

Pre-Chiropractic Medicine Academic Prerequisite Guide 2011-2012

The Pre-Chiropractic Medicine Program of Study at East Tennessee State University prepares students for application to a 4-year Doctor of Chiropractic (DC) degree program. Students may apply after the successful completion of at least 90 credit hours; however, the majority of states require the completion of a Bachelor's degree to practice chiropractic medicine.

Overall Academic GPA

The minimum overall GPA for most chiropractic schools, as reported by the Association of Chiropractic Colleges (ACC), is a 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

Science (BCPM) GPA

The minimum science GPA for most chiropractic schools, as reported by the ACC, is a 2.50 on a 4.0 scale.

Entrance Exam

Many chiropractic schools do not require an entrance exam, so it is the responsibility of the student to research their school(s) of choice to check application requirements.

Required Courses

Most chiropractic schools require completion of the following prerequisite courses:

Biology (8hrs.)	BIOL 1110/11, BIOL 1120/21
General Chemistry (8hrs.)	CHEM 1110/11, CHEM 1120/21
Organic Chemistry (10hrs.)	CHEM 2010/11, CHEM 2020/21
Physics (8hrs.)	PHYS 2010/11, PHYS 2020/21
English (6hrs.)	ENGL 1010, ENGL 1020
Psychology (3hrs.)	PSYC 1310
Social Sciences/Humanities (15hrs.)	

There may be variations between prerequisite requirements at different chiropractic schools, therefore it is up to the student to research and ensure the required courses are completed before application to the preferred school(s) of interest.

Recommended Courses

Most chiropractic schools recommend the following courses:

Human Anatomy (4hrs.)	HSCI 3000
Human Physiology (4hrs.)	HSCI 3020
Probability and Statistics (3hrs.)	MATH 1530
Exercise Physiology (3hrs.)	PEXS 3610

*Students are encouraged to take courses in Business Administration, Marketing and Management.

Majors

Pre-Chiropractic Medicine is NOT a major. Students need to choose a major by the time they have completed 60 hours. The major should be in an area of interest to the student. The major does not have to be in the science field as long as the required science classes have been completed prior to chiropractic school.

The Application Process

In order to apply to chiropractic school, students must have successfully completed 90 credit hours. Although a Bachelor's degree is not required for the majority of chiropractic schools, it is strongly recommended that the student complete their degree. The majority of states require the completion of a Bachelor's degree to practice chiropractic medicine. Students must have completed all of the prerequisite classes with a C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or better.

Chiropractic schools vary on application deadlines, with many of them accepting applications year-round. Students will apply to the majority of chiropractic schools through the individual school websites. Five chiropractic schools currently participate in ChiroCAS, the Chiropractic Centralized Application Service. The website is <http://portal.chirocas.org>. Two to three letters of recommendation are required depending on the school, with at least one letter from a Licensed Chiropractor.

A student must also possess the following abilities, with or without reasonable accommodation, for completion of most Doctor of Chiropractic degree programs:

- Ability to use both upper extremities in the performance of common chiropractic procedures and techniques, including but not limited to: positioning patients, palpating, feeling with hands, pushing, pulling, thrusting with hands and wrists, grasping, and lifting up to 10 pounds;
- Ability to determine depth and intensity of manual pressure and force, as applied in the performance of common chiropractic and adjunctive procedures and techniques.

Related Experience

Students are encouraged to explore the chiropractic field either by employment or as a volunteer. Chiropractic schools want to know that a student has worked in the field, and/or observed what is involved and still has the desire to continue in that profession. Students should gain as much experience as possible without sacrificing grades.

Extracurricular Activities

The admissions committees of chiropractic schools are interested in seeing a range of extracurricular activities, especially those demanding a significant leadership role. Students should demonstrate their ability to balance full academic schedules with extracurricular involvement on and off campus and/or through employment opportunities. ETSU has many organizations that students can join. Students should visit the SORC located on the first floor of the Culp center or www.etsu.edu/sorc for more information regarding extracurricular activities. It is not beneficial to simply join an organization, you must demonstrate leadership qualities!

Volunteer Opportunities

Chiropractic schools are looking for candidates who express a commitment to community service. Students should seek volunteer projects that focus on giving back to their community. Students are encouraged to also look for volunteer opportunities related to the chiropractic field.

Please Be Advised

Students must meet with their pre-professional *and* academic advisor each semester. Furthermore, students who receive scholarships, participate in specialized ETSU programs, etc. (i.e., Athletes, Honors College) must also seek advisement from those parties. *Serious consequences can occur if students fail to meet with advisors (i.e., failure to graduate on schedule, not taking the appropriate courses to prepare for application, etc.).*

Take Note

Students need to be **cautious when putting anything on social networking sites and the internet** (*such as MySpace, Facebook, YouTube, Email, Voicemail, Mobile Text Messaging, Twitter, and blogs*).

Please consider personal email addresses when corresponding with professional schools. First impressions are often based on correspondence; therefore, email addresses need to be appropriate for professional communication. Messages and images sent electronically are reflections of judgment and potential suitability for professional careers. Self-deprecating behaviors shared on an accessible venue can be viewed and/or shared by anyone, resulting in detriment to acceptance into a professional school.

**** PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS DO LOOK AT INTERNET SOURCES WHEN CONSIDERING CANDIDATE APPLICATIONS!!!**