Medical Scholar Program
Saint Louis University

Program Requirements, Timelines, Resources and Technical Standards

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I. WELCOME TO THE SLU MEDICAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM!

Dear SLU Medical Scholar Students,

The Medical Scholar program at Saint Louis University provides highly motivated students with a rare opportunity to gain conditional early acceptance to the SLU School of Medicine while concentrating on their undergraduate major/minor studies. You may create your own path by choosing from a wide variety of majors across the university and our dedicated specialized advisors will provide personal guidance to integrate your major coursework into the pre-medical curriculum and other pre-health oriented activities.

As a first-year student who has decided to pursue pre-medical coursework, you may still be deciding whether medicine is the right career path. Our Medical Scholar Program offers you an opportunity to gain knowledge about the field of medicine, to gain relevant out-of-classroom experience and help to determine whether medicine is your true calling.

This booklet will serve you as a guide to design your academic plan at SLU. All Medical Scholars are required to follow the Program Requirements and satisfy the SLU School of Medicine Technical Standards as outlined in this document. Please refer to it throughout your four years of study at SLU.

We urge you to take advantage of the resources our PHPL Office offers to enhance your experience at SLU as you prepare for your future career in health care.

Staff of the Pre-Health and Pre-Law Studies Program
Saint Louis University
II. ADVISING

Primary advising for Medical Scholar students is provided by academic advisors in the college that houses their major. Pre-Health advisors work closely with Medical Scholars throughout their entire undergraduate studies as secondary advisors.

Medical Scholars are encouraged to contact Pre-Health advisors whenever they have questions or concerns about their progress in the program and to get to know the advising staff members personally. The Pre-Health & Pre-Law (PHPL) Director serves as the liaison to the SLU School of Medicine.

III. MEDICAL SCHOLAR MAJORS

The following majors are approved for Medical Scholars:

- **College of Arts and Sciences:**
  - Any major

- **Doisy College of Health Sciences**
  - Exercise Science-Athletic Training
  - Health Sciences
  - Health Information Management
  - Investigative and Medical Sciences
  - Nutrition and Dietetics

- **Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology**
  - Biomedical Engineering
  - Bioelectronics track of Electrical Engineering

- **College for Public Health and Social Justice**
  - Biostatistics
  - Health Management
  - Public Health

Students who are not majoring in Biology, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Neuroscience, Physics, or a major in Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology must complete a minor in Biology.

Students who would like to consider other majors outside of the options listed above must discuss such options with the PHPL Director who will approve any exceptions to additional majors not listed in this document.
IV. TIMELINE FOR COURSEWORK AND OTHER MEDICAL SCHOLAR ACTIVITIES:

*Freshman Year*

*Required Coursework:*

Students must complete a minimum of 30 credit hours during freshman year with a minimum of 14 credit hours each semester. The 30 credits do not include coursework taken during summer school, credit by examination or dual and AP credit.

**Table 1:** All Medical Scholar freshmen, regardless of their major, are required to enroll in the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 1110/1130</td>
<td>General Chemistry I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 1115</td>
<td>General Chemistry Lab I</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 1240</td>
<td>Principles of Biology I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 1245</td>
<td>Principles of Biology Lab I</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional coursework to complete min 14 credit hours requirement (e.g., ENGL 1900, MATH course)</td>
<td>6+</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CHEM 1120/1140</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General Chemistry II</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CHEM 1125</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BIOL 1260</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BIOL 1265</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional coursework to complete min 30 credit hour requirement at the end of the freshman year (e.g., ENGL 1900, MATH course)</td>
<td>Variable number: up to the min total year 30 credits</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Other recommended freshman activities:

Freshman medical scholars are encouraged to enroll in ENGL 1900 and to fulfill their MATH requirement during their freshman year. All Medical Scholars must take at least one MATH course at SLU by the end of sophomore year (regardless of the AP, dual or transfer credit).

Scholars should focus on their studies in their first year, striving for high grades, but balancing coursework with appropriate extra-curricular activities. The PHPL advisors recommend that Medical Scholars become active in the Pre-Health Club (Alpha Epsilon Delta).

Rising sophomore Medical Scholars should be composing their "Why I Want to be a Physician" essays over the summer, as part of the Pre-Health Committee on Evaluations application process that begins sophomore year.

Sophomore Year

Required Coursework:

Students must complete a minimum of 30 credit hours in the sophomore year with a minimum of 14 credit hours each semester. The 30 credits do not include coursework taken during summer school, credit by examination or dual and AP credit.

Table 2: The following requirements apply to Medical Scholar majors except Chemistry, Biochemistry, Physics & Biomedical Engineering. Required coursework for Chemistry majors is listed in Table 3. The remaining majors (Biochemistry, Physics, Engineering) follow their specific major curriculum schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 2410</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 2415</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry Lab I</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 3020</td>
<td>Biochemistry and Molecular Biology</td>
<td>3/0</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPHS 1050</td>
<td>Medical Scholar Seminar</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional coursework to complete min 14 semester credit hour requirement (core curriculum and major/minor courses)</td>
<td>7+</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 2420</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry II</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 2425</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry Lab II</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 3040</td>
<td>Cell Structure and Function</td>
<td>3/0</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional coursework to complete min 30 credit total hour requirement (core curriculum and major/minor courses). Note: Students must complete ENGL 1900 and MATH (through Calculus I) core requirement by the end of sophomore year.</td>
<td>Variable number: up to the min total year 30 credits</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 3: Chemistry

Medical Scholar sophomores are required to enroll in the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 2430</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 2435</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry Lab I</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 2200</td>
<td>Analytical Chemistry I</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 2205</td>
<td>Analytical Chemistry Lab I</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 1310</td>
<td>General Physics I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 1320</td>
<td>General Physics Lab I</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional coursework to complete min 14 semester credit hours requirement (core curriculum and major courses)</td>
<td>2+</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 2440</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry II</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 2445</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry Lab II</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 1330</td>
<td>General Physics II</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 1340</td>
<td>General Physics Lab II</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 3600</td>
<td>General Biochemistry</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional coursework to complete min 30 credit total hours requirement (core curriculum and major/minor courses)</td>
<td>Variable number: up to the min total year 30 credits</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Required Activities during sophomore year:**

*Pre-Health Committee on Evaluations and Application to the SLU School of Medicine:* Medical Scholars work with the Pre-Health Committee on Evaluations to prepare their application to the SLU School of Medicine. This process involves compiling an application submitted to the Pre-Health Committee on Evaluations, whose members interview Medical Scholars in the Fall semester. Following the committee interview, completed applications are forwarded to the SLU School of Medicine by April 1 in the sophomore year. Subsequently, the SLU School of Medicine Dean of Admissions evaluates each Scholar through an interview and decides whether the student will receive a conditional acceptance. There is no guarantee that a student will be accepted, even if the student has maintained the GPA requirements to this point. The SLU School of Medicine makes all the decisions regarding acceptance of each student.

*Core Curriculum Requirements:* Medical Scholars are required to complete their core curriculum requirement in MATH (through Calculus I level) and ENGL 1900 by the end of the sophomore year; they are strongly encouraged to complete this requirement during their freshman year. Both the ENGL 1900 and the MATH-Calculus I level (MATH 1510) requirements may also be satisfied with AP credit,
transfer credit earned prior to starting at SLU or, they may be taken at SLU and completed by the end of the sophomore year. However, all Medical Scholars are required to take at least one MATH class at SLU by the end of the sophomore year. The particular course will be specified by the primary advisors according to the student’s academic credentials (e.g., MATH 1300, 1520 etc.).

Other recommended sophomore activities:

We encourage students to participate in the Pre-Health Shadowing Program with physicians at SLU Hospital and Cardinal Glennon Children’s Hospital. Medical Scholars should have a minimum of 60 hours of shadowing completed by the time of their interview with the Committee on Evaluations.

**Junior Year**

*Required Coursework:*

Students must complete a minimum of 28 credit hours in the junior year with a minimum of 14 credit hours each semester. The 28 credits do not include coursework taken during summer school, credit by examination or dual and AP credit.

**Table 4:** All Medical Scholar juniors are required to enroll in the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 1310</td>
<td>General Physics I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 1320</td>
<td>General Physics Lab I</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 1330</td>
<td>General Physics II</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 1340</td>
<td>General Physics Lab II</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course work specific to student’s major and minor.</td>
<td>Up to a min of 14 credit hours in each semester.</td>
<td>Fall/Spring</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students must take Physics during their Junior academic year and follow their Major/Minor curriculum.

*Additional Required Activities during junior year:*

In addition to coursework, Medical Scholars are required to take the MCAT between April of Junior year through September of Senior year. Scholars do not need to achieve a minimum score on the MCAT; however, they are expected to put forth their best effort.
Senior Year

Required Coursework:

Students must complete a minimum of 28 credit hours in the senior year with a minimum of 14 credit hours each semester. The 28 credits do not include coursework taken during summer school, credit by examination or dual and AP credit.

Table 5: All Medical Scholar seniors are required to enroll in the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL, CHEM, MATH or PHYS 3000-level or higher</td>
<td>Upper Division Science Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL, CHEM, MATH or PHYS 3000-level or higher</td>
<td>Upper Division Science Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional coursework specific to student's major and minor.</td>
<td>Up to a min 14 credit hours in each semester.</td>
<td>Fall/Spring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students must take at least one upper division science course (3000 level or higher) each semester.

Additional Required Activities during senior year:

Scholars will file their formal applications to SLU School of Medicine by completing the AMCAS (American Medical College Application Service) application over the summer before senior year or early during the fall semester.

When completing the AMCAS application: contact the Admissions Office in the School of Medicine at slumd@slu.edu and give them your AAMC ID number. This will enable you to mark “Special Programs” under Applicant Type on the AMCAS application.

The Committee on Evaluations letter does not need to be sent again. The Admissions Office has it on file from the sophomore year.
V. GENERAL COURSEWORK GUIDELINES:

Medical Scholar students must take a minimum of 14 credit hours each semester during their undergraduate studies, including study abroad.

The freshman and sophomore students must complete a minimum of 30 credit hours each year (with the minimum of 14 credits per semester as stated above). The 30 credits do NOT include coursework taken in summer school, credit by examination, and Dual or AP credit.

The junior and senior Scholars do not need to take 30 credit hours each year but they are required to take a minimum 14 credits per semester.

Medical Scholars are not permitted to withdraw from courses after the Drop/Add period, nor are they permitted to take an Incomplete (I) in a course.

Medical Scholars are not permitted to audit courses.

Medical Scholars are required to complete their core curriculum requirement in math (Calculus I MATH 1510) and ENGL 1900 by the end of the sophomore year (but they are strongly encouraged to complete this requirement during their freshman year). Both, the ENGL 1900 and the Calculus I requirements, may also be satisfied with AP credit, transfer credit earned prior to starting at SLU or, they may be taken at SLU and completed by the end of the sophomore year. However, all Medical Scholar must take at least one MATH class at SLU by the end of their sophomore year. The particular course will be specified by the primary advisors according to the student’s academic credentials.

All science courses and at least one MATH class must be taken at SLU at the main campus.

Medical Scholar students will take Organic Chemistry (CHEM 2410 or 2430, CHEM 2415 lab, CHEM 2420 or 2440 and CHEM 2425 lab, and PHYS; 1310, 1320 lab, 1330, and 1340 lab) during the regular academic year unless approved by the PHPL Director. Students who intend to study abroad will take these courses prior to their travel as determined by the PHPL Director.

AP or "Dual Credit" can apply to the curriculum of the first two years. The Registrar’s Office determines which credits may be applied to SLU. In addition, AP/ACC credits for Biology, General Chemistry and Physics are NOT acceptable for the Medical Scholar Program.

Medical Scholar students are not permitted to graduate in December. However, they may graduate one year early if they meet all the requirements. The Dean of Admissions of the School of Medicine must approve an early graduation at the time the application to the School of Medicine is submitted.
VI. REQUIRED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT:

Freshman Medical Scholars must have completed at least 30 credit hours with 3.65 or higher GPA in math and science course work and minimum 3.65 overall GPA for the freshman year to continue in the Medical Scholar Program. The PHPL office will send a letter notifying each student about his or her status in the program over the summer following the freshman year, by the end of July.

At the end of the second year, students must have completed a minimum of 30 credit hours with a year-end GPA of 3.65 or higher in math and science course work and 3.65 overall GPA for the sophomore year to remain in the Program.

Students must achieve the 3.65 cumulative/3.65 math & science GPA averages for junior and senior year of the study through completion of the undergraduate degree.

The GPA calculations are annual, and not cumulative; summer GPA calculations are considered separately. Students who do not meet the program GPA will be dismissed from the Medical Scholar program.

Only courses with a prefix of BIOL, CHEM, MATH and PHYS will be considered in the calculation of math/science GPA. Courses that are Independent Studies or Research from these departments are NOT included in the math/science GPA calculation.

Medical Scholars are not permitted to receive a D or F grade in any course.

Scholars are also not permitted to withdraw from courses after the drop/add period at the beginning of the semester, nor are they permitted to take an incomplete (I) in a course.

Transfer credits earned elsewhere will not be considered part of the GPA for the Medical Scholars Program.

VII. PROFESSIONALISM

All students are expected to maintain professionalism and integrity both in and out of the classroom. This includes, but it is not limited to:

* Being polite and respectful to faculty and staff.
* Keeping appointments and showing up on time. In situations when an appointment must be missed, students should notify the person that he or she cannot attend the scheduled meeting as soon as possible.
* Showing up for class on time and prepared for the activity.
* Paying full attention in class, and not working on homework or other assignments during class.
* Taking responsibility for one’s performance in a class; this is best done by preparing well and not blaming instructors for their teaching techniques.
* Maintaining a daily life that balances study time, social and service activities and a healthy lifestyle.
Students who encounter a problem should seek immediate help from instructors, advisors, counselors, mentors and the PHPL staff.

VIII. APPLYING TO OTHER MEDICAL SCHOOL

Students who decide to apply to other medical school will no longer be considered a Medical Scholar. The SLU School of Medicine will not hold a spot for such students. However, these students may re-apply to SLU School of Medicine and will be placed in the pool of regular applicants. There is no guarantee that such students will be accepted again as a regular applicant.

Medical Scholars who apply to other medical schools must notify the PHPL Director and the SLU School of Medicine. The Committee letter will be updated and sent to the other schools the student indicates.

IX. OUR GOAL

The goal of the Pre-Health and Pre-Law Office is to assist students to find their right path and be successful in whatever they choose to do. The staff members of the office are here to help in any way they can, and find it rewarding to see students reach their goals.

Medical Scholars, please let us know how we can assist.