Health Professions | HLTH
ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Working in a career within the medical profession continues to be one of the most highly desired outcomes for students graduating with a science degree. The three top fields in the medical professions include human medicine, dentistry, and veterinary. In recent years a growing interest has also been noted in the careers of physician assistant, physical therapy, and advanced nursing degrees. Regardless of career choice, the competition for available seats is keen and places real demands on prospective applicants. The most successful applicants are thoroughly prepared in sciences and additionally have a well-rounded background with a variety of interests. The health professions curriculum at Stockton prepares students to be successful applicants to all types of medical profession schools across the nation. Former Stockton students have been accepted to Stanford, Georgetown, Case-Western Reserve, Tufts, University of Pennsylvania, New York University, Rowan, and University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

The publication Medical School Admission requirements, prepared by the Association of American Medical Colleges, indicates that the largest single percentage of applicants to medical schools have majored in biology, with the next most common major being chemistry. It is possible to major in ANY discipline and still gain admission to a medical professions school, provided the student does well in all prerequisite courses, earns a competitive score on the required entrance exam, and meets all specific requirements the chosen professional school.

Professional schools are concerned with the overall quality and scope of a student’s undergraduate work. Careful planning is the key. As soon as students identify an interest in a profession, they should consult with the Health Professions Advisor and relevant publications regarding admission criteria for the chosen profession.

Preparation

Students are expected to have a solid foundation in biology, chemistry, physics and mathematics regardless of their choice of major. A majority of the successful applicants to medical profession schools follow a “standard” science curriculum, but there is more to the health professions than just science. The undergraduate years at Stockton also provide an opportunity for the interested student to pursue a minor in disciplines outside of science, such as language, art, history or business. Medical profession schools are increasingly looking at more broadly-educated students who offer a solid science foundation and liberal arts education. Students interested in this optional path should consult with the Health Professions Advisor.

Seven-Year Dual Degree Programs

Stockton University currently has three different articulations with New Jersey medical profession schools which allow highly qualified students to complete their undergraduate and medical degree in seven years. Acceptance to these programs is very competitive and rigorous to complete. The seven year programs are with: Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine, New Jersey Medical School at Rutgers, and Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers. In general, highly-qualified high school students, or highly-qualified undergraduates in the sophomore year, apply to these articulations. If accepted, students complete three years of undergraduate work at Stockton, then transfer to the professional school for four years. Some courses taken during the first year of professional school transfer back to Stockton and count as credit for the BS degree.

Each of the professional schools have their own specific requirements that must be met by the successful applicant. It is important to state that students accepted to a seven-year dual degree program can be dropped from the program for not maintaining program standards (GPA and DAT/MCAT exam score minimum). Please visit our website stockton.edu/science-math/health-professions.html for further details on application criteria.

Standard Curriculum for Seven-Year Dual Degree and Medical Profession Students

The curriculum shown below is for students accepted to the seven-year dual degree program and is accelerated in comparison to a standard four-year path to medical profession schools. However, students following the more standard four-year path can still appreciate the immediate rigor required of all medical profession applicants. Students need to complete professional school entrance exams in the spring/summer of the junior year. All pre-requisite course material that comprise the exam must be completed prior to the exam date to facilitate earning the best score possible.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
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