about and interested in studying.

Some of the most common majors are Biology, Chemistry and NBB, however our pre-health students have majored in all areas the College offers. In general Emory's most popular majors are Biology, Economics and Math.

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### ***Medical/Healthcare Professional School Admission Questions***

#### **What's the medical school acceptance rate of Emory undergrads?**

The application class of 2013 included 403 applicants. 217 or 54% were accepted into medical schools. This is greater than the national acceptance rate of 45.2% according to this chart: <https://www.aamc.org/download/321508/data/2012factstable24.pdf>

The Emory acceptance data is published by the Career Center annually and found here: <http://career.emory.edu/prehealth/statistics.html>

Medical school acceptance is dependent on a number of factors determined by the admission boards of each medical school. While academics and test scores are important, schools may have particular requirements (e.g. residency, interest in rural medicine, research, etc.) that affect admission rates.

#### **Does Emory's School of Medicine (SOM) have seats reserved for Emory undergrads?**

No Emory's SOM does not reserve a certain number of seats; however the PHMO does have a strong relationship with Emory's SOM. Emory does not have a guaranteed admission program.

#### **Can Emory undergraduates take classes at the SOM?**

No, undergraduate students cannot enroll in SOM courses. Undergraduate students may be able to take graduate level courses in their major area. Many students who pursue an Honor's Thesis are also required to take graduate level courses.



## **Academic Advising Questions**

### **Can I speak with a pre-health advisor to plan my schedule?**

As an Emory student, yes. We limit prospective students, but will host programs during Admitted Student Days. The PHMO offers 15 minute walk-in appointments every day during the week and scheduled 30 minute or, 1 hour appointments with an advisor. First year students are also required to meet with peer mentors for a PHMO orientation as well.

### **Will pre-health advisors be able to advise me on other professions besides medicine?**

Yes, pre-health advisors are familiar with many health professions. We encourage students to explore as many different health professions to validate his/her decision to pursue a certain health career. We also work closely with the career center and often refer students to a career counselor to explore other options as well. The PHMO website will be a good source of information for exploring healthcare fields and advising. You can get started by spending time on our Explore Healthcare pages.

### **What Services does the PHMO provide?**

- Orientation sessions/class selection
- Walk-in hours (all students, M-F)
- Peer Mentor Orientation (geared toward first year students and students new to pre-health)
- Scheduled appointments (mostly for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester Freshmen-Seniors)
- Pre-Health Holistic Review (geared for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year students)
- Composite Letter (for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year students applying to medical, dental, podiatry, optometry or vet school)
- Study Skills/Advising workshops

### **What pre-health resources are available to Oxford Students? Do Oxford students have equal access to PHMO resources?**

The PHMO visits Oxford during Orientation and provides training/resources for Oxford faculty. Oxford students are welcome to schedule/attend advising sessions on the Atlanta campus. First year students are encouraged to attend a peer mentor orientation session. During the second year, the PHMO has a special session for Oxford Students during Oxford Day. Oxford students are encouraged to complete a PHHR with a PHMO advisor during their second year (while at Oxford), or during summer/fall when they transition to the Atlanta campus.

### **What services does the Career Center provide for pre-health?**

While the Career Center does not handle academic advising, counselors are knowledgeable of pre-requisites and other requirements. Pre-Health Career Counselors can assist with selecting the right health field and work with the PHMO. Career Counselors also help with the application process (personal statements, mock interviews, school selection,



professional networking, graduate school fairs etc.). The Career Center will also work with alumni, or with students who may need to consider alternate career paths.

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### ***Academic Support Questions***

#### **Is there peer support for pre-health students?**

Yes, there are peer mentors available to meet with students (current pre-health students), and a full staff of professionals dedicated to working with pre-health students.

#### **Is there academic support available?**

Yes, there are all different types of resources available for students such as: peer mentors (supplemental instruction), tutoring sessions (group and individual), workshops, learning specialists, etc.

#### **Does Emory provide test prep courses for the MCAT, GRE, etc.?**

Emory's center for [Continuing Education](#) does offer an MCAT prep course. The PHMO can connect students with other resources to prepare for admission's exams.

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### ***Extracurricular Questions***

#### **Can first year students get involved in research?**

Yes. There are various ways to get involved with research such as formal programs like the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience, working with professors in departments, completing an honor's thesis, research courses, etc. We can connect you with resources that fit your interests in research.

#### **Does Emory have a formal shadowing program?**

We do not have a formal shadowing program, but we can connect you with resources for shadowing. We also provide you with tips for how to connect with healthcare professionals.

#### **Can students shadow/work at the Emory Hospital, Clinic, etc.?**

The Emory Healthcare Network provides lots of opportunities for students to get involved in medically related experiences; however students need to be proactive about setting up opportunities. There are formal clinical volunteer programs at Emory Clinic, and many students work as medical scribes as well. We can work with students on an individual basis to connect to resources.



**Can pre-health students study abroad? What study abroad programs would be best for a pre-health student?**

Yes, pre-health students can study abroad, and while it takes some planning, it can be a very rewarding experience.

Students can choose to study abroad during a summer or a semester. Many pre-health students choose summer programs so they can continue with sequenced courses and/or research and other opportunities during the year.

Students may choose to study abroad to fulfill GERs (e.g. language requirements), major requirements or participate in a program that has a “medical” focus (e.g. Comparative Health Program in England, or Italian Studies with a focus on medial humanities).