

University of South Alabama College of Medicine

Medical School Guide map

Recommended Timeline of Courses to Complete

(Degree Requirements/Sequencing may impact ability to strictly follow guide map)*

First Year			
ENGL 1010 or ENGL 1011: Rhetoric and Writing I (3-4 Credit Hours)	ENGL 1020: Rhetoric and Writing II (3 Credit Hours)		
PSY 1010: Introduction to Psychology (3 Credit Hours)**	SOC 1510: Introduction to Sociology (3 Credit Hours)**		
BIOL 1110/1110L: Principles of Biology I/Lab (4 credit hours)	BIOL 1120/1120L: Principles of Biology II/Lab (4 Credit hours)		
CHEM 1110/1110L: General Chemistry I/Lab (4 Credit Hours)	CHEM 1120/1120L: General Chemistry II/Lab (4 Credit Hours)		
MATH 1130: College Algebra or MATH 1710: Precal I or Math 1720: Precal II or MATH 1730: Combined Precal (3-4 Credit Hours)	MATH 1830: Calculus for Management, Life and Social Sciences or MATH 1950: Calculus I (3-4 Credit Hours)***		
Second Year and Third Year			
CHEM 3010/3010L: Organic Chemistry I/Lab (4 Credit Hours)	CHEM 3020/3020L: Organic Chemistry II/Lab (4 Credit Hours)		
PHYS 1030/1030L: General Physics - Mechanics & Heat/Lab (4 Credit Hours)	PHYS 1040/1040L: General Physics - Electromagnetism & Optics/Labor (4 Credit Hours)		
FAH General Education Course (3 Credit Hours)	FAH General Education Course (3 Credit Hours)		
CHEM 4510: Biochemistry (4 Credit Hours)**	BIOL 1130: Principles of Biology III (3 Credit Hours)***		
Study for MCAT, take MCAT April or May of third year			
Fourth Year			
BIOL 3250: Genetics (3 Credit Hours) ***	CPSC 1000: Introduction to Computing or CPSC 1100: Fundamentals of Computer Science (3-4 Credit Hours)***		
<p><i>*Students coming in with: transfer credit, AP, Dual Enrollment, other credit, or who opt to take summer courses may have an amended timeline. Please reach out to the Pre-Health Professions Advisor to develop a custom timeline</i></p> <p>**Courses not required for USA admissions, but are both recommended and their content features heavily on the MCAT. Students are strongly encouraged to take these courses as well</p> <p>*** Courses recommended but not required for USA admission</p>			
MCAT Facts You Need to Know			
Cost	Scores	Timing	Reporting
Registration for MCAT: \$320	50 th percentile is considered competitive at USA	Recommended timeline: April/May year prior to when you plan to enroll	No scores can be omitted, every attempt is reported
Registration for the MCAT 8 days or less prior to test date: \$370	127 minimum in each category to be competitive at USA	Deadline for MCAT is last date in Sept. for that year's application cycle	Scores are automatically released to AMCAS
16 days or more before test date, refund of \$155 issued; no refund 15 days or less from the test date	509 minimum total score to be considered competitive at USA	Scores are received within 30 days of the test	Scores can be sent to non AMCAS school electronically via Score Reporting System or mailing official copy
Fee Assistance is offered but MUST be applied for prior to selecting date for exam. Fee is dropped to \$125 MCAT Fee Assistance	Scores must be no older than 5 years from the year you plan to enroll.		Additional fees may apply to sending your scores to non AMCAS schools
Alabama Resident Incentives			
Alabama residents receive preference in admissions. Competitive applicants from neighboring states must have an overall GPA of 3.6 or higher and an MCAT score above the 70th percentile on the MCAT to be considered			
Early Decision Program (EDP)			
Early Decision Program is only open to Alabama residents as well as Escambia and Santa Rosa counties in Florida, and Jackson, Harrison, George, Stone, Perry and Greene counties in Mississippi. All AMCAS applications and documents must be submitted by Aug 1, MCAT score available by Sept 1. EDP applicants will be notified by Oct 1 by admissions committee. Applicants must have a min GPA of 3.5 and 503 MCAT for EDP consideration			

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Timeline – Freshman and Sophomore Year			
Year 1 Classes	Year 1 Experience	Year 2 Classes	Year 2 Experience
Complete course sequences: General Chemistry, General Biology, English Composition, Algebra/Calculus, Sociology, and Psychology	Join clubs/get involved, begin working with PHPA to identify areas to develop	Complete: Organic Chemistry, Statistics, and Physics sequences	Shadowing/scribing, leadership opportunities. Work with PHPA on personal statement and participate in MCAT prep. Identify recommenders
Timeline – Junior Year, Senior Year, and Acceptance			
Year 3 Classes	Year 3 Experience	Year 3 Summer	Year 4 Classes
Complete: Biochemistry, six (6) hours of FAH General Education courses, Physics (if not completed in the second year), and recommended Biology III	Continue shadowing, volunteering, and other activities. Prepare for MCAT and register for MCAT to take April/May	Submit completed AMCAS application no later than June 15	Complete: Recommended Genetics, computer science, and remaining major requirements
Application Breakdown			
Application-Step 1- Gather your Materials and Determine your Eligibility			
Diversity Recruitment and Education for Admission into Medicine (DREAM) Program		Letters of Recommendation	
Seven-week summer medical school preparatory curriculum. Participants will become familiar with the process for applying to medical school, gain an understanding of the MCAT test and its content, and observe clinicians within a clinical setting. To be eligible, students must have completed a minimum of eight hours in biology with lab, chemistry with lab, and math up to calculus, have an overall GPA of 3.4 or higher, Math and Science GPA of 3.0 or higher, and ACT score of 20 or higher, be underrepresented in the medical community or disadvantaged based on family income, community resources or other self-determined status		Three (3) letters of recommendation from faculty who have taught you in the sciences - AND -Two (2) letters of recommendation from people who have known and observed you on a personal basis are required to be submitted via AMCAS	
Application-Step 2 and 3- Fill out and Submit Applications			
Application	Cost	Secondary Application	
New AMCAS Application required every year. AMCAS opens in early May and USA reviews applications starting late June	\$170 for initial application/first school, \$41 for each additional school	All U. S. citizens and international applicants with permanent resident status who apply will be sent a secondary application. The information and documentation that students furnish will provide the Admissions Committee with an opportunity to learn more about each candidate. A \$75.00 non-refundable application fee must accompany the application form.	
Application-Step 4 and 5- Interview and Decision			
Interviews		Acceptance and Waitlist	
Early decision interviews begin being sent early Sept all other invitations begin early Oct. Students meet one-on-one with three interviewers. Interviews last 30 to 45 minutes each and are conversational. The interview day begins with a welcome at 8:00 AM followed by interviews at 9:00, 10:00, and 11:00 AM. After the interviews the applicants have lunch with medical students and a tour of clinical and basic science facilities.		Accepted applicants are required to pay a non-refundable deposit of \$100. Applicants will be notified between November 1 and July 31. Waitlist I ranked and students are accepted in the order they were ranked by the Admissions Committee	
** Some schools may have college service fees - check with Records/Registrar's Office of school for more information			