PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS
at Cleveland State University

PRE-MEDICINE
PRE-PHARMACY
PRE-DENTISTRY
PRE-VETERINARY
AND
POST BACCALAUREATE OPTION
ENGAGE IN OUR PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

Cleveland State University provides endless opportunities for engaged learning through acclaimed academic programs with the advantages of small classes and a diverse student body in a vibrant metropolitan setting.

The same applies to Pre-Professional students at Cleveland State, who have wide access to meaningful, hands-on learning. In our Pre-Professional programs, undergraduate and post-baccalaureate students are prepared for further study in the professions of medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and veterinary medicine. Opportunities include:

- The Center for Gene Regulation in Health and Disease, which focuses on exploring the genetic molecular causes, prevention, and treatment of disease.
- The Center for 21st Century Health Professions, which prepares high-quality health care and bioscience industry professionals to ensure excellent care for Northeast Ohio citizens.
- A Gross Anatomy course featuring human cadavers, not typically available in undergraduate coursework.
- Researchers who investigate a wide array of topics such as cancer, birth defects, mental health, animal behavior, pharmacology, drug metabolism, and alternative medicine.

Students graduating from Pre-Professional programs at Cleveland State have been accepted to many outstanding professional schools, including:

- Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy (NEOUCOM and NEOUCOP)
- Baylor College of Medicine
- Case Western Reserve University Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine
- Upstate Medical University in Syracuse
- Ohio State University Colleges of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine
- Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine
- University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
- School of Medicine at Wright State University
- University of Toledo College of Medicine
- University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
- Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine
Pre-Professional programs are not directly linked to any particular major, but are designed for students majoring in any discipline or returning to school after having already completed a degree. Successful pre-professional preparation depends upon timely academic advising, an effective strategy for choosing appropriate courses and experiential learning activities.

The Pre-Professional programs at Cleveland State, coordinated by the College of Sciences and Health Professions, are detailed in this brochure. In order to ensure completion of all degree, major and pre-professional requirements, a Pre-Professional student must consult with a number of advisors. A Pre-Professional student should get to know these advisors early in their Cleveland State studies.

For more information:
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Science and Research Building, Room 353
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216.687.5580
Pre-Medicine

Medical schools seek applicants with a strong foundation in the natural sciences and have established minimum course requirements for admission. Medical schools do not require that applicants have a specific major because the essential skills of acquiring, synthesizing, applying and communicating information can be gained through a wide variety of studies.

Pre-Medicine students at CSU are encouraged to follow their natural interests and curiosity when selecting a major. Cleveland State students become engaged in learning, research opportunities and scholarly endeavors that come from a variety of disciplines, assuring them the educational maturity and character development that medical schools seek, and the scientific knowledge base necessary for completion of the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT).

A pre-professional advisor will assist Pre-Medicine students in selecting the right combination of medical school prerequisites, general education requirements and career exploration activities. Cleveland State Pre-Medicine students are involved in programs such as the Pediatric Neurology Summer Internship Program and the pioneer Patient Service Liaison Program at the Cleveland Clinic. Pre-Medicine students will also benefit from the activities and support of the American Medical Students Association (AMSA), which organizes service projects, visits from medical school admission representatives, volunteer opportunities, national conference activities and more. Qualified Pre-Medicine students at Cleveland State can take advantage of programs with our partner institution, Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine (NEOUCOM).
Pre-Pharmacy

Cleveland State University is a partner of the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Pharmacy (NEOUCOP). As a partner institution, Cleveland State students enjoy preferential admissions to the Doctor of Pharmacy program, with NEOUCOP annually reserving a set number of seats for qualified Cleveland State students.

Students interested in this program take a recommended sequence of undergraduate Pre-Pharmacy courses designed to fulfill the prerequisites set by NEOUCOP. This Pre-Pharmacy curriculum exposes students to comprehension and knowledge measured by the Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT) and will also meet the prerequisite requirements of most other Doctor of Pharmacy programs.

Admission to the NEOUCOP program is competitive and not guaranteed. Students are encouraged to meet with a pre-professional advisor to confirm that they are fulfilling Pre-Pharmacy prerequisites, as well as to learn what Cleveland State requires for completion of a Bachelor's degree. To earn a Bachelor's degree, a student will complete the requirements for the general undergraduate education curriculum and their chosen major program of study, typically biology, chemistry, health sciences or pharmaceutical sciences.

In addition to prerequisite courses for the Doctor of Pharmacy, Pre-Pharmacy students benefit from involvement in Students of Pharmacy-Active Rx, Cleveland State's student pharmacy organization.
Pre-Dentistry

While there is no required major area of study for Pre-Dentistry, coursework in the sciences is important to success in dental school. Likewise, dentistry is very much a “people profession” and coursework in psychology and the humanities is also very important to an aspiring dental professional.

All U.S. dental schools require applicants to take the Dental Admission Test (DAT). This test will assess knowledge and reading comprehension skills in the natural sciences (biology, general chemistry and organic chemistry), strong perceptual ability and quantitative reasoning.

A pre-professional advisor will assist Pre-Dentistry students in selecting the right combination of dental school prerequisites, general education requirements, career exploration activities and dental school application plans.

Pre-Veterinary Medicine

All veterinary schools require 45 to 90 semester hours completed at the undergraduate level. Specific admission requirements vary for every veterinary school. For this reason, it is essential that Pre-Veterinary students review the requirements with their pre-professional advisor when selecting courses.

A pre-professional advisor will assist Pre-Veterinary students in selecting an appropriate combination of veterinary school prerequisites, general education requirements and career exploration activities. Pre-Veterinary students choose courses that meet these requirements as well as prepare them for standardized entrance exams, which also vary by school. Schools may accept scores from the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) and Medical College Admission Test (MCAT).
Post-Baccalaureate status generally refers to students who have already completed an undergraduate degree either at Cleveland State or elsewhere. Cleveland State offers a post-baccalaureate program to individuals with a bachelor’s degree who are seeking to gain entry into careers in medicine, pharmacy, dentistry or veterinary medicine (see additional sections of this brochure). Post-baccalaureate Pre-Professional students wish to complete additional undergraduate work that prepares them for the science and math courses required by professional schools.

The program prepares students with the knowledge needed to take the admissions tests and the courses required for application to most professional schools. Post-baccalaureate students receive the same student support services available to undergraduate students, such as financial aid, advising and tutoring.

The program does not have a fixed curriculum. The number of courses and program duration are determined by career goals and previously completed undergraduate coursework. Prospective students are encouraged to seek the advice of a pre-professional advisor before enrolling as a post-baccalaureate Pre-Professional student at Cleveland State.