

# MED SCHOOL PREP GUIDE

## YEAR ONE

- Meet with one of the pre-med advisers to help you create your medical school preparation strategy. This long-term process requires early planning.
- Subscribe to the health careers mailing list to keep informed about campus programs and related off-campus opportunities.
- Familiar yourself with key resources: visit career services, and the med school & health careers web site:  
[http://www.reed.edu/career/graduate\\_and\\_prof\\_schools/med\\_school\\_health\\_care/index.html](http://www.reed.edu/career/graduate_and_prof_schools/med_school_health_care/index.html)
- Establish ongoing **volunteer work** & physician shadowing for exposure to the field of medicine and to give back to the community.
- If you are a non-science major, start taking prerequisite courses this summer. Plan to take your upper prerequisites at Reed.
- If you are a science major, plan to take all prerequisites at Reed.
- Maintain close contact with your academic adviser for an honest appraisal of your academic performance and options.

## YEAR TWO

- Update your medical school prep in a meeting with your pre-med advisers.
- Establish a position in medical research and/or research at Reed during the school year and summer.
- Attend health care careers information sessions offered throughout the academic year.
- Continue -- and expand -- your med school community service activities.
- Arrange for a substantive medical experience during summer break.
- Maintain close contact with your academic adviser for an honest appraisal of your academic performance and options.
- Take an MCAT preparatory course during the summer to prepare to take MCAT during spring of your junior year.



REED COLLEGE

Career Services

[web.reed.edu/career](http://web.reed.edu/career)

Hours: M-F 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Walk-ins M-Th 12 to 1 p.m.

503/777-7550

## YEAR THREE

- Update your medical school prep in a meeting with your pre-med advisers.
- Take MCAT in April or May for June AMCAS application. (MCATS are offered 22 times/year.)
- Identify target medical schools (6-10) and their admission criterion. MSAR (Medical School Admissions Requirements) directory is available in career services.
- Start writing your personal statement and submit it to your pre-med advisor for review. **Allow plenty of time** for several rewrites.
- Continue your **volunteer work**. Take responsibility of understanding factors of health care delivery and issues of health care policy.
- Attend health care careers info sessions with emphasis on developing (1) personal goals in medicine and (2) your passion for medicine.
- Participate in the mock medical school admissions interview program in career services.
- Continue medically-focused research.
- **Submit AMCAS application as early as possible.** June 1 is the first day for submission.
- Request non-AMCAS school applications directly from schools.
- Arrange for substantive medical experience during summer break or winter break.
- Contact and meet those whom you identified to write recommendation letters (min. of 2 Reed tenure-track science faculty, internships and research supervisors, other medical doctors who know your work.).
- See guidelines for **letters of recommendation** on health careers webpage.
- Keep in close contact with your academic adviser for an honest appraisal of your academic performance and options.

## YEAR FOUR

- Update your medical school prep in a meeting with your pre-med advisers.
- During the first month of school, complete any application requirements still pending AMCAS, etc.
- Attend health care careers sessions. Emphasize developing (1) personal goals in medicine and (2) your passion for medicine.
- Complete and submit secondary applications ASAP (within 2 weeks of receipt).
- Continue in ongoing **volunteer work**.
- Take responsibility of understanding factors of health care delivery and issues of health care policy.
- Schedule interviews/campus visits as appropriate.
- Participate in a formal mock medical school interview offered through career services as a way to prepare for interviews.
- Chose between medical school offers by designated date in mid May.
- Finish all academic requirements/graduate!