

Pre-Podiatry Scheduling and Timelines

Scheduling of the Podiatric Medical School Prerequisites. Students should complete the core pre-podiatry science requirements before taking the MCAT. This can be accomplished in different ways, with the two most popular schedules shown in Table 1 below. These plans chart the **minimum science coursework** for students on a track that requires the MCAT over the four years that students are expected to be at Mercer University. Students must check the admission requirements of the individual podiatry schools to which they are likely to apply and to adjust their personal plans accordingly. Mercer University advisors recommend that during their first year, students create a personalized plan that includes the requirements of their major(s) and minor(s) and the admission requirements of their target schools, and takes into account initial math placement.

When creating their own 4-year plans, students should review the published lists of course offerings and consult the University catalog for information about course pre-requisites and offering frequency.

AP, IB, and CLEP Credit to Fulfill Science Prerequisites. An increasing number of medical schools do not accept AP, IB, or CLEP credit to fulfill the core science pre-requisites. It is possible that podiatry schools will follow their example and stop viewing AP credit as a true college laboratory experience in the sciences. Students must check the policies of their target podiatry schools before using any AP or IB credit for biology, chemistry, or physics. **In many cases, it is in the student's best interest to decline AP, IB, or CLEP credit for general chemistry, general biology, and physics, and take the actual college courses instead.**

Table 1. Scheduling of Science Pre-requisites

A. Math Index Below 980

Year	Fall	Spring	Summer
1	MAT 095 or 133 PSY 101 or SOC 101?	MAT 133 or math for major PSY 101 or SOC 101?	Shadowing or other appropriate extracurricular experience
2	CHM 111 BIO 171	CHM 112 BIO 172	Shadowing or other appropriate extracurricular experience
3	CHM 221 BIO 260	CHM 222 BIO 280	Shadowing or other appropriate extracurricular experience
4	BMB 465 PHY 141 (BIO 4XXL recommended)	PHY 142 (BIO 4XXL recommended) Prepare for admission exam and application process	Take admission exam; submit applications

B. Math Index at or Above 980

Year	Fall	Spring	Summer
1	CHM 111 BIO 171 PSY 101 or SOC 101?	CHM 112 BIO 172 PSY 101 or SOC 101?	Volunteer or Shadowing Experience or Independent Research Experience
2	CHM 221 BIO 260 Declare Major	CHM 222 BIO 280	Volunteer or Shadowing Experience or Independent Research Experience
3	PHY 141 BMB 465 or other BIO	PHY 142 BMB 465 or other BIO Prepare for admission exam and application	Volunteer or Shadowing Experience or Independent Research Experience Take admission exam and submit application?
4	(BIO 4XXL recommended)	(BIO 4XXL recommended) Prepare for admission exam and application process	Take admission exam; submit applications?