

Science Student Guide to Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Dental Hygiene, Optometry & Medical Laboratory Sciences

Tip 1: Use the Internet

Choose a school or program that you are truly interested in & get surfing! Here are a few links to get you started. Visit these websites to find program descriptions, admission requirements and other useful information for Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Optometry and other professional programs. **Specific questions must be directed to the department or university offering the program –the Faculty of Science cannot legally offer advice on non-Science programs.**

MEDICINE

MDadmission@ualberta.ca

University of Alberta, Medical Doctor Program:

<http://www.med.ualberta.ca/admissions/md>

MCAT information:

<https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/>

DENTISTRY

admissions@dentistry.ualberta.ca

University of Alberta, Doctor of Dental Surgery & Dental Hygiene Programs:

<http://dentistry.ualberta.ca/>

DAT information:

<http://www.cda-adc.ca/en/index.asp>

PHARMACY

phstud@ualberta.ca

University of Alberta, Pharmacy Program:

<http://pharm.ualberta.ca/>

MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES

medlabsc@ualberta.ca

University of Alberta, Medical Laboratory Sciences Program:

<http://www.med.ualberta.ca/programs/mls>

OPTOMETRY

University of Waterloo, School of Optometry (English language Instruction):

opt-admissions@uwaterloo.ca

www.optometry.uwaterloo.ca/

University of Montreal, School of Optometry (French language Instruction):

www.opto.umontreal.ca/

Optometry Admissions Test (OAT):

www.opted.org/

Alberta College of Optometrists:

www.collegeofoptometrists.ab.ca/

Be Prepared - Research
the programs you
are interested in!!



DID YOU KNOW?

The OAT must be written by all applicants, and is required by all Optometry schools in both the United States and Canada. Many schools also require an interview, an essay, letters of recommendation, as well as volunteer experience.

Tip 2: Plan Early & Be Realistic

Professional programs are competitive, so be realistic about your prospects.

- Be aware of the admission requirements and make sure you have completed all of them.
- Research the competitive averages for admission, and be realistic about whether they are achievable.
- Have an open mind and a back-up plan just in case things don't go exactly as you planned. Remember, there are several other careers related to the Health Sciences that may be different from your original plan (Medical Microbiologist, Informatics Specialist, Physiologist, Medical Physicist, Forensic Scientist, Protein Biochemist, Physical Therapist etc.)

Tip 3: Talk to your peers

We are fortunate to be part of a University with numerous support services and clubs. Speak to other students who share the same goals, and find out what they have been doing. Ask questions and share information!

The Pre-Medical Students' Association, offered through the Students' Union, is a student club that can offer useful tips and peer support. Check them out!

Pre-Medical Students' Association
<http://www.pmsa.ca/>

International Students

The Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry does not accept applications from international students to the **Medical Doctor Program**.



A little more advice...

- Once you have chosen your desired professional program and reviewed all the admission requirements, take the time to schedule these necessary courses carefully while completing your degree. Do not put too much stress on yourself by cramming all of your requirements into one year if you do not need to. There is nothing wrong with spreading out your courses and giving yourself the opportunity to do well.
- Check all course pre-requisites and course times to ensure that you have set up your timetable properly. **Do not take a course if you do not have the pre-requisite already completed**; chances are you could be jeopardizing your grades.
- Try not to schedule more than three laboratories in a term as one laboratory course contains several components – each with its own work: lecture, pre-lab, lab, and post lab exams.
- Keep your options open and apply to more than one school. Make sure you know the admission requirements for all institutions you are interested in as they may vary.