

# Intro to Health Professions

Attendance: please log into DuckLink on myStevens and open your Event Pass on your profile to be scanned!

# Executive Board Introductions

- President - Leigha Tierney
- Vice President - Katherine Ho
- Treasurer - Danielle Bragen
- Secretary - Nicholas Housel
- Social Chair - Cosette Lim
- Historian - Mariam Siam





# Club Member Introductions!

- Name
- Year
- Major
- Pre-health interest (it's okay if you aren't pre-health or don't know what field you are interested in!)



# Events this semester

## HPAC Social

Meet the members of the Health Professions Advisory Committee

## CPR Certification Class

Co-hosted with AED, become certified in BLS

## Research Panel

Network with professors and learn about their research



# Physician

- “Physicians diagnose and treat diseases, illnesses, injuries, and physical or psychological problems. They examine and treat patients; obtain medical histories; and order, perform, and interpret diagnostic tests. They may also counsel patients on diet, hygiene, and preventative healthcare”
  - Physician job duties vary by specialty!
- Educational path
  - Undergraduate degree - four years
  - Medical school - four years
  - Residency - three to seven years
  - Fellowship - one to three years (optional)
- Prerequisites - usually school specific
  - Two semesters of biology with lab
  - Two semesters of general chemistry with lab
  - Two semesters of organic chemistry with lab
  - Two semesters of physics with lab
  - Two semesters of English/writing
  - One semester of biochemistry
- Standardized test - Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT)
- Average age of matriculation - 24 years old

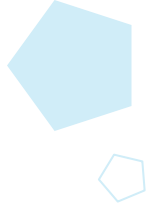
# Physician (cont.)

- Traditional application timeline:
  - First year - begin taking prerequisite courses, become involved with organizations on campus
  - Second year - continue extracurriculars, start getting involved in clinically related activities, begin thinking about when you want to study for/take MCAT
  - Third year - take MCAT by May at the latest, write personal statement, gather letters of recommendation, submit AMCAS/AACOMAS when they open in late May
  - Fourth year - attend interviews if invited



# Dentistry

“Dentists remove tooth decay, fill cavities, and repair fractured teeth. Dentists diagnose and treat problems with patients' teeth, gums, and related parts of the mouth. They provide advice and instruction on taking care of the teeth and gums and on diet choices that affect oral health.”



## Education:

- Undergraduate Degree - 4 years
- Dental School (DDS or DMD) - 4 years
- Residency - 1 year (optional)



## Prerequisites:

- Biology with lab
- Physics
- English
- General Chemistry with Lab
- Organic Chemistry with Lab

## Standardized Test:

- Dental Admission Test (DAT)
- National Board Dental Examinations & Clinicals - residency & in-state licenses


## Traditional Application Timeline:

- Take the DAT your junior year
- Start applying to dental schools the summer before your senior year (ADEA AADSAS application)
- Interviews may be offered once you apply

## Average age of matriculants

- 25 years old

## Extracurriculars:

- Shadow a dentist
  - Work / volunteer in the dental profession
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# Clinical Psychology

- "A broad branch of psychology that focuses on diagnosing and treating mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders, including learning disabilities, substance abuse, depression, anxiety, and eating disorders.
- Education: Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, Masters Graduate Program (GPA>3.5 and clinical experience), and a PhD in Psychology.
- Requirements: One must pass the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology and apply for licensure in their state.
- Majority of Clinical Psychologists are between the ages of 36 and 45.







# Speech Language Pathology

- “Speech-language pathologists work to prevent, assess, diagnose, and treat speech, language, social communication, cognitive communication, and swallowing disorders in children and adults”
- Educational path:
  - Undergraduate degree - four years
    - Undergraduate degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders
    - At least 15 credits of undergraduate coursework in CSD
    - Coursework in biology, physics, chemistry, statistics, social sciences, and behavioral sciences
  - Master’s degree in Speech-Language Pathology - two to three years
  - Nine months of clinical fellowship
    - Training period before license to independently practice as an SLP is granted

# Veterinary Medicine

- **A veterinarian is a medical professional that treats sick or injured animals.**
- **Requirements: Bachelor's Degree (Undergraduate)**
  - Courses include: gen chem, orgo, bio, physics, biochem
  - GRE generally required, some schools accept MCAT
  - GPA, letters of recommendation, leadership activities, communication skills, clinical experience (with animals/veterinarians), volunteer work
- **Timeline:**
  - Junior: Prepare applications (letters, essays, courses, experience), finish taking GRE exam, VMCAS opens around late January
  - Most students apply fall of senior year to meet September deadline
  - Interviews generally come after and the deadline to accept or decline is around April
  - 4 additional years of veterinary school to obtain a DVM (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine)
  - After completing these years, the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) must be taken in order to practice.
  - 22 recognized specialities applicants may pursue board certification in.
  - Average age of matriculants to program: ~23-24



# Physician Assistant

- “PAs are medical professionals who diagnose illness, develop and manage treatment plans, prescribe medications, and often serve as a patient’s principal healthcare provider.”
- Requirements: Bachelor’s Degree, courses (Gen Chem, A&P 1/2, Orgo, Bio, Physics, Statistics), emphasis on clinical experience
- GRE = required standardized test, may be replaced w/MCAT, DAT, and PCAT
- Traditional Timeline:
  - F/S: Volunteer/clinical/research experience, GPA
  - Junior: Prepare applications (letters, essays, courses, experience), finish taking GRE exam, CASPA portal opens late April
  - Summer after Junior: secondary applications, possible interviews
  - Senior: interviews, decisions
- Average age of matriculants to program: ~25-28

# Physical Therapy



“A PT is a licensed healthcare professional who examines and evaluates a patient's condition and plans and administers treatments to promote optimal health. They seek to relieve pain, restore, maintain and promote optimal physical function, and limit disabilities.”

- Education:
  - Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree from accredited program
  - Requires a bachelor's degree, which may be in recreation and fitness or healthcare and related fields, and prerequisite courses such as anatomy, chemistry, and physics
- Requirements:
  - Some programs may require you to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
  - The National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) is required to become licensed
  - Board certification is optional and includes residency programs
  - Continuing education is typically required to retain licensure
- Traditional Timeline:
  - 4 years undergrad → 3 years DPT program → Optional residency or fellowship
- Average Age of Matriculation: ~23-26
- Misc.: PT school requirements commonly include volunteer hours or work experience under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist

# Optometry

- “Optometrists examine, diagnose, treat, and manage diseases and disorders of the eye. In addition to providing eye and vision care, they play a major role in an individual’s overall health and well-being by detecting systemic diseases and diagnosing, treating, and managing ocular manifestations of those diseases”
- Educational path:
  - Undergraduate degree - four years
  - Doctor of Optometry (OD) program - four years
- Median age of applicants is 22 years old
- Prerequisite courses:
  - Two semesters of General Chemistry with lab
  - Two semesters of Organic Chemistry with lab
  - Two semesters of Biology with lab
  - Two semesters of Physics with lab
  - Two semesters of English
  - One semester of psychology
  - Other common required/recommended courses - biochemistry, microbiology, anatomy and physiology

# Peer Mentoring

Fill out the form if you would like to be a pre-health mentor or mentee!



# DuckMed Article Assignments

Stay if you are interested in contributing to this month's DuckMed issue!