

How to become a part of the Pre-Health Advising Office at Hunter College

When the semester starts:

Step 1: Open a Pre-Health file

- 1. Go to: <u>www.hunter.cuny.edu/prehealth</u>
- 2. Click on Links and Resources on the left
- 3. Under Electronic Forms click on Office Registration
- 4. This Form is submitted and filed electronically in the Pre-Health Professions Office
- 5. For more information about what a Pre-Health File is please read the information located at http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/prehealth/pre-health-file

Step 2: Join the Pre-Health Listserv

- 1. Go to: <u>www.hunter.cuny.edu/prehealth</u>
- 2. Scroll down to the bottom of the page
- 3. Click on the link inside the **pre-med listserv** box
- 4. Click on: To register or change your LISTSERV password, click here.
- 5. Fill in your information

Step 3: Review Our Website

- 1. Go to: <u>www.hunter.cuny.edu/prehealth</u>
- 2. Review the **Pre-Health Requirements** section as well as the **Your Pre-Health File** section. Thoroughly review these sections before coming in for advisement.

Step 4: Come meet with your Pre-Health Advisors, Kelly Gentry, Taryn Weinstein or Dr. Phillips!

- 1. Go to: <u>www.hunter.cuny.edu/prehealth</u>
- 2. Click on Advisement
- 3. See when we are available, **make an appointment** and come for advising! Advisors see students by appointment only. Please review all of your advisement options on the website.

The Pre-Health Advising Office does not advise students interested in Nursing, Medical Lab Sciences, Community/Public Health, or Nutrition.

The Pre-Health Timeline

Freshman and Sophomore Year

- 1. Open a file with the Office of Pre Health Professions Advising (Do this by going to our website)
- 2. Start taking your pre-health coursework
- 3. Build your pre health resume

The best way to be proactive about gaining research and volunteer experience is to go to Hunter College Career Development Services. Also, check the Pre-Health website for opportunities.

- 4. Collect recommendation letters and evaluations from faculty (specifically science and math faculty), research/volunteer supervisors, managers, etc.
 - Review for the MCAT (DAT/PCATS...)

Junior Year FALL

- 1. Begin research- If it is something you are interested in pursuing.
- 2. Continue test preparation
- 3. Check transcripts for mistakes
- 4. Start a rough draft of your personal statement
- 5. Keep up to date with the recommendations and evaluations in your file
 - This is crucial...so say Thank You to those who have submitted letters!

Junior Year SPRING/SUMMER

- 1. Take the MCAT (or other health professions exam)- *ONLY DO THIS IF YOU FEEL PREPARED AND IF IT WON'T INTERFERE SIGNIFICANTLY WITH YOUR COURSEWORK.*
- 2. Begin application process
- 3. Compile a list all of the schools (and possibly special programs) you want to apply to. Note their primary application and secondary application deadlines

Senior Year FALL

- 1. Complete research projects, degree requirements & secondary applications
- 2. Go on scheduled school interviews
- 3. Send updated transcripts to medical schools
- 4. Have parents file taxes early for financial aid

Senior Year SPRING

- 1. File financial aid forms for school of choice
- 2. Start looking at financial aid awards & loan deferments
- 3. Ask about pre-matriculation programs
- 4. Start planning your relocation

This is a tentative four year outline. Many students take an extra year (5th year) to complete their requirements and prepare for medical school; this is perfectly acceptable and does not negatively affect your medical school applications. During the 5th year, students must be productive by taking courses, volunteering or working (or a combination of those things). You cannot take an entire semester or year off just to prepare for the MCAT; medical schools do not look favorably upon those applicants who spend a significant amount of time only studying. This is because as a medical student you are expected to be able to balance studying for difficult courses and other activities.