



Pre-Medical Preparation

Admission into medical school is very competitive. Students should maintain a grade point average between 3.5-4.0, acquire leadership skills, have exposure to healthcare, and score at least 504 or higher on the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT). Preparation materials from the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) can be found at: aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/preparing. Typically, the MCAT is taken during the Spring semester of the junior year, and an application, through a centralized application service, the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS), is submitted in June between the junior and senior years. Apply early. At least three letters of recommendation are required; typically two from the sciences and one letter of the student's choosing. Also, many schools require additional tests like CASPer®: takecasper.com/about-casper to help assess applicants for non-academic attributes or people skills. While ROTC is a pathway to military allied health opportunities, it is advisable to have conversations with the prospective branches before deciding, as some would advise joining after being accepted into medical school. For more information, please see: **AIR FORCE; NAVY; ARMY.**

Medical schools do not favor a particular major. A major should be chosen completely on the student's interests and goals. Biology, biochemistry, neuroscience, and health science are a few Norwich programs of study to consider. Most importantly, medical schools are seeking individuals who are well-rounded in their educational backgrounds. Development of a strong vocabulary and communication skills are just as important as having taken a particular elective. Additional information from the National Associations of Allopathic and Osteopathic Medicine can be found at aamc.org or aacom.org.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Coursework in humanities and social sciences is often required. Check with your destination program.

ENGLISH

EN 110	Writing and Inquiry I
EN 111	Writing and Inquiry II

CHEMISTRY

CH 103/L	General Chem. I w/Lab
CH 104/L	General Chem. II w/Lab
CH 225/L	Organic Chem. I w/Lab
CH 226/L or	Organic Chem. II w/Lab
CH 324/L	Biochemistry w/Lab

MATH

MA 121**	Calculus I
*MA 232	*Elementary Statistics

BIOLOGY

BI 101/L	Principles of Biology I w/Lab
BI 102/L	Principles of Biology II w/Lab
*BI 303/L	*Genetics

*SOCIOLOGY

*SO 201	*Introduction to Sociology
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*PSYCHOLOGY

*PY 211	*Introduction to Psychology
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PHYSICS

PS 201/L or	General Physics I w/Lab
PS 211/L	University Physics I w/Lab
PS202/L or	General Physics II w/Lab
PS 212/L	University Physics II w/Lab

* Recommended

** Note: not all medical schools require calculus. Check entry requirements at your destination program.



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PRE-HEALTH TRACK

Students should always consult the admission requirements for their focal schools.

For example:

<https://medschool.usuhs.edu/admissions/application-requirements>

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/admissions/applying/admissions-requirements/>

<https://www.med.uvm.edu/admissions/application/admissrequirements>

FAQs

What is a Committee Letter?

A committee letter is a letter authored by a pre-health committee or pre-health advisor and offers evaluation and advocacy on your behalf by highlighting your background and accomplishments, contextualizing challenges, and outlining your overall preparation and motivation for pursuing a career in medicine. A committee letter is often sent with additional letters of recommendation that you solicit from your faculty and others in support of your candidacy. Students are often strongly encouraged to obtain a committee letter; therefore, NU will supply one upon request. To obtain a committee letter, students must have a GPA above 3.2 and have ample information to show their commitment to achieving the criteria for admission to medical school. An interview may be required, and a student may be turned down if they cannot demonstrate their qualifications. All requests must be sent to the Committee Chair at least 1 month prior to the deadline for submitting your medical school application. Contact the current Norwich Committee Chair: eguth@norwich.edu.

What is a Letters Packet?

A “Letters Packet” is a packet or set of letters assembled and distributed by a centralized office. This system is often used by large universities that have hundreds to thousands of pre-health professional students. Norwich University can assemble a Letters Packet, if required.

RESOURCES from the AAMC: students-residents.aamc.org.

MSAR (Medical School Admission Requirements)

Two resources available through MSAR:

1. MSAR Getting Started: Guidebook has information on how to choose the right medical school, how to apply, how admission decisions are made, and much more.
2. MSAR Online: One-year subscription to this online database allows you to browse, search, sort, and compare data on U.S. and Canadian Medical schools and B.S./M.D. programs.

MCAT Preparation through AAMC

Please see *The Official Guide to the MCAT Exam* to prepare. It provides 120 - 150 questions, preparation tips for the exam, scoring data, and more. Need a practice test for the MCAT? Take a free e-MCAT Practice Test under simulated test conditions. Scores will be provided as a baseline, which allows you to track your progress. The Official MCAT Self-Assessment Package allows you to discover your strengths and weaknesses, enabling you to create a study plan. AAMC's e-MCAT Practice Tests are full-length exams with questions from previously administered MCAT exams. Take additional practice tests to compare to your baseline score. Additional resources can be found here: students-residents.aamc.org/prepare-mcat-exam/prepare-mcat-exam.