

BIOLOGY, PRE-HEALTH

Looking for a biology or biomedical program can help you enter one of the fastest growing sectors in the job market, whether you're interested in focusing on pre-medical, pre-dental or pre-veterinary courses, or you're looking for a bachelor's degree that will prepare you for a job in the healthcare field. Not only are healthcare jobs on the higher end of the salary spectrum, but you'll also enter a rewarding field that makes a difference in the lives of people locally and globally.

INDUSTRY GROWTH IS TIED TO:

- **Aging population.** By 2030, one in five Americans will be age 65 or older.
- **Prevalence of chronic disease.** As of 2012, 117 million adults had one or more chronic health conditions.



19% JOB GROWTH
THROUGH 2024

2.3 MILLION NEW JOBS THROUGH 2024

WHY PURSUE A CAREER IN HEALTHCARE

- Prestige and respect for the profession
- High earnings potential
- Advancement opportunities
- Day-to-day excitement and job variety
- High job satisfaction
- Make a difference and help people

2016 MEDIAN SALARIES

• Chiropractors	\$67,520
• Dentists	\$159,770
• Nurse Practitioners	\$107,460
• Optometrists	\$106,140
• Pharmacists	\$122,230
• Physical Therapists	\$85,400
• Physicians	\$208,000
• Veterinarians	\$88,770

CHARACTERISTICS OF HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

- Desire to help others
- Social skills and empathy
- Cultural understanding
- Teamwork
- Strong communication skills
- Integrity
- Reliability and dependability
- Resilience and adaptability
- Critical-thinking skills
- Interest and aptitude in the sciences



WHAT TO EXPECT IN A PRE-HEALTH PROGRAM

Pursuing a pre-health or biomedical science degree will provide you with the foundation of knowledge you'll need for professional healthcare careers and will help you fulfill the prerequisites required for admission to most medical, dental and veterinary schools and other health-related post-graduate programs.

PRE-HEALTH MAY BE A GOOD FIT IF YOU...

- Are interested in a career in healthcare but are not sure of your specific goals.
- Plan to become a doctor, pharmacist, dentist or veterinarian.
- Enjoy studying the sciences and hope to help others.

CLASSES MAY INCLUDE:

- Behavioral sciences
- Biochemistry
- Biology/Zoology
- Cellular biology
- Calculus
- Computer science
- Genetics
- Inorganic chemistry
- Organic chemistry
- Physics
- Psychology

LOOK FOR A PROGRAM THAT OFFERS:

- Opportunities to volunteer, shadow or intern in healthcare settings.
- Flexibility to pursue your pre-health degree while also exploring other interests.
- Strong pre-professional advising.

Before you declare your major in pre-health:

- Narrow your field of interest through web research or by speaking with your guidance counselor.
- Talk to someone in the field to learn more about what they do and why they love their profession.
- Shadow a doctor or intern in a healthcare setting to determine if you enjoy the work and if it interests and inspires you.

"In the past, biology has been a backwater type of activity—a bunch of nerds in a lab. Now the sheer potential of biology to re-program our physical world is a new reality for everyone."

—Ryan Bethencourt, scientist

