Pre-Professional Health Sciences: Pre-Occupational Therapy

“We’re here to open doors to careers in health care. We help students explore health career options and guide them along the path to a successful career in the health sciences.” - Dr. Julie Anderson, Director, UW-Eau Claire Health Careers Center.

Pre-Professional health science programs prepare students for entry into professional degree programs through organized academic planning and preparation. UW-Eau Claire's rigorous and respected academics offer strong training and preparation for entry into the health professions. In addition there are multiple campus organizations and local opportunities for students interested in pursuing a health professional career.

Pre-Professional Health Sciences programs offered at UW-Eau Claire include:

- Pre-Chiropractic
- Pre-Dentistry
- Pre-Medicine
- Pre-Occupational Therapy
- Pre-Optometry
- Pre-Pharmacy
- Pre-Physical Therapy
- Pre-Physician Assistant

“As a Pre-Med student at UW-Eau Claire, I have pursued my interest in science while building on concepts that will prepare me for medical school. The Health Careers Center has been instrumental in my success and allowed me to shadow a multitude of physicians and observe the challenging, yet rewarding, careers held by physicians.”

— Erik Grover | Pre-Med student

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Prepared for Success
UW-Eau Claire offers a variety of academic majors that provide
Excellent preparation for applying to professional programs. Pre-health students are strongly encouraged to study what they love and discover their “power of AND.” Students should major where their passions lie and are encouraged to seek a well-rounded college experience. Many health professional schools require a number of science courses and also expect good communication skills and significant health-related and service experiences. Students at UW-Eau Claire benefit from four major medical facilities in the region that provide the area with not only state-of-the-art quality health care, but also volunteer, shadowing, and job opportunities. The university’s success rate at preparing students who gain admission to professional schools is outstanding. Below are just a few examples of where Pre-Occupational Therapy students have gone for further education:

- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- Carroll University
- University of Florida

Suggested Freshman Curriculum

Suggested freshman curriculum:

- Foundations of Biology I and II
- General Chemistry or Chemical Principles
- Math
- General education courses
- General Chemistry or Quantitative Analysis

Why UW-Eau Claire

Resources available through the Health Careers Center help students connect with the many opportunities on campus, in the community and around the world. UW-Eau Claire supports and strongly encourages students engaging in collaborative research with faculty scholars and incorporating research into the undergraduate experience. There is also an active student organization to join, the Pre-Physical Therapy/Occupation Therapy Club.

Innovative Facilities

UW-Eau Claire is one of only a few schools of its size with a career center dedicated to supporting pre-health students. The William J. and Marian A. Klish Health Careers Center offers one-on-one advising, connections to health-related clinical, research and volunteer opportunities, and workshops designed to build effective tools for career development and competitive applications.