SUMMER 2020 TRACK ADVISING

Pre-Health
What does it mean to be Pre-Health?

We are here to help you prepare for a career in healthcare AFTER you earn your bachelor degree. Examples: Applying to medical school, dental school, & many other healthcare programs.

Pre-Health Advising (PHA) has GOALS for ALL Pre-Health Students at Emory to connect, explore, prepare and apply to their chosen healthcare program.
How does Pre-Health Advising tie in with a Liberal Arts education?

• Critical thinking is an essential healthcare competency; the profession requires you to be culturally competent, resilient and adaptable when faced with complex clinical issues. All of these competencies are emphasized in the Liberal Arts foundation during the first two years at Emory.

• Pre-Health students can choose a major in any discipline and we encourage you to follow your interests in major selection and deciding about elective courses.

• Research experience in any discipline can strengthen your healthcare skills as you learn the essentials of data collection, analysis, and problem solving strategies.

• Emory’s Chemistry sequence was changed to develop innovative interdisciplinary and integrative courses to help students build strong foundations in the natural sciences.
What are the pre-requisites?

COURSES YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A HEALTH PROGRAM

For the majority of medical and dental schools in the US you will need the following courses (over the course of your 4 years at Emory):

- Chemistry 150, 202, 203, 204, plus the labs (4 semesters)
- Biology 141, 142, plus the labs (2 semesters)
- Physics 141, 142, plus the labs (2 semesters)
- QTM 100 or Econ 220 (1 semester)
- Biochemistry (1 semester)
- Social Sciences/Humanities

- Many healthcare programs will require Chemistry and Biology- so that’s a good place to start (see PHA website for suggested courses in other healthcare tracks)
- Requirements vary by school. This list does not include all courses that may be required by medical schools. Additionally, schools have differing policies for accepting AP/IB credits to fulfill prerequisites. Students are responsible for verifying the prerequisite coursework and AP/IB policies of the schools to which they plan to apply.
What classes should I start with in my first semester?

• Talk to the PHA Peer Mentors (trained junior and senior pre-health students) and PHA advisors (professional staff) about science sequence options

• Learn to be flexible and plan appropriately

• **Focus on general education requirements & explore options**

• Many students consider social science and humanities courses
  • Look at 100-level courses in Anthropology, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology and Religion

• Start with one or two science courses and appropriate labs (see sample courses listed on slide 4)
Do AP/IB test credits count?

• Yes, many programs accept AP/IB credits as pre-requisites, however you will not know which program(s) or schools you will be applying to for several more years.

• You may use AP/IB credits for a designated first semester course and start with the next course in a sequence.

• Some schools may require you to take an additional upper level course as a substitute for using AP credits.
Should I Keep my AP/IB Credit or Retake?

Choosing to keep your AP/IB credits vs. retaking a class at Emory depends on your comfort with the sciences and WHEN you took the AP/IB course:

- If you took an AP/IB course before senior year, you may need to speak with faculty in the department about your preparation during Orientation or Add/drop/swap week to determine if you should keep your credits or retake a course at Emory.
- Note, even with Biology AP/IB credit, you still need to take Biology 141 Lab before taking upper level Biology courses.
What if I have multiple interests (pre-business and pre-health and pre-law and dual degree)?

• Any major is appropriate for Pre-health (we are 100% serious about this)
• If you are interested in applying to the Nursing School, you have two options:
  • Single Degree: Enter after your 2nd year and earn a BSN from the School of Nursing
  • Dual Degree: Enter after your 3rd year and earn a BA or BS from Emory College AND a BSN from the School of Nursing
• Students interested in applying to the Business School or Dual Degree with GT, can also be pre-health
• It’s great to have multiple interests as you start Emory! Many of the pre-requisites for health can fulfill General Education Requirements (GERs)
What do I need to do to apply to a Health Program after graduation from Emory?

• We highly recommend finding a PHA Peer Mentor, a pre-health junior or senior who is selected and trained by our office to help you grow, to connect with and to learn how to be an active member of the Emory community

• Work closely with your PHA advisor & PHA Peer Mentors to plan your semesters

• Take the pre-requisite courses needed for your healthcare profession

• Explore the healthcare professions by connecting with professionals, using PHA services, attending events, and getting involved with meaningful experience outside of the classroom
When will I apply to my health professional program?

The real answer: It Depends! Everyone’s timeline is different

- The majority of Pre-Health students at Emory take at least one gap year between the undergraduate degree and beginning their graduate degree
- Timelines vary by the program you decide to apply to AND when you complete your pre-requisites
- The PHA encourages students to apply ONLY when they are the most competitive applicant they can be
What pre-health advising is available?

Starting in Fall of 2020, use the PHA website for advisor assignments and steps to set an appointment:

http://prehealth.emory.edu/connect/index.html

The PHA has over 35 Peer Mentors who are available for student concerns and questions. You should get to know a Peer Mentor as early as possible.
When can I connect with Pre-Health Advising?

Once the semester begins, you are eligible to schedule appointments with your PHA advisor, or meet with a Peer Mentor (walk-in) as often as needed.

Avoid the following myths and talk to your advisors when uncertain:

- I must double-up on sciences or I will fall behind
- I must take calculus for a pre-health program
- I must take the pre-reqs early so I can apply in my junior summer
- I won’t get into medical school with a bad grade in a science course
- I can compensate for bad grades in science courses with strong extracurriculars
What other expectations are there?

• Find a way to stay connected and digest PHA information: newsletter, blog, social media, advisors, and peer mentors are the way to stay in the know. There is a lot of info out there, but one of the ways to be successful is to know what's going on around campus and in PHA specifically
• Build a strong academic foundation – ask for help when you need it

Uphold the Emory Honor and Conduct Codes

• This is VERY important for pre-health students
• Even minor violations need to be reported on applications
What do I need to do BEFORE Registration?

• Verify AP/IB credits are posted in OPUS or with Admissions
• Follow us on social media: FB and Instagram @EmoryPHA
• Decide where to start—this will vary based on your science background
  • You may start with Chemistry, Biology, or BOTH in year one
  • For CHEM 150: COMPLETE the Emory College Chemistry Prep (ECCP) online before Orientation