

MEDICAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT (MED) PROGRAM

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WHAT	<p>The Schools of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill sponsor the MED Program, an intensive educational experience and challenging opportunity to gain insight into the realities of attending medical or dental school. The Program provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•a demanding <u>academic</u> core on the level of beginning medical/dental studies with 215 hours of Gross Anatomy, Histology, MCAT/DAT Prep, Microbiology/Immunology, and Clinical Biochemistry. Dental-bound students also study Dental Theory and Lab Techniques.•learning skills, test skills, and terminology appropriate to professional training.•seminars, preprofessional workshops and counseling, and activities orienting participants to the environmental and social aspects of attending professional school (approx. 50 hrs).•a unique chance for each individual •(1) to demonstrate to admissions committees their ability to handle the demands of professional school, •(2) to assess depth of interest and motivation, •(3) to build academic and personal confidence in coping with what lies ahead, and •(4) to develop perspective in making educational or career decisions.
FOR WHOM	<p>The Program enrolls 80 students. Selected students admitted to professional school at UNC will be invited to apply. Other applicants should be premedical or pre-dental candidates with one year remaining before desired application to professional school. All such participants are either rising seniors or postgraduates. Current applicants to professional school whose results are still pending by the Program's deadline are invited to submit an application along with an explanation of the circumstances.</p> <p>North Carolina residents receive preference and typically constitute 80-85% of participants. Applicants from other states are welcome with the understanding that their interest is strong enough to warrant their effort, although spaces will be limited.</p> <p>Academic prerequisites are (1) a passing grade in <u>Organic Chemistry (Parts 1 & 2)</u> and (2) a solid background in the major biological and physical sciences that are preparatory for medical or dental school. Application review then emphasizes such factors as motivation and personal story. However, a science GPA of 2.75 or higher is recommended for realistic consideration.</p>
WHY	<p>Because of a commitment to encourage and provide equal opportunities in professional training for promising preprofessional students who have ability and ambition but who have faced obstacles that may limit their full competitiveness...</p>
WHEN	<p>A <u>nine</u> week summer session -- End of May -- End of July</p>
WHERE	<p>All classes are held in the UNC Schools of Medicine and Dentistry. Most students live in a designated University dormitory and have access to resources of the University and the Health Affairs complex, including libraries and cafeterias. Students who live off-campus must live within a ten-mile radius of the University.</p>
FACULTY & STAFF	<p>Medical faculty conducts all basic science courses. Dental faculty conducts the dental course. Current UNC medical and dental students serve as teaching assistants and counselors.</p>
APPLICATION PROCESS & DEADLINE	<p>All application materials must be received by <u>February 15th</u>. Completed files should include (1) personal application and essay; (2) cumulative transcripts from <u>all</u> post-secondary institutions attended; (3) at least two letters of evaluation from advisors or instructors familiar (preferably a science faculty) with your academic background and professional motivation; (4) copy of your Student Aid Report (SAR Report) generated from your current Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form or current income tax forms (provide copy of parent's income tax forms if you are claimed as a dependent).</p>
COST & FINANCIAL	<p>The Schools of Medicine and Dentistry cover all instructional costs (tuition, texts) for all participants. An approximate budget for other expenses (e.g., housing & food) is \$1,730.00. The Program awards financial aid to cover costs on the basis of financial <u>need</u> as determined by the SAR Report.</p>
ADDRESS INQUIRIES TO	<p>Georgia B. Njagu – Business Services Coordinator UNC School of Medicine, CB#7530, 322 MacNider Building, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7530 Telephone: (919) 966-7673; Fax: (919) 966-7734 Email: med-info@listserv.med.unc.edu Website: http://www.med.unc.edu/medprogram</p>
POLICY ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY	<p>The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is committed to equality of educational opportunity. The University does not discriminate in offering access to its educational programs and activities on the basis of race, color, gender, age, national origin, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. The Dean of Students (CB# 5100, 450 Ridge Road, Suite 1106 (Student Academic Services Bldg.), Chapel Hill, NC 27599-5100 or 919-966-4042) has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the University's non-discrimination policies.</p>
FUNDING	<p>The MED Program is supported by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill schools of Medicine and Dentistry and the NC AHEC Program.</p>

MED PROGRAM CURRICULUM

Total Program Hours: A typical schedule involves about 325 structured hours during nine weeks: 35-40 hours/week in formally organized courses, seminars and other activities, as well as 5-8 hours/day of class preparation. Of this total, 216 hours (@24 hours/week) are spent in the five basic sciences of Gross Anatomy, Histology, Biochemistry, Microbiology & MCAT/DAT Prep, taken by all students. Dental-bound students are also required to take Dental Orientation (19). The remaining 109 hours (an average of 12 hours/week) are distributed among a variety of activities. Most participants need to put in 15-18 hours/day, 6-7 days/week in order to keep up and earn acceptable averages.

Total Course Hours & Credit Equivalents: Credit equivalents have been approximated by UNC-CH Medical School officials and course directors, from guidelines used by the UNC-CH College of Arts and Sciences:

Guideline:			
	Lecture/formal review/exams	30-45 hours	3 credit hours
	Laboratory/discussion/problem sets	30 hours	1 credit hour
Basic Sciences	Contact Hours/Activities	Total Contact Hours	Approximate Credit Hours
Gross Anatomy	[21 lec + 15 lab + 5 exam]	41	3
Histology	[18 lec + 3 lab + 3 exam]	58	0
MCAT/DAT Prep	[15 lec + 7 problems + 3 exam]	25	2
Microbiology/Immunology	[32 lec + 16 lab + 3 exam]	51	4
Biochemistry	[52 lec + 8 cases + 4 exam]	64	4
Dental Orientation (Dental theory, anatomy & lab techniques)	[12 lec + 7 lab + 3 exam]	22	2
Other Activities			
Test Skills/Learning Skills	[Group sessions & self-paced]	30	
Seminars/Workshops		40-45	
Clinical Correlations	[Individualized placement]	5-10	

Participation in the MED Program does not lead to an official UNC-CH transcript listing courses because the summer curriculum is not listed for open enrollment. Responsibility for program registration, administration and basic science courses rests within the Medical School. It is program policy to provide upon request the following documentation: certification of satisfactory completion, course descriptions, recommendations of approximate equivalent credit hours (see above), and final grades in each course. Note also the sections below concerning level of instruction, testing and interpretation of student averages.

Based on this report of work done, other institutions may make determinations about recording credit for MED courses to the extent allowable within their existing institutional policies. Students who want course credit should make advance arrangements with appropriate officials (faculty advisor, major department and registrar) at their home institution. Note also that the AMCAS application allows students to list work done in the MED Program, although MED grades are not included in calculating the AMCAS G.P.A.

Level and Context of Instruction: Medical/dental faculty conduct all basic science courses, using standard texts and regular UNC Medical School teaching resources and facilities. Within the educational limits of a 9-week period, most courses approximate portions of the first year medical and dental curriculum at UNC. Collectively, the summer curriculum is intense in academic level, pace, volume and faculty expectations. No single course, however, should be viewed as substantially the equivalent of or a substitute for a regular degree requirement at either the preprofessional or professional school level. In Histology, students cover roughly one-third of the corresponding first semester course. Gross Anatomy concentrates on anatomical structures and systems, in preparation for study by regions. Microbiology and Biochemistry survey first year topics, in less depth but with similar clinical applications.

Level and Type of Test: Objective testing is an integral part of student learning and assessment, with test items and conditions modeled on exams in medical school. All courses have 4-7 achievement measures in addition to comprehensive final exams, with a total of close to 800 items or separate measures across courses. Weekly quizzes (in a separately designated testing period) contain material from each course offered in the previous week, with a final week of separate, comprehensive exams in each course.

Interpretation of Course Averages: Student scores are recorded in terms of % correct. Each course average is the direct product of all test scores and any other measures, such as Anatomy and Dental Orientation lab practical exam and Microbiology lab quizzes and lab report on unknowns. The other courses assess but do not assign numerical grades to lab exercises.

Performance distribution and faculty policy for assigning ratings vary somewhat from course to course and summer to summer.

Revised: 8/27/08/gbn