



Jane Rockwood
Health Professions Advisor

Timeline for Acceptance into Health Profession School or Program

In order to provide more long term tailored advising for Mason students and alumni interested in pursuing allopathic and osteopathic medicine, dentistry, optometry, podiatry, pharmacy, physician assistant, physical therapy, occupational therapy and veterinary medicine, the Medical Sciences Advisory Committee Composite Letter is no longer provided.

Instead, small group advising sessions are offered for all prospective health professions students. The availability of these sessions is announced through the HEALTHPROFESSIONS-L listserv.

For those Mason students who are ready (prerequisite coursework and standardized test preparation completed) to apply to a health profession program, an advising Blackboard, with the opportunity for comprehensive, one-on-one advising, is offered. Details about participation in this Blackboard is provided via listserv email.

<p>Freshman/Sophomore/Junior/ Senior Years</p> <p>Join the HEALTHPROFESSIONADVISOR-L listserv (http://prehealth.gmu.edu/listserv/). Reserve a space in a Health Professions Advising small group session as advertised on the listserv. Attend Health Professions Advising events such as visits by admissions directors, etc. Take required and recommended coursework</p>
<p>Fall Semester (2 years before enrollment/matriculation)</p> <p>Prepare to take required standardized tests. Significant preparation (coursework, review and practice) is needed for success. It is recommended that students take these tests only one time.</p> <p>Allopathic Medicine: MCAT https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/about Osteopathic Medicine: MCAT https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/about Dentistry: DAT http://www.ada.org/en/education-careers/dental-admission-test/#top Occupational Therapy: GRE (requirement varies by school) http://www.ets.org/gre Optometry: OAT http://www.ada.org/en/oat Pharmacy: PCAT http://www.pcatweb.info/ Physical Therapy: GRE (requirement varies by school) http://www.ets.org/gre Physician Assistant GRE (requirement varies by school) http://www.ets.org/gre Podiatry: MCAT https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/ Veterinary Medicine: GRE http://www.ets.org/gre</p> <p>If prerequisite coursework and standardized test preparation are completed, join the Health Professions Advising Blackboard (includes the opportunity for comprehensive, one-on-one advising.) Details about participation in this Blackboard is provided via listserv email.</p>
<p>Spring Semester (1 ½ years before enrollment/matriculation)</p> <p>Since acceptance into health professions schools are very competitive, consider a gap/glide/victory lap year, without the pressures of upper level coursework, to devote more time to class work, standardized test preparation, clinical and volunteer experience, and research involvement, while earning and saving money. Or continue to prepare for standardized test.</p>
<p>Early Summer (1 year to 1 year 3 months before matriculation)</p> <p>Due to rolling admissions and lengthy verifications, apply early for best, most competitive consideration:</p> <p>Allopathic Medicine: AMCAS ~ first week of June Osteopathic Medicine: AACOMAS ~ first week of June Dentistry: AADSAS ~ first week of June Occupational Therapy: OTCAS ~ mid-July Optometry: OptomCAS ~ first week of July Pharmacy: PHARMCAS June Physical Therapy: PTCAS ~ first week of July Physician Assistant CASPA ~ mid-March Podiatry: AACPM ~ August 1 Veterinary Medicine: VMCAS ~ first week of June</p> <p>Take standardized tests for desired health profession (MCAT Spring Semester/Early Summer – May, June, July; DAT May, June, July, August)</p>
<p>Summer (1 year before matriculation)</p> <p>Complete and submit secondary applications, by stated deadlines. Secondary preparation advising will be available for those participating in the Health Professions Advising Blackboard</p>
<p>Fall/Spring Semesters (1 year to ½ year before matriculation)</p> <p>Hopefully, receive invitations to interview with allopathic, osteopathic, dental, optometry, or podiatry schools. Interview preparation advising will be available for those enrolled in the Health Professions Advising Blackboard. Hopefully, receive acceptance letters and follow through with school-specific requirements for matriculation.</p>
<p>Fall Semester – Matriculation into Health Profession Program/School</p>