

Thank you for considering Dickinson in your college search!

We are glad that you are exploring our campus as you choose the one that will be your home over the next four years of your life. While we hope this information will be useful, you are welcome to contact the Career Center Pre-Health Professions Advisor, a member of the National Association of Advisors for the Health Professions (NAAHP), if you have additional questions.

Over the past few years, there have been more changes about the entry into the health professions than at any point in the past 100 years. While we previously helped to prepare more students for medical school, our students now are choosing to apply to become not only future physicians but also physician assistants, nurses, doctors of physical therapy, occupational therapists, pharmacists and others. The Dickinson College Career Center Pre-Health Professions Advisor can help you to navigate the continuously changing healthcare field along with the information necessary to help you to study and prepare for your next career steps after graduation from our campus.

The medical and other health professions schools no longer provide an easy list of course pre-requisites that you need to take at Dickinson. However, here are a few tips that will be useful in your education,

- Explore courses that interest you and will make you a well-rounded healthcare provider.
- Choose a major that interests you. It is not necessary to major in one of the sciences as long as you complete the courses below.
- While there is no longer an easy list of courses, the ones noted here will help you to prepare for any one of the healthcare professions, including medicine:
 - Chemistry: 5 semesters (inorganic- 131, 132 OR 141 plus 243; organic- 241, 242 and Chemistry 331, Principles of Biochemistry *OR* 342, Structure and Function of Biomolecules)
 - Biology: 2 semesters (131 or 132, these are not sequential)
 - Physics: 2 semesters (Sequence 141,142 preferred; however, 131, 132 will suffice)
 - Mathematics: 2 semesters as needed (Choose a sequence: 170, 171 OR 170, 121)
 - English/Writing: 2 semesters (FYS counts as one but then consider English 101, 212, 213)
 - Psychology/Sociology: Discuss options for specific courses with your Pre-Health Advisor.
 - Please note that there may be other courses needed that are not offered at Dickinson for the health professions courses outside of medicine, such as Human Anatomy & Physiology.
- Although this is not a part of the curriculum, it will be important for you to gain research experiences or healthcare internships or jobs to prepare you for professional school. There are opportunities in the region or you can explore options nationally for summers.

We know that choosing a college can be a difficult decision. Please lighten your load and call to discuss your questions and concerns about Dickinson, the Pre-Health Program and the Carlisle/Harrisburg regional healthcare opportunities.

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