

**Health Professions Advising Office
College of Arts & Sciences
The University of Alabama**

**Pre-Physicians Assistant Guide
2009**

For More Information:

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GENERAL PA PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

General Biology with lab	8 hours
Anatomy and Physiology	6-8 hours
Microbiology	5 hours
General Chemistry with lab	8 hours
Statistics	3 hours
Psychology	3 hours
*others as required by school	

UA SPECIFIC COURSES

BIOLOGY

BSC 114:115	4 hours
BSC 116:117	4 hours
BSC 215	4 hours
BSC 216	4 hours
BSC 310	5 hours

CHEMISTRY

CH 101	4 hours
CH 102	4 hours

MATH

ST 260, PY 211, or other Statistics	3 hours
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PSYCHOLOGY

PY 101	3 hours
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*UAB would like for students to have an additional 6 hours of Psychology and USA would like for students to have college algebra or higher(MATH 112+), one course in organic chemistry (CH 231) and a course in medical terminology

TIMELINES

Freshman Year

- Study and plan to do well in your first year classes.
- Pick several student organizations to be involved with.
- Get acquainted with your health professions advisor.
- Gain some shadowing experience at a local hospital or your family physicians office.

Sophomore Year

- Continue to study and do well in classes.
- Take on more active roles in student organizations.
- Continue shadowing or shadow at new locations.
- Keep in contact with your health professions advisor.

Junior year

- Continue to study and do well in classes.
- Visit with your health professions advisor regularly.
- Commit to a few extracurricular activities and take on leadership roles.
- Be involved in research.
- Develop a good personal statement.
- Ask for letters of recommendation.
- Begin preparing for the GRE.
- Register for and take the GRE.
- Submit your application during the summer after your junior year.

Senior Year

- Submit secondary applications early.
- Work on any weak points in your application.
- Prepare for interviews and plan to wear a suit (guys and girls.)
- Visit the campuses of the schools you are considering.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

PA Schools in the US:	142
PA Schools in Alabama:	The University of Alabama at Birmingham http://main.uab.edu/shrp 205.934.4194 University of South Alabama College of http://www.southalabama.edu/alliedhealth/pa/index.html 251.445.9334
Major:	Any major is acceptable as long as students meet the entrance requirements.
Admissions Test:	GRE www.ets.org
Extracurricular Activities:	All schools look at the applicant as a whole. They generally want to see competitive test scores and GPAs as well as experience in the field through shadowing or volunteering.
Application Service:	CASPA (Centralized Application Service for Physicians Assistant) www.caspaonline.org *most colleges participate in CASPA but for those that do not, contact the individual institutions to learn more about the application process.
Letters of Evaluation:	Most schools require 3 letters of recommendation to be submitted to CASPA: At least one letter should be from an M.D., a D.O., or a P.A.
Minimum Scores of Accepted Students	GRE: 1000 GPA: 3.0