Chiropractic

Chiropractors diagnose and treat patients whose health problems are associated with the body’s muscular, nervous, and skeletal systems, especially the spine. They believe that interference with these systems impairs the body’s normal functions and lowers its resistance to disease. Chiropractors provide natural, drugless, non-surgical health treatments and rely on the body’s inherent recuperative abilities. When appropriate, chiropractors consult with and refer patients to other health practitioners.

Degree: Chiropractic schools award the Doctor of Chiropractic (DC) degree. All States and the District of Columbia regulate the practice of chiropractic and grant licenses to chiropractors who meet educational and examination requirements established by the State. Chiropractors can practice only in states where they are licensed. Specialty councils within some chiropractic associations offer programs leading to clinical specialty certification, called “diplomate” certification, in areas such as orthopedics, neurology, sports injuries, occupational and industrial health, nutrition, diagnostic imaging, thermography, and internal disorders.

Admission: Chiropractic schools require a minimum of 90 credits of college level work although many strongly recommend a Bachelor’s Degree. (Some states require a baccalaureate degree for licensure). They look for students who possess the desire and patience to meet the needs of the sick, a commitment to academic rigor, and motivation and enthusiasm for the profession.

Typical Prerequisite Courses for Chiropractic School: two semesters of biology with laboratories; two semesters of physics with laboratories; four semesters of chemistry with laboratories including organic; additional social science and humanities courses. Admission requirements vary by program. Research each program you are interested in.

Examples of MCC courses include:

- CHE 151 - General College Chemistry I
- CHE 152 - General College Chemistry II
- CHE 251 - Organic Chemistry I
- CHE 252 - Organic Chemistry II
- PHY 154 & 155 - General Physics I & II OR
- PHY 161 & 261 - University Physics I & II
- BIO 155 - General Biology I *
- BIO 156 - General Biology II *
- BIO 144 & 145 - Anatomy and Physiology I & II can be accepted in place of BIO 155 & 156 by the New York Chiropractic College

Additional Requirements: Additional recommended or required courses may include anatomy, physiology, cell biology, microbiology, biochemistry, genetics, anthropology, psychology and English composition courses. Certain technical standards must also be met. These include but are not limited to physical strength, coordination and manual dexterity.

Colleges in NYS Offering a Degree in Chiropractic: D’Youville College, New York Chiropractic College (NYCC)

Additional Information:
Chiropractic Education (CCE) Directory of Chiropractic Degree Programs

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

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