

# PRE-MEDICAL AND PRE-HEALTH

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## Pre-Health at Fordham College at Rose Hill

The Fordham College at Rose Hill (FCRH) pre-health program provides support for students and alumni applying to health programs. Students can declare an interest in participating in the FCRH pre-health program upon accepting admission to FCRH or at any other time during their attendance or as alumni.

### Course of Study and Curriculum

Pre-health students may choose to pursue a major in or outside of the sciences. There are several different academic curricular paths that students can take to completing pre-health requirements. All pre-health students, no matter what their primary fields of study, should learn the major concepts and skills of science and mathematics, and would be well served by taking additional upper-level science coursework to help prepare for standardized entrance exams. In addition, schools may require calculus as a prerequisite. Variations in this coursework may be necessary for application to programs specific to each discipline and from school to school. Each applicant, working with the pre-health program staff, should become informed what the specific requirements are for admission to M.D., D.O., D.D.S./D.M.D., PA, PT, and other programs in order to best prepare for them.

assess readiness for applying. In the spring term, students submit a portfolio that includes coursework, transcripts, a personal statement, volunteer and/or internship experiences, research experience, faculty recommendations, and other documents in advance of a committee interview. It is recommended that students complete substantive clinical and health-related work or volunteer experiences before the CHP interviews.

The CHP provides students with a committee letter of support that may be required by health professional schools, namely M.D., D.O., and dental schools. The committee letter is based on the interview and all of the student's documentation. Students not requiring a committee letter for health-related programs may also participate in the CHP process. Students may participate in the CHP process for several years or application cycles after graduating, but after a period of time, the CHP may no longer recommend an FCRH Committee letter due to the lack of timeliness of recommendation letters and coursework.

For more information, visit the Pre-Health Program at Fordham College at Rose Hill web page.

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### Contact Information

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## Preparing Students to Become Healthcare Professionals

The pre-health program helps prospective applicants gain formative experiences by creating healthcare-related programming; this includes a first-year pre-health symposium, workshops, guest healthcare professional seminars, and co-sponsored career fairs, MCAT preparation and other experiential opportunities such as hospital volunteer and shadowing positions with the campus career center. The program also provides opportunities for students to meet other health care professionals and pre-health students through a peer and alumni network, and encourages participation in the multiple health-care-related FCRH student groups and organizations that host activities and events. Students planning on pursuing an application to a health professional program should be in regular contact with their academic advisor and the pre-health professions staff for guidance on key factors that lead to successful admission to a health professional program: course selection, extracurricular activities, and clinical and research experiences.

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## Helping Students Apply to Health Professional Schools

The FCRH Committee on Health Professions (CHP) is composed of faculty and staff that manage and support students in a comprehensive yearlong process that leads to application to health professional schools. Students should elect to join the CHP the year before they intend to apply for a health professional school, typically in their junior or senior year. A mandatory information meeting is held in the fall term to explain the process and to gauge a student's interest in starting the application process. If a student expresses an intent to apply that year and be part of the CHP process, they submit a self-assessment and, if needed, attend a meeting with the CHP committee members to