



Pre-Medical & Pre-Dental Studies Designations

Quinnipiac University's **Pre-Medical Studies Designation ("PMSD")** is designed for students intending to pursue a medical degree (MD or DO). The PMSD designation also provides foundational coursework for many other clinical, doctoral degrees such as OD, PharmD, DC, DPM, DVM, ND, and DPT. The **Pre-Dental Studies Designation ("PDS")** is designed for students intending to pursue a DMD or DDS. PMSD and PDS are stand-alone academic designations (not majors/minors) providing course planning guidance for students and academic advisors, regardless of school or major.

Pre-Medical Studies Designation Course Requirements (39 credits total)

PMSD courses are the *minimum* pre-requisites to apply to most U.S. MD and DO programs and cover much of the foundational content*** on the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT).

<u>Course</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Biology 101/101L or 150/150L	General Biology I (lecture and lab)	4
Biology 102/102L or 151/151L	General Biology II (lecture and lab)	4
Chemistry 110/110L	General Chemistry I (lecture and lab)	4
Chemistry 111/111L	General Chemistry II (lecture and lab)	4
Chemistry 210/210L	Organic Chemistry I (lecture and lab)	4
Chemistry 211/211L	Organic Chemistry II (lecture and lab)	4
Physics 110/110L	General Physics I (lecture and lab)	4
Physics 111/111L	General Physics II (lecture and lab)	4
Chemistry 315/315L	Biochemistry I (lecture and lab)	4
Math 141	Calculus of a Single Variable I	3

***MCAT now includes social sciences, so **all pre-medical students need to take Psychology 101 and Sociology 101** as electives. While not required for PMSD, **most medical schools require two (2) English courses**. Social science and English courses may be taken at any time prior to sitting for MCAT and applying to medical school (students determine specific course plan with their academic advisor).

Pre-Dental Studies Designation Course Requirements (46 credits total)

In addition to the 39 credits listed above, PDS enrollees must complete:

BMS 370/370L	Microbiology (lecture and lab)	4
Math 275	Biostatistics	3

Additional Coursework: Some courses outside of PMSD/PDS *may be recommended or required* by specific graduate or doctoral degree programs. Students are advised to check requirements or recommendations for graduate or professional schools of interest after first year for planning purposes (info available via educational associations - visit www.explorehealthcareers.org for resource links).

Recommended electives: many professional schools recommend courses in humanities, philosophy, public health, advanced sciences, ethics, etc. Electives courses should be chosen based on the student's academic interests, professional aspirations, and school-specific requirements or expectations.

Requirements to receive Pre-Medical Studies Designation or Pre-Dental Studies Designation:

To receive PMSD or PDS recognition on the final undergraduate transcript, the following is required:

- 3.3+ GPA (cumulative GPA for credits required by designation)
- Online coursework not accepted (unless necessitated by pandemic; online coursework for required courses is not typically allowed by graduate/professional schools)
- A minimum of 18 credits must be completed at Quinnipiac. If transfer courses are used for designation completion, originating institution grade used to determine GPA eligibility

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AP Credits: Graduate and professional schools *may* accept AP credit for prerequisites, often with the expectation of advanced courses in the same discipline. MD and DO programs do not typically want or accept AP credits in sciences. Strategically, most first years opt *not* to utilize AP credits for biology and general chemistry as this content is foundational for subsequent sciences (and tested on MCAT!).

Pre-Health Advising

In addition to academic advising and career coaching, Quinnipiac students are provided pre-health advice on personal development and navigation of the complex professional school application process. Pre-health advising is provided via individual appointments and a variety of preparatory workshops. Students get advice on personal and professional development, timeline planning, career options, application strategy, entrance exam prep, letters of recommendation and school selection. Essay critiques and mock interviews available to those actively applying to professional school.

In addition to exceptional academic performance, pre-med and pre-health students are expected to thoroughly develop interpersonal skills, industry knowledge, work values, and professionalism. This is achieved through long-term, impactful, immersive experience as follows:

- **Healthcare exposure through shadowing, volunteering, and/or work in healthcare settings;**
- **Volunteer experience building interpersonal skills and demonstrating desire to help others;**
- **Participation in basic/applied research (typically via voluntary and for-credit options); and**
- **Community involvement and leadership experience.**

Students must be able to articulate a genuine and informed interest in medicine through *extensive, varied, interactive* clinical experience and philanthropic activities throughout college. For more information on medical school preparation, please review the extensive student resources and the **AAMC Core Competencies for Entering Medical Students** available through www.aamc.org.

Prospective Student FAQs and Tips for Applying to Quinnipiac

1. **BE SURE to check “yes” that you are interested in the Pre-Medical Studies Designation when applying***, regardless of whether you are pre-medical, pre-dental, or undecided! This is not a commitment - just allows the Pre-Health Advising Office to identify you and communicate via email.
2. *This automatically places you on the **Pre-Health Events & Opportunities (PHEO) email list**, whereby you receive an email prior fall term with everything you need to know as an incoming pre-health student. This twice monthly email is a QU pre-health student favorite, providing *countless* notifications of workshops, guest speakers, volunteering/job openings, webinars, etc. for various healthcare fields.
3. **PMSD or PDSB Enrollment:** Attendance at one “Pre-Med 101” workshop during fall or spring term is mandatory for PMSD/PDSB enrollment (as well as mandatory prior to one-on-one pre-health advising). This 50-minute workshop is repeated throughout fall and spring term at various days/times to accommodate all schedules. You will be notified of workshop details at the start of fall term. No registration required - just choose a session, mark your calendar, and show up! All workshops and pre-med/pre-health programming is advertised through **Pre-Health Program Guides** and PHEO emails.
4. **PMSD or PDSB Opt-Out:** If students enroll and subsequently decide they do not want or need the designation, they may easily opt out by emailing the registrar (no form or authorization required).

