

MEDICINE

Building 3, Room 108, Brighton Campus • www.monroecc.edu/go/careercenter • 585.292.2248

Medical Doctors diagnose illnesses and prescribe & administer treatment for people suffering from injury or disease. Physicians examine patients, obtain medical histories, and order/perform/interpret diagnostic tests. They counsel patients on preventive healthcare including diet, sleep and exercise. It typically takes 11 to 17 years to become a medical doctor including a minimum of : 4 years of undergraduate college, 4 years of medical school, and 3 - 5 years of “residency.” Some specialties may require additional training for up to 8 years (“fellowships”).

Degrees: There are two types of medical physicians: M.D. - Doctor of Medicine - and D.O. - Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. While both M.D.s and D.O.s may use all accepted methods of treatment, including drugs and surgery, D.O.s place special emphasis on the body’s musculoskeletal system.

Admission to Medical Schools: Acceptance to medical school is **highly competitive**. In order to compete for admission, students will need to complete a Bachelor Degree at an undergraduate institution with a reputation for academic excellence. Although students come from a variety of undergraduate degree programs, majoring in Biology, Chemistry, or a related field is typical. Students will need to complete the AMCAS Application (or AACOMAS for Osteopathic Medicine) and supplemental applications for specific colleges if required.

Typical Minimum Prerequisite Courses for Medical School: One year of biology with laboratories; One year of physics with laboratories; Two years of chemistry with laboratories, including organic; One year of English. Calculus is required in order to take physics. Examples of MCC courses are below:

MTH 210 – Calculus I	CHE 251 - Organic Chemistry I*
BIO 155 - General Biology I	CHE 252 - Organic Chemistry II*
BIO 156 - General Biology II	PHY 154 - General Physics I &
CHE 151 – General College Chemistry I	PHY 155 - General Physics II
CHE 152 – General College Chemistry II	or
ENG 101 and/or ENG 200	PHY 161 - University Physics I &
ENG Literature Course (200 level recommended)	PHY 261 - University Physics II

*** It is very important to note that Medical Schools may prefer some prerequisite courses be completed at a 4-year institution.** For example, many medical schools prefer **organic chemistry** be taken at the 4 year college. It also may not be advisable to take pre-requisite courses over the summer sessions. In addition, courses which tend to duplicate those offered in medical school may not be optimal selections.

Although possibly not required, courses in biochemistry, statistics, genetics, physiology, and cell biology are highly recommended. Courses dealing with building interpersonal and communication skills are very important; these include courses in writing, ethics, speech communication, psychology, sociology and anthropology. Typically, a minimum of 12 – 16 credit hours of social behavioral sciences and/or humanities courses are recommended. Contact the Pre-Med Advisor at your four-year school for further information and assistance.

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Note: While every effort is made to ensure that the information in this guide is accurate, students are advised to meet with a counselor in the MCC Career and Transfer Center and to contact transfer institutions for specific course requirements and the most up-to-date information.

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Criteria of Importance for Acceptance Include:

- Undergraduate grade point average
- Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) score – Strongly suggested this be taken by April of the junior year (see: www.aamc.org/students/mcat/start.htm)
- Practical experience with patients (ex. volunteering at a hospital or as an EMT)
- Research activities
- Excellent communication skills
- Evidence of maturity, integrity, service to the community
- Work experience, extra-curricular activities, proven leadership ability
- Letters of recommendation from Pre-Health Advisor and/or Professors at the 4 year college
- Personal Statement
- Personal Interview (by invitation)

Partial Listing of Colleges in New York State Offering a Degree in Medicine:

- Albany Medical College
- Columbia University
- Cornell University Medical Center
- New York College of Osteopathic Medicine
- New York University
- SUNY University at Buffalo
- SUNY University at Stony Brook
- SUNY Upstate Medical University
- University of Rochester

Partial Listing of Specialized Areas of Medicine:

Anesthesiologist	Neurologist
Cardiologist	Ophthalmologist
Dermatologist	Pediatrician
Emergency Medicine	Psychiatrist
Obstetrician/Gynecologist	Radiologist
Internist	Surgeon
Medical Examiner	Urologist

Additional Information:

American Medical Association (AMA) - www.ama-assn.org

AMA Education and Careers - www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/education-careers.page?

Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) - www.aamc.org

Medical College Admission Test - www.aamc.org/students/mcat/start.htm

USDL, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Physicians and Surgeons - www.bls.gov/oco/ocos074.htm

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