

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts & Sciences

Advising & Career Services

Podiatric Medicine

Podiatric Medicine as a Career

Doctors of Podiatric Medicine (DPMs) strive to improve the overall health of their patients by focusing on preventing, diagnosing, and treating conditions associated with the foot and ankle. They treat a variety of conditions and employ innovative treatments to improve the well-being of their patients. For more information visit the American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine's website at http://www.aacpm.org/html/careerzone/career_practice.asp.

Podiatric Medical School

The podiatric medical curriculum is designed for pre-medical students who have completed prerequisite education in chemistry, physics and biology. The student of podiatric medicine must master a comprehensive knowledge of Basic Medical Sciences including but not limited to: general anatomy, biochemistry, physiology, pathology, pharmacology, neuroanatomy, immunology, genetics and bacteriology of the body and its systems. This knowledge prepares the student to enter the clinical training years of the program.

The General Pre-Podiatric Medicine Curriculum

Academic Prerequisites

To enter a school or college of podiatric medicine, one must first complete a minimum of three years or 90 semester hours of college credit at an accredited institution. Over 97% of the students who enter a college of podiatric medicine have a bachelor's degree. Many have also completed some graduate study. Actual minimum semester credit hour requirements for all of the schools and colleges of podiatric medicine include the following prerequisites: (all science courses require a lab)

Course	Credits
Biology (BIO 121 , 123 , 124)	8-12*
Chemistry (General or Inorganic) (CHE 106 , 107 , 116 , 117 , 411)	8
Organic Chemistry (CHE 275 , 276 , 325 , 326)	8
Physics (PHY 211 , 212 , 221 , 222)	8
English (WRT 105 , 205 , 301)	6-8*

Additional Evaluative Criteria

Potential podiatric medical students may be evaluated on the basis of grade point average (GPA)
Performance on the MCAT (or US DAT)
Extracurricular and community activities
Personal interview
Professional Potential

Admission criteria may vary slightly by institution; therefore, contact the school and college of your choice to obtain a copy of its catalog for specific requirements. A number of factors are considered in admitting students to a college of podiatric medicine. Undergraduates with liberal arts backgrounds, as well as those with science majors, are encouraged to apply.

Application and Admission Tests

Application Process

AACPMAS provides a simplified process of applying to the schools and colleges of podiatric medicine. Applicants complete one application and submit it with corresponding materials to the centralized service. Application Service Link: <http://portal.aacpmas.org>. AACPMAS verifies the application's components for accuracy, calculates the applicant's grade point average (GPA) and delivers the materials to the podiatric schools and colleges that the applicant designates. All nine of the schools and colleges of podiatric medicine participate in AACPMAS.

Admissions Tests

Traditionally the MCAT has been the only standardized test required for admissions to the colleges of podiatric medicine. However, some colleges will accept the GRE or US DAT in lieu of the MCAT. The MCAT is scored in each of the following areas: Verbal Reasoning, Physical Sciences, Writing Sample, and Biological Sciences.

MCAT and US DAT exams taken more than three (3) years prior to application are NOT ACCEPTABLE.

To register for the MCAT and for the dates and test site locations, click [here](#).

To register for the US DAT and for the dates and test site information, click [here](#).

Additional Resources

[American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine \(AACPMAS\)](#)

[Medical College Admission Test \(MCAT\)](#)

[American Podiatric Medical Association \(APMA\)](#)

[Graduate Record Examination \(GRE\)](#)

[US Dental Admission Test \(US DAT\)](#)