

# PRE-PROFESSIONAL HEALTH ADVISING PROGRAMS

## Pre-Health Advising for Medicine, Vet, Physician Assistant, Dental, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Optometry and Other Health Careers

Designed to foster motivated, caring, and communicative students who intend to pursue careers as physicians and healthcare professionals, Monmouth University's Pre-Medical, Pre-Dental, Pre-Vet, Pre-PA, Pre-PT, Pre-OT and other health careers preparation chart a uniform course of study under the mentorship of the Pre-Health Advising Department. The preparation encompasses all undergraduates intending to attend medical school, veterinary school, dental school, a physician assistant, occupational therapy, physical therapy, optometry, or any graduate course of study in the health professions.

Pre-Health Advising prepares undergraduates for medical school as well as other health professional schools, including dental, veterinary medicine, physician assistant, physical therapy, occupational therapy and public health. Pre-Health Advising works closely with the Center for Student Success (CSS) and Undergraduate Admission.

Most pre-medical students major in biology or chemistry, as a strong foundation in basic science is vital to success in professional education. However, it is possible to major in another field, and to take the prerequisite science courses for health professional schools. Students from diverse majors, including health studies, psychology and Spanish, have been successful by being exceptional in both their majors and in science courses. Non-science majors are encouraged to use their free electives for biology and chemistry courses, as taking more science than the minimum prerequisite courses for health professional schools is advised. An increasingly complex and global medical profession demands healthcare professionals to have broad cultural knowledge and excellent communication skills. Therefore, pre-health students are encouraged to excel in humanities courses as well as in science. Students geared towards a career in healthcare should also seek out volunteer and shadowing opportunities as early as possible. Leadership skills can be enhanced through participation in pre health clubs, campus clubs and organizations.

Preparation for health professional schools begins in the freshman year. Incoming first-year students are encouraged to indicate their future career aspirations to their academic advisor during orientation where they will receive a pre health registration form to fill out and return to the PHA office. The sequential nature of the natural and physical science courses chosen requires careful planning if students are to meet the requirements of their chosen professional schools. Throughout the academic year, students are encouraged to attend all meetings for the different career professions, health professional graduate program information sessions, grade specific and application cycle meetings as well as presentations by healthcare providers. The director attends the major national and regional health profession conferences to remain current, concerning both developments in the field and medical and professional school requirements. In addition to pre requisite course advisement, pre health provides students with information on admissions tests, such as the MCAT (Medical College Admission Test), DAT (Dental Admissions Test), and Graduate Record Examinations (GRE Test). The PHA prepares students for entrance interviews at professional health schools, including conducting mock interviews. Pre Health Advising also composes and provides a comprehensive letter of

recommendation to professional health schools, which is one of the most important parts of the admissions package.

**Pre-Health Advising is pleased to offer the following affiliation programs:**

## Early Assurance Admission Program to the Doctor of Medicine Program at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Monmouth University and Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School are collaborating to provide early exposure to the medical school, individualized mentorship, healthcare delivery, and other areas related to the healthcare profession. This Early Assurance Program is for junior standing Monmouth University students. This a pipeline opportunity that includes summer enrichment programs and a conditional early acceptance to medical school. The applicant must be from a group underrepresented in medicine (as defined by the medical school); and/or educationally disadvantaged (first generation college student) background and/or economically disadvantaged. The applicant must be able to complete their pre-requisite courses and degree within four years. The applicant must have an overall GPA of at least 3.5 with a science GPA Of 3.3. (Science GPA includes biology, chemistry, physics, biochemistry and mathematics courses).

## Rowan-Virtua - School of Osteopathic Medicine

Monmouth University offers a cooperative academic arrangement between Monmouth University and Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine so that highly qualified students can complete the required courses for the baccalaureate and osteopathic medicine degrees in an eight-year sequence. This program is composed of four years of approved undergraduate study at Monmouth University and four years of study in Osteopathic Medicine at Rowan University-SOM. Eligibility for entry into the program at the end of the sophomore year is limited to Monmouth University students who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States and who have completed a minimum of sixty (60) credits with a major in biology or chemistry, and meet the following requirements:

1. overall G.P.A. of 3.50 or higher,
2. receive a recommendation of support from the PHA, and
3. submit scores of all components of the SAT or the ACT.

Candidates must maintain a 3.50 G.P.A. at Monmouth University, with no science course grade lower than a "B." Candidates will be interviewed by the PHA at Monmouth University and by Rowan-Virtua SOM and must achieve a competitive score on the MCAT (determined by Rowan University-SOM) by September 15 of their senior year. The decision for final admission to medical school will be made by the Rowan-Virtua SOM and will be based on a candidate's satisfaction of the school's admission requirements.

## Monmouth University Physician Assistant Program

The Monmouth University Physician Assistant Program began accepting students for its first class in Fall 2014. The Physician Assistant program allows qualified students to pursue a three-year Master of Science in Physician Assistant degree following a bachelor's degree at Monmouth University. Preference for interviews for this program is given to Monmouth University undergraduates.

## St. George's University (SGU), Grenada, B.S./M.D. and B.S./D.V.M. 4 +4 Program

In this program, students will begin their studies at Monmouth University (MU). After successfully completing four (4) years of undergraduate

study and earning a B.S. degree at MU, qualified students who satisfy all respective admission requirements will proceed to Grenada and enter the first year of St. George's University School of Medicine or St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine. Qualified medical students will be eligible to complete the first two (2) years of medical study in Grenada and the final two (2) years of this combined program in clinical rotations at affiliated hospitals in the U.S. and/or the U.K. Qualified veterinary students will be eligible to complete the first three (3) years of veterinary study in Grenada and their final clinical year at affiliated veterinary schools in the U.S., U.K., Canada, Australia, or Ireland.

Undergraduate students must express interest in one of the combined degree programs at time of application to Monmouth University. MU and SGU will select candidates based on criteria and conduct undergraduate interviews. The eligible medical student will maintain a G.P.A. of at least 3.40 while at MU and a score of 498 or higher on the MCAT. For the veterinary student, a GPA of 3.3 with no science grades less than "C" must be maintained while at MU and a score of at least 304 (combined verbal reasoning and quantitative reasoning) on the GRE. Additionally, all qualified MU students must meet all admission criteria of SGU School of Medicine and SGU School of Veterinary Medicine including a successful interview with SGU.

Students apply to this joint program from high school. There is no cap on the number of students who can be accepted. There is no binding commitment for the student to attend SGU once accepted into the program. They may choose to apply and enter another school if accepted.

### **American University of Antigua – College of Medicine**

American University of Antigua will allow qualified sophomores to apply to Monmouth University to be accepted into a "4 + 4" program with AUA College of Medicine. Qualified students (up to five per year) would complete four years at Monmouth University (with a major in biology or chemistry), and would continue to AUA College of Medicine to earn the Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree. Accepted students must maintain an overall 3.25 G.P.A. at Monmouth University and a 3.25 G.P.A. in all prerequisite courses required by AUA College of Medicine, with no more than one "D" or "F" in any prerequisite course. Candidates must also obtain a total MCAT score of 20 or higher, receive a letter of recommendation from the PHAC, and be successfully interviewed by the AUA College of Medicine. Acceptance to this program is non-binding, and students in the program are eligible to apply to additional schools.

### **American International College of Arts and Sciences – Antigua (AICASA) – Monmouth University Bachelor of Science degree**

Students who achieve an Associate's Degree from the American International College of Arts and Sciences (Antigua) may be offered admission to Monmouth University to complete a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology or Chemistry if the following qualifications are met:

- Be in good academic and disciplinary standing;
- An overall cumulative college grade point average (G.P.A.) of 3.00 or higher; high school applicants must have at least a 3.00 cumulative high school G.P.A. and 1500 three-section SAT score;
- No "F" or "D" grade in any required course by Monmouth University;
- Monmouth University does not represent that students admitted pursuant to this agreement will be able to complete the degree requirements. Each student is responsible for planning his or her undergraduate education to develop the skills necessary to succeed in a demanding degree program;

- Transfer credit will be awarded as specified in the Monmouth University catalog.

Students interested in any of the pre-professional health programs should contact 732-571-3687 for specific requirements and to seek advising.

### **Pre-Requisite Course Requirements for health professional schools taken at Monmouth University**

College graduates who wish to enter medical or other health professional schools but have not completed the prerequisite course requirements may enroll at Monmouth University to complete the necessary credits as a post-baccalaureate student. If interested, please contact the Office of Admission at 732-263-5869. Once a student is admitted to Monmouth University as a post-baccalaureate student, Pre-Health Advising provides academic advising in preparation for admission into a medical or other health professional school.