

Preprofessional and Allied Health Programs

UMBC offers strong liberal arts preparation and advising for students planning advanced study in professional programs including law, medicine, dentistry and allied health.

Special advice on course selection and applying to professional schools is provided to students planning careers in these professions.

Preprofessional Programs

Premedicine and Predentistry

Medical and dental schools, while not requiring any particular major course of study, do require that a certain selection of undergraduate courses be completed. The Office of Academic Services assists students pursuing admission to medical and dental schools by sponsoring workshops on applying to health professions schools and preparing the recommendation packets that are mailed to schools.

In addition, health professional school representatives are invited to speak to students throughout the year. Students are encouraged to participate in research experiences both on and off campus. In recent years, successful applicants have been involved in projects at Harvard Medical School; The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; the National Institutes of Health; the University of Colorado at Boulder, under the direction of Dr. Thomas Cech, a Nobel laureate; and the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

Forty to 50 UMBC students matriculate at medical and dental schools each year.

Premedical and Predental students have been accepted into many programs throughout the United States, including those at Cornell; Duke; Harvard; Johns Hopkins; University of California, San Francisco; University of Maryland, Baltimore; University of Pennsylvania; and Yale.

Requirements	UMBC Courses
English [6]	ENGL 100 and one English literature course
Biology [12]	BIOL 100 and 100L, BIOL 302 and 302L
Chemistry [19]	CHEM 101, CHEM 102 and 102L, CHEM 351 and 351L, CHEM 352 and 352L
Mathematics [8]	MATH 150 and 151
Physics [8]	PHYS 111 and 112
Other course includes work [37-67] general and major requirements	
TOTAL CREDITS	90-120
The most recent editions of Medical School Admission Requirements USA and Canada and the Admission Requirements of U.S. and Canadian Dental Schools are available in the Office of Academic Services.	

Combined Degree Programs

Students who are exceptionally strong academically may wish to pursue a three-year program meeting minimal requirements for medical or dental school admission at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB).

A student pursuing a combined degree program in medicine or dentistry must complete 90 credit hours of satisfactory work, including the general foundation and major requirements at UMBC. Upon completion of 30 credit hours of "C" or better work at UMB, and by the recommendations of the professional school dean and the UMBC provost, the student will be awarded the baccalaureate degree. It should be emphasized that students rarely are admitted into professional schools before completing the baccalaureate degree. Most students, therefore, should plan to complete the requirements for their degree at UMBC.

Preoptometry

Optometry is the largest vision care profession and the third-largest independent health care profession in the nation today. All 17 accredited schools and colleges of optometry in the United States require a seven-year curriculum leading to a doctor of optometry degree. This includes a minimum of three years of pre-optometric studies and four years of professional courses. However, more than 75 percent of all successful applicants complete bachelor's degrees before entering schools of optometry.

Prospective optometric students should be acquainted with the required courses necessary for the schools or colleges they expect to attend, as well as the eligibility requirements in the state or states in which they may wish to practice.

Applicants to all schools and colleges of optometry in the United States are required to take the Optometry Admission

Test (OAT). Further information, including OAT application forms, is available in the Office of Academic Services.

Preveterinary Medicine

Veterinarians serve society by preventing and treating animal disease, improving the quality of the environment, ensuring the safety of foods, controlling diseases transmitted from animals to humans and advancing medical knowledge. Although the majority of veterinarians in the United States are in private practice, significant numbers are involved in preventative medicine, regulatory veterinary medicine, military veterinary medicine, aquatic animal or avian medicine, laboratory animal medicine, research and development in industry, teaching, and research in various basic science and clinical disciplines.

Today's schools of veterinary medicine, while not requiring a particular major, do require that students complete certain courses, including a year in general chemistry, organic chemistry, biology, physics, mathematics and english.

Students who select a non-science major are strongly encouraged to take additional science course work.

After receiving an undergraduate degree, students complete four years of study at one of 28 accredited schools of veterinary medicine in the United States, leading to the doctor of veterinary medicine degree. Many UMBC graduates pursue their education at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, which has campuses in Blacksburg, VA, and College Park, MD, or the Equine Medical Center in Leesburg, VA.

Students interested in Pre-veterinary medicine should contact an advisor in the Office of Academic Services for additional information.

Prelaw

Law schools do not prescribe a particular Prelaw curriculum, nor do they require specific undergraduate courses.

Students are advised to select a major according to individual interest. Because the law touches nearly every phase of human activity, most liberal arts majors can be of value to the lawyer.

Of primary importance to the lawyer is the ability to express thoughts clearly and cogently. Courses in composition, communication arts and literature develop these skills. Political science, economics, history, government and sociology courses are of value because of their close relation to law and their influence on its development. Ethics, because of its relationship to legal principles, and philosophy, because of the influence of philosophic reasoning on legal reasoning and jurisprudence, are also of interest. Some knowledge of the principles of accounting and of the sciences is recommended and will prove of practical value to the lawyer in general practice in the modern world.

UMBC's political science department offers especially strong preparation for students interested in law school, including courses in American constitutional and administrative law taught by the case method. The department also offers a Legal Internship Program that places students in legal positions in the Baltimore area. The department operates the Prelaw Resource Office, which is open to all UMBC students.

Other parts of the university curriculum offer courses in private law and the history of law.

For additional information, students should consult the Prelaw Handbook, published by the Law School Admissions Council and the Association of American Law Schools, available in the Prelaw Resource Office in the Public Policy Building, room 357.

Combined Degree Programs

UMBC and the University of Maryland School of Law offer a combined B.A./J.D. program for exceptional students.

Students in this program enter law school after three years and 91 credits of undergraduate work that satisfies major and General Education Requirements, and they receive a B.A. upon satisfactory completion of their first year of law school. Admission to this program is highly selective. Programs leading to the J.D./M.P.S. or J.D./Ph.D. degrees are offered by the University of Maryland Law School and the UMBC Policy Sciences Graduate Program. A comparable J.D./Ph.D. program also exists with the University of Baltimore School of Law.

Students in these programs complete in four years a program that ordinarily would require five years to complete. Students must meet the admissions requirements of both the graduate program and the law school. Holders of both degrees can expect to find their training useful in policy-making positions in federal, state or local government, and in business and other non-governmental organizations, as well as in teaching.

Allied Health Preprofessional Programs

- ▶ Dental Hygiene
- ▶ Medical and Research Technology
- ▶ Nursing
- ▶ Pharmacy
- ▶ Physical Therapy

UMBC offers allied health Preprofessional programs to prepare students for clinical training in dental hygiene, medical technology, nursing, pharmacy and physical therapy. These programs involve two to four years of intensive study at UMBC. After completing 63 to 120 credits of required course

work and satisfying other requirements (which may include evidence of exceptional promise, volunteer work and scores on a national entrance examination), students apply to continue their studies at nearby University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) or another institution.

UMBC's Office of Academic Services has a full-time advisor for students considering the allied health professions to help them select courses, plan their careers and apply to professional schools.

Predental Hygiene

Dental hygienists are licensed members of the dental health care team who strive to improve the oral health of the public through preventative services and education.

They have special clinical and educational skills, an aptitude for science and a genuine concern for people.

The Predental hygiene area of concentration usually involves two years of study at UMBC. Students then will complete professional studies at another institution and will not receive a degree from UMBC. The Office of Academic Services can assist students interested in pursuing the Predental hygiene curriculum.

The University of Maryland Dental School at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) offers a Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene. To become eligible for the professional program at UMB, students must complete a minimum of 63 hours in specific coursework at UMBC.

The program description below meets the requirements of the professional school at UMB. Students should become familiar with the requirements of the school from which they eventually wish to obtain the degree to plan a program that will best use time spent at UMBC.

Requirements

English [6]

Biology [11]

Chemistry [9]

Anatomy and Physiology [8]

Nutrition [3]

Psychology [4]

Sociology [3]

Social Sciences [6]

Humanities [6]

Speech [3]

Statistics [4]

TOTAL CREDITS 63

UMBC Courses

ENGL 100 and one other English writing course

BIOL 100 and 100L, BIOL 275 and 275L

CHEM 123, CHEM 124 and 124L

BIOL 251 and 251L, BIOL 252 and 252L

BIOL 233

PSYC 100

SOCY 101

Psychology, Sociology, Geography, Political Science, Economics, Anthropology, Africana Studies, History

Selected from two of the following areas: Literature, Mathematics, Philosophy, Fine Arts (no studio courses), Foreign Languages, American Studies, Africana Studies

SPCH 100

STAT 121

R.N. to B.S.N./R.N. to M.S.

The R.N. to B.S.N. and R.N. to M.S. programs of the University of Maryland School of Nursing are located on the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) campus. The UMBC lower-division Preprofessional requirements for the R.N. to B.S.N. and R.N. to M.S. programs are provided under the Prenursing heading. R.N.s may meet the lower-division requirements by choosing one of the three following admission options: examination, direct transfer or nursing transition courses. The School of Nursing provides individual and small-group counseling sessions for students interested in admission to the school. At these sessions, an explanation of the admission process and the admission options is given, and each student's academic credentials are evaluated. Interested students should **call 410-706-0501**.

Prepharmacy

The field of pharmacy trains students for the efficient, ethical practice of all branches of pharmacy. Through exposure to general scientific and cultural subjects, students learn to read critically, express themselves clearly and think logically as members of a profession and citizens of a democracy. The curriculum also prepares students for scholarship and research in the healing arts of pharmacy.

The Prepharmacy area of concentration usually involves only two years of study at UMBC. Students then will complete professional studies at another institution and will not receive a degree from UMBC. The Office of Academic Services can assist students interested in pursuing the Prepharmacy curriculum.

The University of Maryland School of Pharmacy at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) offers a four-year Doctor of Pharmacy Degree Program. To be eligible to begin the professional program at the UMB campus, students must complete 70 hours in specific coursework at UMBC.

The program description below meets the requirements of the professional school at UMB. Students should become familiar with the requirements of the school from which they finally wish to obtain the degree to plan a program that will best utilize the time spent at UMBC.

Requirements	UMBC Courses
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English [6]	ENGL 100 and one course in world or English literature
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Mathematics [8]	MATH 151 and STAT 121
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Biology [11]	BIOL 100 and BIOL 100L, BIOL 275 and 275L
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Chemistry [19]	CHEM 101, CHEM 102 and 102L, CHEM 351 and 351L, CHEM 352 and 352L
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Physics [8]	PHYS 111 and 112
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Humanities [9]	English, Fine Arts (no studio courses), Music, Philosophy, Foreign Languages, American Studies, Africana Studies, Ancient Studies
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Social Sciences [9]	Psychology, Sociology, Geography, History, Political Science, Economics, Anthropology, Africana Studies
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TOTAL CREDITS	70
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Prephysical Therapy

Physical therapists work with people who are disabled by illness or accident or born with a handicap. Practitioners evaluate each patient's ability, disability and potential for recovery. The most common areas of disorder include neuromuscular, musculoskeletal, sensory motor, and related cardiovascular and respiratory functions.

Students pursuing the Prephysical therapy area of concentration must receive a bachelor's degree from UMBC; while no particular major is required, they must complete a certain selection of courses. The Office of Academic Services can assist students interested in pursuing the Prephysical therapy curriculum.

The University of Maryland School of Medicine at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) offers a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree (DPT). Students complete the Preprofessional course work below with a bachelor's degree at UMBC prior to beginning their studies at the UMB campus. Successful completion of the three-year professional physical therapy program results in a DPT degree.

Clinical experiences are provided in acute/general, chronic/rehabilitation, orthopedic, sports medicine, pediatrics, nursing home, industrial and community health settings. While most clinical placements are offered locally or elsewhere in the Northeastern corridor, opportunities are also available in centers located over a wide geographic area throughout the United States.

Requirements

Biology [14]

Chemistry [9]

Physics [8]

Psychology [7]

Statistics [4]

Other course work [78]

TOTAL CREDITS 120

A minimum of 100 hours of work or volunteer experience in a physical therapy setting is also required.

UMBC Courses

BIOL 100 and 100L, BIOL 251 and 251L, BIOL 252 and 252L

CHEM 123, CHEM 124 and 124L or CHEM 101, CHEM 102 and 102L

PHYS 111 and 112

PSYC 100 and PSYC 285 or PSYC 306

STAT 121