

Pre-Health Professions at Truman State University

January 24, 2018

Spotlight on Health Professions:

Optometrist

What is an Optometrist?

Optometrists diagnose and treat issues with vision, diseases, injuries, and other problems associated with the eye. They perform vision exams and prescribe vision-correction solutions. Optometrists may do minor corrective surgeries, but *ophthalmologists* (medical doctors who specialize in eye surgery) do the majority of eye surgeries and treatment of eye diseases.

How do you become an Optometrist?

All optometrists must complete a Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) program after at least taking the pre-requisite courses at an undergraduate institution (some OD programs do not require a bachelors degree); most OD programs are four years. There are optional residencies after OD programs for optometrists who would like to do advanced training.

What is required to go to Optometry school?

These are the Truman equivalent of the general requirements to go to Optometry school:

- BIOL 107 & 108
- BIOL 204 or 304
- CHEM 130 & 131
- [CHEM 329 & 331, 330/332 or 333] or [CHEM 320] — depends on major
- CHEM 335
- PHYS 185 & 186 or 195 & 196
- ENG 190 & JINS
- PSYC 166

Where can I find more information?

- Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry ([ASCO](#))
- American Optometric Student Association ([AOSA](#))



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

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Featured Events

@Truman: Activities Fair TODAY in SUB Georgian Room

The event is an opportunity for students to meet with student organizations and members of the community and find out about the many resources and organizations available to the Truman Community. Organizations are sorted by category within the building. Many pre-health clubs will be represented!

AAMC Webinar: A Week in the Life of a SHPEP Scholar on Thursday, January 25th 4pm

Get more information about what it's like to be a Summer Health Professions Education Program (SHPEP) scholar. To register for the webinar, click [here](#). To learn more, in general, about applying to a SHPEP, click [here](#).

@Truman: ASDA Pre-Dental Club Meeting on Tuesday, January 30th 7pm in MG 2078

This is the first meeting of the semester! If you are interested in joining, come check it out! If you are interested but cannot attend the meeting, please contact predentaltsu@gmail.com.

Podiatric Medicine Virtual Fair on Wednesday, February 7th

FREE for students. All nine podiatric schools will be present. If you are remotely interested in podiatric medicine, be sure to check it out. [Here](#) is more information.

Upcoming Summer Program & Scholarship Deadlines

Health Professions Readiness & Enrichment Program (HPREP): **January 31**

4-day intensive program for pre-health students in certain areas. Takes place in late May at Campbell University. Click [here](#) for more information.

LGBTI Health Internship Summer Program: **February 1**

10-week summer internship for students interested in LGBTI health and research. Click [here](#) for more information.

Gateways to the Lab Summer Program: **February 1**

10-week summer program for students interested in research. Students receive a stipend for this program. Program is June 4-August 10, 2018. For more information, click [here](#).

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF): **February 4**

Summer program for seniors (and potentially some juniors) with a focus on research. Students receive room, board, a stipend, and reimbursement for travel expenses. Click [here](#) for more information.

Pre-Vet Leadership Award: **February 5**

If you are an active member of Truman's pre-vet club and have already applied to veterinary school, you might be interested in this award. For more information, click [here](#).

Summer Health Professions Education Program (SHPEP): **February 15**

For more information, click [here](#).

Washington University ASPIRE: **February 20**

8-week program in which students do research with a mentor and receive three undergraduate credits. For more information, click [here](#).

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!

We have an MCAT/Health Admissions Test Prep Course.

The course is currently titled INDV 320: MCAT/Med School Success Seminar — it is open to all students who will be taking an admission test for a health professions school (MCAT, DAT, OAT, etc.). If you have questions regarding this course, please contact [Brittany Harden](#).



Brittany A. Harden

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Make an appt online [here](#)

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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.