

Pre-Health Professions at Truman State University

October 11, 2017

Pro Tip: Apply Early

Q: I noticed that most health professions schools have application deadlines in the fall, so why apply earlier than the deadline?

A: With a low acceptance rate to most health professions schools, it isn't as simple as taking the classes, applying, and being accepted. Set yourself up for the best chance at getting the first time because it's stressful, time-intensive, and expensive to go through the application process.

Pre-health advisors suggest that you apply to schools as early as the application service opens. Here are some of the reasons:

1. There is a significant lag time between the time that you submit your common application and the time that arrives at schools (due to processing time that you can't control). Applying earlier will reduce that lag time and give you the chance to get evaluated, interviewed, and accepted earlier.
2. Many schools operate on rolling admissions policies. This means that they will start letting students in early and will continue to do so until they have filled their class. The earlier you're in the applicant pool, the more shots you have at getting one of those acceptances.
3. Schools that don't operate on rolling admissions still offer interviews over a set range of dates with the bulk of interviews in early September through early January. Based on our data from recent years, about 50% of interview invitations went out in August and September, and only about 20% in December and later. So if you submit your application in November, you're vying for fewer interview slots than those who had applied earlier.
4. Applying early reflects well on your professionalism: it can give the impression that you were well organized, punctual, managing your time well, and committed to the application process. Applying right at the deadline could give the impression, whether it's true or not, that you were unsure of your candidacy or your interest in this particular health profession, or otherwise unprepared to apply.
5. Knowing you've done everything you can do to apply early can give you a sense of control in a process where you often don't feel in control.

Important Dates & Deadlines

- **TODAY: Wednesday, October 11th**—Second-block courses begin
- **Tuesday, October 17th**—The last day to add a second-block course.
- **Friday, October 27th**—The last day to drop a semester-long course (with a W on your transcript & a \$50 fee).



- * Pre-Athletic Training
- * Pre-Chiropractic
- * Pre-Dental
- * Pre-Medical
- * Pre-Medical Technology
- * Pre-Occupational Therapy
- * Pre-Optometry
- * Pre-Pharmacy
- * Pre-Physical Therapy
- * Pre-Physician Assistant
- * Pre-Veterinary

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Upcoming Events & Resources

Featured Upcoming Events

Volunteer Opportunity: Project Homeless Connect on Friday, October 6th

Project Homeless Connect is a one-day shop for people who are homeless or at-risk in the Kirksville/Adair County area. There are a LOT of volunteer needs on the actual day of PHC. For more information and to RSVP, click [here](#).

ATSU Pre-Dental Day on Saturday, October 7th 1:00pm-3:00pm

Tour campus, get admission tips from faculty & students, and ask questions during the student discussion panel. For more information and to RSVP, click [here](#).

@Truman: Pre-Health Professions Presentation TODAY 7-8pm in VH 1010

During this session you will learn the basics about pursuing a career in the health field! We will explore different health care careers, graduate school requirements, and build a four year and beyond plan to set you up for success! (**Pre-Health Freshman and Sophomores are strongly encouraged to attend this session**). To RSVP, click [here](#).

@Truman: Pre-Physician Assistant Interest Meeting on Monday, October 16th 6:30pm in VH 1140

There will be an interest meeting for new and returning students interested in joining the Pre-PA club on Monday October 16th at 6:30 pm in VH 1140. This is a casual meeting to get to know some of the leaders of the club, and also learn a bit about what physician assistants do. Anyone even slightly interested in coming is welcome to attend! Please fill out [this short survey](#) if you think you'd be interested in coming to this meeting.

Berkeley Optometry Webinars: Essay Writing on Tuesday, October 17th & Interview Skills and Professional Etiquette on Thursday, October 26th

Berkeley School of Optometry is hosting two webinars that would be useful for ANY pre-health professions students. The first one is about writing the admissions essay on Tuesday, October 17th 2pm-3:30pm CST. The second one is about interviewing skills and how to be professional on Thursday, October 26th 2pm-3:30pm CST. To RSVP for either (or both), click [here](#).

ATSU DO/DMD for a Day Program: Tuesday, October 24th 8am-5pm & Tuesday, November 7th 8am-5pm

ATSU hosts multiple DO/DMD days in which undergraduate students can experience a typical day in the life of a DO/DMD student. The first one this fall is October 3rd. For more information and to RSVP, click [here](#). You may also see the flyer that was attached to the newsletter email.

Health Professions Week (#HPW2017) is November 6th-10th

For ALL pre-health students: there are videos, virtual fairs, speakers, and more! There are some awesome events planned, but you need to register to get more information. For more information, click [here](#). To register, click [here](#).

Pre-SOMA Conference at NYITCOM at Arkansas State University on Saturday, November 11th 9am-4pm

Registration is FREE and is limited to 130 students. Registration deadline is November 8th. For more information and to register, click [here](#). You may also see the flyer that was attached to the newsletter email.

Did You Know?

We have overviews of all pre-health professions requirements & ideas on shadowing, volunteering, & research in Kirksville.

Visit <http://excellence.truman.edu/advising/pre-health-professions/> for more information!

We have a table with great information regarding pre-health professions, schools, admissions tests, and other pertinent information. We have test prep materials available for checkout.

The information table is located in the Kirk Building hallway, outside of the freshmen academic advising office (Kirk Building 107). To check out materials, contact [Brittany Harden](#) or make an appointment to meet with her.

We have an archive of all of the previous newsletters.

Click [here](#) for more information!



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For more information:
[Pre-Health Professions at Truman](#)

Meet with a pre-health advisor or the pre-health coordinator:

If you are in your second year at Truman AND majoring in Biology, Chemistry, Exercise Science, or Health Science:

- You should meet with the designated pre-health advisor in your major. Depending on the department, some major advisors have a specific pre-health profession and some are versed in multiple pre-health professions.

If you are a first-year student OR a first-semester transfer OR are majoring in anything **other** than Biology, Chemistry, Exercise Science, or Health Science:

- You should meet with Brittany Harden to help guide your preparation for health professions school. You may call 660-785-7403 or stop by the advising reception desk in Kirk Building 107 (Monday-Friday 8am-5pm) to make an appointment.