



Preprofessional Preparation

Preprofessional programs are available for students who plan to transfer to other institutions for the completion of professional curricula in such fields as law, medicine, veterinary medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, optometry, forestry, theology, librarianship, chiropractic, and osteopathic and podiatric medicine. Certain of these programs are described below. Students planning to complete a preprofessional program and degree at CSU, Fresno must complete a major offered at this university. They should include their preprofessional area plus their university major on all registration forms; for example, premedical-chemistry, premedical-biology, prelaw-history, prelaw-political science. There are no preprofessional majors *per se*. Instead, preprofessional students work toward various university degrees and while doing so, knit into their college programs courses required for entry into professional school. Careful program planning is important in order to select proper classes and complete requirements in a timely way. Regular advising is essential since professional schools change their requirements occasionally. Preprofessional students should contact their respective major and preprofessional advisors before enrolling in classes each semester to stay abreast of current developments.

A current list of CSU, Fresno preprofessional advisers is available in the Office of Advising and Orientation.

Premedical. A student interested in preparing for medical school should declare his or her intent at the time he or she applies for admission to CSU, Fresno. To do this, it is necessary that the student use a term such as premedical-sociology, premedical-zoology, premedical-chemistry or premedical-general on all application, admittance and registration papers. In case premedical-general is chosen, a specific subject major should be selected as soon as possible and not later than the sophomore year from the list of approved CSU, Fresno majors in the catalog.

Requirements for admission to medical school vary considerably from one medical school to another and change from time to time, but a well-balanced liberal education is usually specified. Some aptitude and university training in science and English are essential in medicine. The minimum requirements in these subjects specified by most medical schools can be satisfied by the following: biology, 13 units; chemistry, 19 units; physics, 8 units; and English, 6 units. Calculus is required by some medical schools and a reading knowledge of a modern foreign language is required by a few. Because of competition for admission to medical schools, a grade average of above 3.5 grade points is highly desirable. The Medical College Aptitude Test (MCAT) is required before a student can be accepted into medical school. It is recommended that the MCAT be taken and application for medical school be made at the end of the Junior year.

Freshman, transfer, and all other students who are entering the program are advised to attend the premedical student orientation meeting scheduled prior to registration. (See *Advising and Orientation—Orientation*.) Each student will be assigned to a member of the premedical advisory committee who will assist him or her in planning a program of courses and will advise him or her concerning preparatory procedures for application to medical school.

The Premedical Advisory Committee will mail to any interested student a booklet that covers the operation of the CSU, Fresno premedical program, courses required and medical school admissions procedures. Write to: Premedical Advisory Committee, California State University, Fresno, Fresno, CA 93740.

Predental. The minimum training for dentistry is a six-year course—the first two years (predental training) in a liberal arts college and the remaining four years (dental training) at a school of dentistry.

The minimum predental program required by accredited dental schools is one year each of English, inorganic chemistry, physics, and zoology; one semester of organic chemistry; and additional courses (usually elective in general education, but specified by some dental schools) for a total of 60 units. Each science course must include laboratory. The present trend among dental schools is to require more than two years of predental training including a broad liberal arts background. Since 1971, three years have been required by the University of California, San Francisco, and some other dental schools. Additional organic chemistry, quantitative chemical analysis, elementary physical chemistry, other zoology courses, and in some cases a foreign language and psychology are recommended or required. Several schools require a bachelor's degree for entrance. The American Dental Association aptitude test and evidence of physical fitness and good moral character are usually required. Many dental schools also require a personal interview and some administer additional tests. For other information, see the predental adviser and dental school catalogs.

Prelegal. Most fully accredited law schools require a bachelor's degree for admission. Since a prelegal program providing a broad cultural background is recommended by the law schools, any baccalaureate major, depending on the student's interest, may be chosen from the university offerings. (See *Degree Programs, Majors and Minors*.) Law schools suggest courses, but not necessarily a major, in the following: written and oral English, American and English constitutional history, world history, accounting, business administration,