



**SANTIAGO
CANYON
COLLEGE**

Articulation Office

PRE-MED

Transfer Major Advisement

This guide sheet is based upon university course articulation and catalog information at the time of publication. **Note that students are responsible for the current major requirements upon transfer to the university or admission to a graduate program.** It is advisable to consult with a counselor once a semester for any changes that may occur. Please call (714) 628-4800 to schedule an appointment.

To Prepare for Medical School:

- Medical school requirements vary from school to school. Students are admitted to medical school based on their cumulative GPA and GPA in course prerequisites required for medical school (science courses) during their baccalaureate program (and Master's program if they completed one), their scores on the MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test), and their extra-curricular and research involvement. Experience, either volunteer or paid, in a health related field is usually given some extra credit. For veterinary medicine, a resume that shows significant interest in and experience with animals is helpful. Some universities, such as UC Santa Cruz offer a Health Sciences major that is designed to meet the needs of students who are interested in pursuing careers in medicine or biomedical research. This type of major, like a Biological Science major would assist the student in meeting all prerequisite requirements for medical school.
- The UC operates a variety of health professions programs- the nation's largest health science and medical training programs. For example, there are five medical schools within the UC system: Davis (<http://som.ucdavis.edu/>), Irvine (<http://www.ucihs.uci.edu/com/index.html>), Los Angeles (<http://dgsom.healthsciences.ucla.edu/>), San Diego (<http://medicine.ucsd.edu/>), and San Francisco (<http://medschool.ucsf.edu/>). In addition, UC offers two Dental schools (Los Angeles, San Francisco), three Nursing schools (Irvine, Los Angeles, San Francisco), two public health schools (Berkeley, Los Angeles), and two schools of Pharmacy (San Diego, San Francisco), a school of Veterinary medicine (Davis), and an Optometry school (Berkeley). See website for additional UC info: <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/health/schools.html>.
- Other universities that provide medical training in the local area include Loma Linda, <http://www.llu.edu/llu/medicine/>, USC, <http://www.usc.edu/schools/medicine/> and Western University of Health Sciences, <http://www.westernu.edu/xp/edu/home/home.xml>.
- The student major is not a factor provided that a good foundation in science is evident from the transcripts. The science preparation is also essential for achieving a good score on the MCAT. **Many students select a major that is based on the Biological Sciences since many of the courses are the same as those required for Pre-Med.** However, medical schools want the applicants to be well rounded educationally with good language and writing skills, and sufficient exposure to the social sciences and humanities. Students do not need to major in any particular major.
- The competition for admission for medical school continues to be intense and only the applicants with excellent GPA's, very high MCAT scores, and outstanding resumes are accepted.
- The academic requirements for Veterinarian are the same as for medicine and the competition is also substantial.
- **Requirements vary by medical school even within the UC system. If you are interested in attending medical school, you can begin the process now by reviewing admission requirements for the school that you are interested in potentially attending.** Listed below are the prerequisite courses required for many schools that can be taken at Santiago Canyon College. They can provide a science foundation for medicine and veterinary medicine. Regardless of the major chosen and the undergraduate transfer university selected, students should try to complete as many lower division general education courses as possible before transferring. See a Santiago Canyon Counselor for more information related to planning coursework for potential medical school admission.

Recommended Science Courses:

1 yr of Biology w/lab Biology 210, 212
1 yr of General Chemistry Chemistry 219, 229
1 yr of Organic Chemistry Chemistry 249, 259
1 yr Physics w/ lab Physics 210, 211



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