

Thinking about a career in the medical or dental fields? Not sure where to start? Start your journey with T-I-G-E-R-S!

Talk

- Have conversations geared toward finding out what healthcare providers do on a daily basis.
- Talk to different types of healthcare providers (i.e. medical doctors, osteopathic physicians, physician assistants, nurses, chiropractors, etc).
- Sample questions
 - What do you like/dislike about your job?
 - What's the hardest/easiest part of your job?
 - How did you get into this field?

Investigate

- Read articles, journals, and books related to your career path.
- Learn about how research impacts the medical and dental fields.
- Look up a few medical/dental schools to find out more information (i.e. mission, vision, current admissions requirements- which may change by the time you apply, etc)

GPA

- This demonstrates your ability to master a subject and gives a snapshot of your work ethic.

Experience

- Volunteer/work in medical/dental and non-medical/dental areas. Medical and dental schools are looking for well-rounded individuals.

Reflect

- “Why do you want to be a _____?” Think carefully about your answer because it will be asked of you many times for the rest of your career journey.
- Think about what you want in a physician or dentist. Work to develop those types of skills.
- After any volunteer, shadowing, or medically related experience take a few minutes to reflect by writing your thoughts, feelings, reactions, and what you learned. This will be helpful later when applying to medical/dental school and working with future patients.

Shadow

- This is your first look into what the medical/dental field is like and may help you decide if the medical/dental field is the career path for you.
- Start with your personal healthcare providers or look at websites for local healthcare facilities (some have established programs).

For more information on medical and dental career paths and the LSU College of Science see below:

- <https://students-residents.aamc.org/choosing-medical-career/medical-careers/medical-career-paths/>
- <http://www.aacom.org/become-a-doctor/about-om>
- http://www.adea.org/GoDental/Dentistry_101.aspx
- http://www.lsu.edu/science/student_resources/advising/premed-predental/premed-predental.php

Premedical & Predental Programs



Why Premed/Predent?

A career in the health professions is a rewarding and challenging opportunity. Professional health care careers require:

- Rigorous academic preparation
- Intellectual curiosity
- Motivation for learning
- Commitment to service
- Demonstrated integrity and leadership

How can I prepare now?

Ways to prepare while still in high school:

- Complete as many math and science courses as possible (especially advanced level).
- Focus on English and writing courses.
- Read, read, read! Reading will prepare you for college study and professional school admission tests.
- Volunteer at a clinic/hospital/healthcare facility.
- Engage in extracurricular activities to help develop leadership and communication skills.



Premed/Predent @ LSU

Students at LSU are provided many opportunities to prepare for medical and dental school admissions:

- Challenging courses
- Develop clinical skills as lab or research assistant
- Counselors are members of National Association of Advisors for the Health Professions
- Annual information meetings for freshmen/sophomores
- Four-year plan for admission to medical/dental schools
- Use of the Premedical/Predental Review Committee to obtain letters of evaluation
- Numerous health profession student organizations and an annual Health Professions Career Fair
- Nationally competitive acceptance rates and grade point averages
- Nearly half of the students accepted to LSU medical and dental schools are College of Science graduates
- Recent graduates were admitted to Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Duke, Baylor, Vanderbilt, Columbia, Stanford, UT Houston, and Washington U

How do I select a major?

At LSU, premed/predent are not majors, but professional career goals:

- No specific major is required for medical/dental admission.
- Most students choose a science major.
- Students can choose fields outside of science.
- Choose a major that most closely reflects your interests.
- All majors must earn credit in the prerequisite coursework required for medical/dental schools.
- Take advanced science courses to enhance competitiveness.



LSU MEDICAL & DENTAL SCHOOL APPLICANTS

**NUMBER OF APPLICANTS
Fall 2016 Entering Classes**

Medical School	Applied	Accepted	%
LSU	323	174	53.9 %
National	50,468	21,061	41.7 %

Dental School	Applied	Accepted	%
LSU	54	36	66.7%
National	12,162	5,769	47.4%

**ACCEPTED STUDENTS BY COLLEGE
Fall 2016 Entering Classes**

% of LSU Accepted Medical Applicants	College of Science	83.1 %	148
	College of Humanities & Social Sciences	6.2 %	11
	College of Engineering	5.1%	9
	College of Human Sciences & Education	2.7 %	5
	College of Agriculture	1.1 %	2
	Manship School of Mass Communication	.6 %	1
	College of Music & Dramatic Arts	.6 %	1
	College of Business	.6 %	1
	Total*		178

% of LSU Accepted Dental Applicants	College of Science	81.1 %	30
	College of Humanities Sciences & Education	10.8%	4
	Allied Health & Professional Programs	5.4%	2
	College of Humanities & Social Sciences	2.7%	1
	Total*		37

SNAPSHOT OF A SUCCESSFUL LSU APPLICANT

- GPA: 3.72 overall; 3.76 science (BCPM)
- MCAT: 71 percentile rank (506 MCAT 2015; 28 old MCAT)
- DAT: 20 Academic Average; 20: Perceptual Ability
- 83 % of accepted medical applicants are science majors
- 81% of accepted dental applicants are science majors
- 78 % of accepted applicants used the LSU Review Committee
- 10 % have advanced degrees (M.S., Ph.D.)

*4 medical applicants and 1 dental applicant graduated with double majors. Each major credited with the acceptance.