Pre-Health Professions

The Pre-Health Professions program, available to students in any major, is designed for students who plan to attend a health professional school following graduation from W&J. A faculty committee from a range of academic disciplines oversees the program and provides guidance, advice, resources, and opportunities to prepare students to be competitive applicants. These faculty also provide formal committee recommendations to students applying to medical, dental, veterinary, podiatry, physician assistant, physical therapy, occupational therapy, optometry, or pharmacy school.

Pre-Health Courses

Students must take 10-14 courses to meet the undergraduate course requirements for health professional schools. Specific course requirements depend on the health profession to which the student is applying.

As an example, applicants to allopathic (M.D.) or osteopathic (D.O.) medical school, dental school, or podiatry school take the following courses:
- BIO 121 Foundations in Biology: Cell and Molecular Biology
- BIO 131 Foundations in Biology: Organismal Biology
- BCH 333 Biochemistry
- CHM 160 Organic Chemistry I
- CHM 170 Organic Chemistry II
- CHM 260 Inorganic Chemistry
- CHM 270 Analytical Chemistry
- PHY 101 or 107 Intro or Gen Physics I
- PHY 102 or 108 Intro or Gen Physics II
- MTH 151 Calculus I
- One other calculus or statistics course
- ENG 111 or 112 Composition
- One literature course

Course requirements for other professional schools can be found in the pre-health handbook on the program website.

Beyond the Classroom

Students have many opportunities for research, internships, conferences, and networking beyond the classroom that give them an advantage to prepare for life after W&J.

Research and Internships

- Jefferson Hospital Health Coach Internship in which students are assigned individual patients
- Shadowing program with Washington Hospital Family Medicine Residency Program
- On-campus scientific research with W&J faculty
- Summer off-campus biomedical and clinical research at institutions such as the NIH, Johns Hopkins, University of Pittsburgh, Cambridge

Affiliation Agreements

- Accelerated 3+4 programs with Sidney Kimmel Medical College (Thomas Jefferson University) and Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University
- Early acceptance agreements with Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University and the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmacy
- Reserved seats for W&J students at Chatham University’s PT, OT, and PA programs

Recent Acceptances

- Medical: Temple, University of Pittsburgh, Virginia, Ohio State, Massachusetts, Thomas Jefferson University, Penn State, Drexel, Rochester, PCOM, LECOM
- Dental: University of Pittsburgh, Temple, Penn, NYU
- Veterinary: Penn, Edinburgh, Florida
- Optometry: Salus University, Massachusetts College of Health Science
- Physician Assistant: Chatham, Marietta, Mercyhurst

A full list of courses and descriptions can be found online in the College catalog.