

## **PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS OF STUDY**

Pre-Chiropractic

Pre- Communication Sciences & Disorders

Pre-Dental Hygiene

Pre-Dentistry

Pre-Engineering

Pre-Health Information Management

Pre-Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences

Pre-Medicine

Pre-Nursing

Pre-Nutritional Sciences

Pre-Occupational Therapy and Occupational Therapist Assistant

Pre-Optometry

Pre-Pharmacy

Pre-Physical Therapy and Physical Therapy Assistant

Pre-Physician Associate/Assistant

Pre-Veterinary Medicine

## PRE-PROFESSIONAL CURRICULA

Many students who plan to complete professional curricula such as law, medicine, pharmacy, nursing and engineering come to Southwestern Oklahoma State University for one, two, three or four years of Arts and Sciences before the professional training is begun.

Suggestions for pre-professional training are listed below for those who are planning to prepare for specific professions. However, before enrolling, students should consult the requirements of the professional school they wish to enter. Faculty advisors will help plan a course of study to fit any particular need.

### PRE-PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION SCIENCES & DISORDERS

Pre-Professional Courses in Communication Sciences & Disorders may be obtained at SWOSU. The Communication Sciences & Disorders program includes training in Speech Pathology and Audiology. It prepares the student to assess and treat speech problems and hearing disorders. A minimum of 60 credit hours with a 2.75 grade point average is required for admission to the program at the OUHSC. There are also other Speech Pathology programs available in Oklahoma. See the Department of Biological Sciences or the Department of Allied Health Sciences for information on the prerequisites and application procedures.

### PRE-DENTAL HYGIENE

The Bachelor level Dental Hygiene Program at the University of Oklahoma consists of two years of pre-dental hygiene coursework that may be completed at any accredited college or university and two years of study at the College of Dentistry.

Acceptance to the Dental Hygiene Program is based upon completion of a minimum of 60 semester hours of pre-dental hygiene courses with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (A=4.0) and a minimum grade of "C" in those courses that are required, as well as letters of recommendation and a personal interview. Entering students must also present evidence of current certification in Level C Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.

Students interested in a career in this area of oral health should contact the Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental Advisor in the Department of Biological Sciences or the Department of Allied Health Sciences.

### PRE-DENTISTRY

Although a minimum of three years of college work (90 hours) is generally required for entrance into a dental school, students planning a career in dentistry are strongly encouraged to obtain a bachelor's degree.

Acceptance to the University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry is based upon grade point average, Dental Aptitude Test Scores, letters of recommendation, and a personal interview. The applicant must demonstrate a cumulative grade average of at least a 2.5 (A=4.0) and a minimum grade of "C" in each course listed in the following areas: English, six semester hours; Biology (with lab), eight semester hours; Inorganic Chemistry (with lab), eight semester hours; Organic Chemistry (with lab), eight semester hours; Physics (with lab), eight semester hours. Additional courses in advanced biology, psychology, sociology, and economics are recommended.

In addition, the applicant is interviewed by the University Pre-Medical Advisory Committee composed of members from the

Departments of Biological Sciences, Chemistry and Physics, and the School of Health Sciences. Applicants should initiate a dialogue with the Chair of the Pre-Medical Advisory Committee as soon as possible following matriculation at SWOSU.

A student who plans a career in dentistry should see the Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental Advisor in the Department of Biological Sciences, Department of Chemistry and Physics, or the Department of Allied Health Sciences in order to plan a course of study designed to meet these requirements.

### PRE-ENGINEERING

Most of the first two years of course work required by engineering schools may be taken at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. This includes the foundation courses in mathematics through calculus, chemistry, physics, engineering mechanics, drafting, computer programming, and general education.

Any mathematics below calculus (MATH 1834) is considered a deficiency by the engineering schools. It is strongly recommended that high school students who are interested in engineering take all available mathematics, a year of physics, and a year of chemistry.

Students should take full advantage of the credit-by-examination program, which is available at SWOSU.

Interested students should contact the Department of Chemistry and Physics for advisement when registering at SWOSU. It is also advisable to secure an engineering bulletin and catalog from the engineering schools where transfer will be considered.

### PRE-HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Any student may declare their major as Health Information Management and enroll in the pre-professional curriculum. This curriculum consists of 68 hours including courses which meet the general education requirements of the University. Students in Health Information Management will complete a minor in Health Care Administration. Many of the courses for this minor are also completed during the pre-professional sequence. When most of these courses are completed, students may apply for admission into the professional Health Information Management Program, which begins each fall. Applications are available online. To be considered for acceptance, an applicant must have completed the majority of the pre-professional curriculum and achieved and maintained a GPA of 2.50 in these courses. Students interested in this career should contact the Health Information Management Faculty in the Department of Allied Health Sciences.

### PRE-PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL IMAGING AND RADIATION SCIENCES

Students that are interested in **Radiology** have two options at Southwestern. The Associate of Applied Science degree in **Radiologic Technology** at SWOSU-Sayre can be completed in two to three years. Application needs to be made before the end of April.

Second, there is a **Pre-Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences** program that provides a Bachelor of Science degree in one of four areas. The University of Oklahoma Health Science Center provides training in **Nuclear Medicine, Radiation Therapy, Radiography, and Sonography (Ultrasound)**. The prerequisites for each of these programs are the same but a student must apply to one of the specific programs. The prerequisite part of the program requires a minimum of 64 credit hours with a 2.5 minimum grade point average. Specific

courses and application information may be obtained from the Department of Biological Sciences or the Department of Allied Health Sciences for either of these programs.

### **PRE-MEDICINE**

The requirements to enter the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine include a minimum of 90 semester hours (exclusive of physical education and military science) in an accredited college or university. Of the 90 semester hours, a minimum of 43 hours shall be taken in prescribed courses (see medical college catalog). An applicant must present a minimum grade point average of 3.00 (A=4.00) both in the prescribed course work and in general or total college work, or an average score of 8.0 on the MCAT. The applicant must have an average of at least 2.00 in each of the prescribed prerequisite courses. The applicant is also required to take the Medical College Admission Test. This test must be taken in April of the applicant's junior year and before initiating formal application procedures for admission. Each applicant must meet the above scholastic requirements, file a written application, and have a personal interview as directed by the Board of Admissions.

All applicants must meet the following requirements for entrance into the Oklahoma College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery: 90 semester hours at an accredited college or university including 36 semester hours of prescribed course work, with at least a 2.00 (A=4.00) in each of the prescribed courses, a science grade point average of at least 2.50 and an overall grade point average of at least 2.50 on a 4.00 point scale. The applicant must submit scores from the Medical College Admission Test and participate in an on-campus interview with the Student Selection Committee.

In addition, the applicant is interviewed by the University Pre-Medical Advisory Committee composed of members from the Departments of Biological Sciences, Chemistry and Physics, and the Department of Allied Health Sciences. Applicants should initiate a dialogue with the Chair of the Pre-Medical Advisory Committee as soon as possible following matriculation at SWOSU.

### **OSU 3+1 RURAL MEDICAL EARLY ADMISSION PROGRAM**

The Departments of Biological Sciences and Chemistry/Physics as well as the School of Allied Health Science has entered into an agreement with the OSU School of Osteopathic Medicine to participate in their 3 + 1 Rural Medicine Early Admission Programs. SWOSU students have the opportunity to gain early admittance to the College of Osteopathic Medicine and complete their pre-doctoral medical training in seven years.

Interested students should contact a Pre-Medical advisor in the Department of Biological Sciences, Department of Chemistry and Physics, or the Department of Allied Health Sciences.

### **PRE-NURSING**

The Pre-Nursing curriculum consists of 67 hours including a two-hour course, "Introduction to Professional Nursing", which is specifically required for admission to the nursing program at SWOSU and must be completed at SWOSU.

Admission to the School of Nursing is determined by objective criteria such as quality and consistency of academic performance. Pre-professional requirements, GPA, TEAS exam scores and character references are among the factors considered.

Each applicant must have a minimum grade average of 2.50 (on a 4.0 scale) in the required pre-professional courses. A minimum grade of "C" is required in specified prerequisite courses.

Applications to the School of Nursing are available in December, with the deadline for applications due the first Monday in February for generic or traditional students. The procedure and deadline for R.N. to B.S.N. students is available from the School of Nursing.

A student who plans to enter the nursing program should seek advisement in the School of Nursing as early as possible. Transfer students to other schools of nursing are also urged to seek early advisement for specific requirements of other schools.

### **PRE-PROFESSIONAL NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES/CLINICAL DIETETICS**

Students interested in being a Registered Dietician may consider the Bachelor of Science degree in Nutritional Sciences at the OUHSC. The prerequisites require 90 credit hours of college work with a minimum 2.5 grade point average. If you are interested in a future in Clinical Dietetics, see the Department of Biological Sciences or the Department of Allied Health Sciences for more information on required courses and application information.

### **PRE-OPTOMETRY**

Admission requirements for entrance into Northeastern Oklahoma State University College of Optometry include completion of a minimum of 90 semester hours or pre-professional coursework with at least a 2.7 cumulative grade point average (A=4.0), a satisfactory score on the Optometry Admission Test, letters of recommendation, and a personal interview.

The following areas must be completed as part of the pre-professional work: College Algebra & Trigonometry, six hours; General Biology or Zoology, three hours; Microbiology (advanced level), three hours; General Inorganic Chemistry I & II (with lab), 8-10 hours; Organic Chemistry I (with lab), four hours; Biochemistry, three hours; Physics I & II (with lab), 8-10 hours; Statistics, three hours; General Psychology, three hours; English Comp I & II (grammar & composition), six hours.

Study in the areas of experimental psychology, social science, humanities, computer science, public speaking, analytic geometry, and accounting is strongly recommended.

In addition, the applicant is interviewed by the University Pre-Medical Advisory Committee composed of members from the Departments of Biological Sciences, Chemistry and Physics, and the School of Health Sciences. Applicants should initiate a dialogue with the Chair of the Pre-Medical Advisory Committee as soon as possible following matriculation at SWOSU.

Students interested in a career in optometry should see the Pre-Optometry Advisor in the Department of Biological Sciences, Department of Chemistry, or the Department of Allied Health Sciences.

### **PRE-PHARMACY**

Students entering Southwestern Oklahoma State University directly from high school to study pharmacy will ordinarily spend two academic years as Pre-Pharmacy students pursuing the prescribed pre-professional curriculum. Transfer students with less than 60 semester hours completed from the courses available for and required of Pre-Pharmacy students must transfer to SWOSU in a Pre-Pharmacy status. Transfer students are encouraged to contact the Admissions Counselor to determine the status of their pre-professional curriculum.

### **PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT (PTA) & PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY (PT)**

Students entering Southwestern Oklahoma State University with an interest in Physical Therapy have the option of Physical Therapist Assistant and Pre-Physical Therapy.

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Physical Therapist Assistant can be completed in two to three years and is offered through a contractual agreement between SWOSU and Caddo Kiowa Technology Center in Fort Cobb, OK. The program requires 36 prerequisite credit hours which may be taken at the SWOSU Weatherford and/or Sayre campus. Course transfer from other educational institutions will be considered upon program application. After acceptance into the program, the student will complete 29 professional and clinical hours at Caddo Kiowa Technology Center. Prerequisite requirements and application information may be obtained from the Department of Allied Health Sciences or Caddo Kiowa Technology Center. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education.

The **Pre-Physical Therapy Program** leads to a **Doctorate Degree in Physical Therapy** from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center or the Physical Therapy School of the student's choice. The minimum requirements for admission is a B.S. and designated prerequisites, an overall grade point average of 2.75, and a 2.75 grade point average in 29 hours of natural science completed prior to making application. All application requirements must be completed and applications submitted by February 1 for the next year's class. Students are also required to complete 40 hours of Physical Therapy observation and take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) available at the BioSylvan testing center. The professional Physical Therapy Doctorate level program consists of 80 semester hours of sequenced and integrated didactic and clinical courses. The didactic work is taken at the OUHSC in OKC or Tulsa.

It is suggested that the students seeking the Doctorate level program in Physical Therapy select a major and develop a bachelor's degree plan while completing the Pre-Physical Therapy prerequisites.

Complete course prerequisites and other information may be obtained from the Pre-Physical Therapy advisors in the Department of Biological Sciences or the Department of Allied Health Sciences.

#### **PRE-PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATE**

The PA program is intended to train individuals to provide primary patient care under the supervision, direction, and responsibility of physicians. Therefore, each individual should carefully consider his/her career objectives and the goal of this program before applying for admission. A Master of Health Sciences will be awarded after successful completion of the thirty (30) month program.

Admission into the Physician Associate Program at the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center requires the following:

1. Completion of a B.S. degree from an accredited university.
2. A minimum GPA of 3.00 on a 4.0 scale.
3. Completion of the general test component of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE). All GRE scores must be received by PA Program by the October 1 deadline – NO Exceptions.
4. Three letters of reference – one or more should be from a physician.
5. One page typewritten statement on "Why I Wish to Become a Physician Associate."

Additional information concerning this program may be obtained from the Department of Biological Sciences or the Department of Allied Health Sciences.

#### **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT (OTA) & PRE-OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (OT)**

Students entering Southwestern Oklahoma State University with an interest in Occupational Therapy have the option of Occupational Therapy Assistant and Pre-Occupational Therapy.

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant can be completed in two or three years and is offered through a contractual agreement between SWOSU and Caddo Kiowa Technology Center in Ft. Cobb, OK. The program requires 36 prerequisite credit hours at the SWOSU Weatherford and/or Sayre campus. Course transfer from other educational institutions will be considered upon program application. After acceptance into the program, the student will complete 36 professional and clinical hours at Caddo Kiowa Technology Center, Fort Cobb, OK. Prerequisite requirements and application information may be obtained from the Department of Allied Health Sciences or Caddo Kiowa Technology Center. The program is accredited by the American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc.

The Pre-Occupational Therapy Program leads to a Master's degree from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center or the Occupational Therapy School of the student's choice. The minimum requirements for admission are 90 credit hours, with 19 hours of natural science, other designated prerequisites, and a minimum grade point average of 2.50 for all college work attempted. Also, students are required to complete 40 hours of Occupational Therapy observation, and take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) available at the Sylvan testing center. Application requirements must be submitted by February 1 prior to the next year's starting date. The master's level Occupational Therapy degree professional program consists of 80 semester hours of sequenced and integrated didactic and clinical courses. The didactic work is taken at the OUHSC in OKC or Tulsa.

It is suggested that the student seeking the master's level program in Occupational Therapy select a major and develop a degree plan for a bachelor's degree while completing the prerequisites for admission.

Complete course prerequisites and other information may be obtained from the Pre-Occupational Therapy advisors in the Department of Biological Sciences or the Department of Allied Health Sciences.

#### **PRE-VETERINARY MEDICINE**

The pre-professional curriculum for the College of Veterinary Medicine at Oklahoma State University consists of a minimum of 60 semester credit hours exclusive of military science and physical education. This requirement may be completed at any accredited institution.

Each applicant must have a minimum grade point average of 2.80 in the required pre-professional courses. To be truly competitive, a grade point higher than the minimum is needed. A grade lower than "C" in a required course is not acceptable; the course must be repeated.

Admission is determined on the basis of pre-professional grades, personal interviews, aptitude tests, and recommendations.

Applicants are strongly advised to graduate with a degree prior to entering Veterinary School. A check sheet of Pre-Veterinary requirements leading to a degree can be obtained from the Pre-Veterinary advisor in the Department of Biological Sciences.

