

Pre-Medicine



“The broad liberal arts perspectives I received at Bethel gave me a more humanistic approach to medicine.”

—Suzanne Wedel '76,
Bedford, Mass.,
chief executive officer,
Boston MedFlight critical
care transport system



Question

How will I know this is the right field of study for me?

Answer

Do you enjoy working with people to maintain and improve their physical well-being? Are you interested in science and scientific research? If so, you may be well-suited for a career in medicine. Medicine requires diligence and persistence, because the work often demands much time—when you’re working with the human body, not all research and treatment will go as expected. In the end, however, medicine can be rewarding and satisfying because you have helped to improve lives, not only of an individual patient but also those who care about him or her. Bethel’s faculty advisors in the pre-medical program will work with you as you begin to discern what it is about medicine that interests you most and which medical schools you would like to apply to. They will help you follow the course of study that will be most likely to lead to successful completion of entrance exams and acceptance to medical school.

Question

How can Bethel College prepare me for a career in medicine?

Answer

Like most colleges and universities, Bethel offers no specific major for students interested in going to medical school. Completing a major in a field such as biology, chemistry or psychology will give you the knowledge and skills to succeed in medical school and beyond. In addition to the courses required for the major you choose, Bethel faculty recommend these courses in preparation for a medical career:

- Zoology
- Virus, Bacteria and Higher Cells
- Chemistry I & II
- Organic Chemistry I & II
- General Physics I & II



* Bethel



Seek.
Serve.
Grow.

Question

What kind of practical experience will I get?

Answer

As a pre-med student at Bethel, you will have the chance to put what you learn in the classroom to use in practical situations. One common way is by doing research in collaboration with faculty members. A number of students also pursue summer research positions at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., and in university laboratories across the country.

Research experience can be particularly helpful in preparing you to become an independent learner, as students are increasingly required to be in modern medical school curricula. Other opportunities include shadowing physicians and other health-care professionals and participating in meetings and service projects of the Bethel Pre-Health Professions Club.

Question

What kind of career might await me?

Answer

Bethel pre-med students have gone on to a range of medical professions, including emergency medicine, family practice, internal medicine, neurology, ophthalmology, osteopathic medicine, pediatrics, psychiatry, radiology and surgery. Those careers have taken alumni to hospitals and clinics, to urban and rural areas, and to under-served areas around the world as well as to nationally and internationally respected educational, health-care and research institutions.



“The mentoring I received at Bethel was the single most important factor in my success in medical and graduate school.”

—Audrey Franz Blacklock '98, M.D.,
Ph.D., Wichita, KS,
ophthalmologist,
Greene Vision Group



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