



MD PROGRAMS

With competency-based prerequisites

Some MD schools no longer require specific courses; instead, they focus on expectations for your content knowledge and scientific preparation, but leave it to the applicant to choose how to meet these expectations. Clicking on a school name will link to individual school websites. Please [contact HPA](#) with additions or deletions.

Medical School (alpha by state)	State	Requirements Language
California U of Science and Medicine SOM	CA	CUSM-SOM has embraced a growing trend found in the nation's top medical schools to not require any specified prerequisite coursework, while highlighting and recommending courses that we believe would help the successful matriculant navigate our curriculum and prepare them for the practice of medicine.
David Geffen SOM at UCLA	CA	We recommend applicants demonstrate competencies in sciences, humanities, and mathematics through the successful completion of suggested college-level course work.
Keck SOM of the Univ. of Southern California	CA	Strong applicants will have distinguished themselves in their chosen field of study and have demonstrated competency in the sciences at the time of their application
Stanford University SOM	CA	Stanford Medicine does not have specific course requirements, but a recommended preparation for the study of medicine.
UC San Diego SOM	CA	UCSD does not have requirements regarding coursework that must be completed, but provides recommendations that will make the evaluation of your application easier.
George Washington Univ. School of Medicine and Health Sciences	DC	GWUSMHS moved from strict premedical requirements to competency-based recommendations. Mastery of these competencies should be reflected in strong academic performance, MCATs, experiences and letter(s) of recommendation.
Carle Illinois College of Medicine	IL	Future applicants should have strong backgrounds in biology, chemistry/ biochemistry, mathematics/statistics, physics and social sciences. A competitive applicant who will be more likely to succeed in our curriculum will also have some experience in computer programming and languages, coding, modeling and/or data sciences, and healthcare settings.
Rush Medical College	IL	We focus on a competency-based model for requirements where emphasis is placed on mastery rather than number of courses. We recommend that applicants have a strong foundation in biochemistry, molecular and cellular biology and engagement in the social and behavioral sciences.
Southern Illinois University SOM	IL	SIU School of Medicine does not require specific prerequisite courses but recommends certain courses for MCAT preparation.
University of Chicago Pritzker SOM	IL	Our admissions requirements emphasize not the number of courses taken, but the level of mastery that should be achieved ... We strongly encourage applicants to explore fields for which they have a passion, and to include study in a broad range of subjects ... We also encourage applicants to take coursework or participate in experiences that emphasize human behavior, culture competence, and analytic thinking. Exposure to psychology, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, ethics, and economics is particularly encouraged.

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<u>Tulane University SOM</u>	LA	Because we desire to have applicants who balance humanism and academic rigor, we have consistently encouraged applicants to pursue a broad education ... This requires a rigorous interdisciplinary pursuit of academics and of sciences and humanities.
<u>Univ. of Michigan Medical School</u>	MI	The University of Michigan Medical School will look positively upon individuals who have discovered personal areas of academic interest ... and have worked to independently develop, refine and distinguish their experiences to improve and advance health care. Since the many fields of medicine offer opportunities for those talented in both humanities and the sciences, students should allow personal interests and their passion to dictate their choice of an undergraduate major. We prefer you think of our prerequisites as competencies to develop and not as specific course requirements.
<u>Western Michigan Univ. SOM</u>	MI	WMed no longer has specific prerequisite courses. To be well prepared, we recommend applicants complete upper division hard science coursework ... Additional undergraduate-level coursework is recommended to prepare the applicant with breadth and depth of knowledge and skills. While selecting a major in the sciences is not required, we encourage significant experience in upper-division coursework in rigorous academic settings.
<u>Duke University SOM</u>	NC	The School of Medicine clinical and basic science faculty agree the courses recommended would be helpful in preparation for the MCAT and for the first year med school curriculum.
<u>Wake Forest SOM</u>	NC	While Wake Forest School of Medicine does not have specific required coursework, applicants should be able to demonstrate competence in each of the areas shown as reflected in their MCAT score.
<u>Albert Einstein COM of Yeshiva University</u>	NY	Regardless of an applicant's chosen major, in preparation for studies in human physiology, pharmacology and the biological basis of disease, applicants applying to medical school should obtain a solid foundation in the biological, chemical and physical sciences ... In our experience, [this is] most successfully attained by applicants who have had a minimum of ... 40 credit hours of science and mathematics, including advanced biology courses ... 40 credit hours of humanities and social sciences, and substantial experience in clinical, community, and/or research activities.
<u>New York University SOM</u>	NY	NYU School of Medicine does not have prerequisites. We recommend that MD program applicants demonstrate proficiency in certain premedical courses.
<u>University of Cincinnati COM</u>	OH	Students are expected to engage in a rigorous academic program grounded in the basic principles of the sciences fundamental to medicine and the psycho/social nature of humans. Applicants are expected to have the knowledge usually obtained in one-year courses in biology, general and organic chemistry, physics and mathematics.
<u>Drexel University COM</u>	PA	Drexel has developed a set of coursework and experience competencies that an applicant's classes and activities may fulfill. The College of Medicine will no longer require specific coursework; however, we want applicants to demonstrate competency in certain key areas.
<u>Perelman SOM at the University of Pennsylvania</u>	PA	The Perelman School of Medicine seeks students with a broad education and rigorous science preparation. Admissions competencies are not based on specific courses, but rather on the cumulative achievement of knowledge and skills needed to become a physician.

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<u>Pennsylvania State University COM</u>	PA	Instead of listing pre-requisite course requirements, we describe required competencies that will most often be met through traditional and/or newly established interdisciplinary courses of study. We define competency as the acquired knowledge to solve problems in the discipline. Applicants will indicate whether the acquired competency was obtained by course work or other activity such as research or work.
<u>Temple University SOM</u>	PA	Applicants should demonstrate preparation for the rigors of medical school and competency in the sciences achieved through a broad range of science coursework and the MCAT exam. While there are no absolute course requirements, it is recommended that students complete coursework [in the traditional prerequisite disciplines].
<u>Medical Univ. of South Carolina COM</u>	SC	Although no prerequisite courses are required, most successful applicants to this medical school complete two semesters of the following courses prior to matriculating: general biology, general chemistry, organic chemistry, biochemistry, and physics.
<u>East Tennessee State University Quillen College of Medicine</u>	TN	Applicants should demonstrate scientific curiosity and enthusiasm for life-long learning. The continuum of scientific discovery ... requires that applicants have an adequate preparation in the pre-clinical sciences, particularly in biochemistry, bio-molecular mechanisms and genetics. In addition, the Admissions Committee looks for a broad educational foundation in the behavioral and social sciences, humanities, literature and the fine arts.
<u>Vanderbilt University School of Medicine</u>	TN	The expansive and ever-changing landscape of medicine and its practice necessitates that an applicant have demonstrated competencies in the natural and life sciences, social sciences, and mathematics. These competencies can be met through traditional and/or newly-established interdisciplinary courses of study.
<u>University of Virginia School of Medicine</u>	VA	We have no science or humanities requirements. However, it is recommended that students consider courses in Cell Biology, Biochemistry, Human Behavior and Statistics as students find these courses to be helpful during medical school.

*Accessed via MSAR, student reported data, and med school websites
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