PREPODIATRY INFORMATION SUMMARY

PreProfessional Advising Information

Email: ppa@advising.utah.edu (For Quick Questions)

Office Location: Building 44 (Second Floor)

Website: ppa.utah.edu

Make an appt!

Podiatry School Basics

Podiatry School
- Year 1 & 2: Didactic Years (Class Instruction)
- Year 3 & 4: Clinical Rotations

Surgical Residency (After Podiatry School): 3-4 years

Degree Conferred:
DPM (Doctor of Podiatric Medicine)

DPMs are physicians who specialize in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of lower extremity disorders, diseases, and injuries.

Get involved in activities (in- and outside the classroom) to help you answer the question "why Podiatry" and prepare you for success in your podiatry program and career:

Academic Preparation

Ensure you're academically prepared for the intensity of podiatry school

- A bachelor's degree is not required but often preferred. Discuss with your PPA advisor.
- Complete podiatry school prerequisites
- Competitive applicants have high GPAs, so build and strengthen your time management skills
- Any major is appropriate; make sure to pick the right fit for you, and study what you love!

Service to the Community

Demonstrate a commitment to humanity by selflessly serving others

Service will strengthen your interpersonal communication, teamwork, and time management skills. This does not have to be strictly in the health field. Have fun and get involved!

Bennion Center
bennioncenter.utah.edu

Demonstrate your knowledge, skills and preparation

Leadership and Teamwork

Podiatrists are both leaders and team members with patients, colleagues, etc.

Examples of leadership include coaching, teaching, tutoring, mentoring, TA/LA, supervising, being an club officer, student advisory board, and many more.)

Shadowing and Clinical Experience with Podiatrists

This should be one of your first experiences as a prepodiatry student. Observing podiatrists will help you gather the information you need to fully commit to the profession, and to learn about the variety of podiatry specialties. Interacting well with sick or injured people is one of the key indicators of a successful healthcare provider.

Podiatry experience is very important to your application. Most students gain this experience by shadowing a general podiatrist for more than a semester.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND INFORMATION

Start Saving NOW!

Applying to podiatry school is expensive. The application fee for AACPMAS is $200, which includes applying to one school; each additional school is $65. **These fees will increase each year.** Secondary applications may carry their own fees. Factoring in application fees, MCAT prep and registration, the cost of traveling for in-person interviews, and more, we recommend students to prepare to spend a few thousand dollars for the application process. AACPMAS offers a limited number of fee waivers for qualified applicants on a first-come, first served basis.

APPLICATION DETAILS

There are currently **11 accredited podiatry schools in the US**. All podiatry schools participate in AACPMAS. Standardized application, links to podiatry schools, and much more are available on the American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine: aacpm.org.

Podiatry programs admit students once a year, most commonly for fall matriculation. Your AACPMAS application becomes available in August each year, and the final deadline is June 30 of each year, for that year's entering class. However, as schools accept students on a rolling admissions basis, it's advisable to apply in the fall or winter, well before the deadline. Applications received by March 1 will be given priority consideration.

Do your research!

It is your responsibility to ensure you are meeting all requirements for the schools you are interested in. When selecting podiatry programs, we recommend that you look at schools that align with your interests: location, size, student/faculty ratio, representation, etc.

AACPMAS (Americal Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine Application Service)

All United States podiatry schools utilize AACPMAS.

- Application requirements include transcripts, extracurricular experiences, a personal statement, and fees
- Many schools use a rolling admissions process (meaning they begin reviewing applications and admitting students before the deadlines). It will benefit you greatly to *submit your application early*.
- The application will take most students several weeks to complete. Ensure you have plenty of time to fill out the application.

The MCAT

The MCAT is a 7.5 hour standardized exam students take for admission into podiatry school. It has four sections: Biological & Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems, Chemical & Physical Foundations of Living Systems, Psychological, Social, & Biological Foundations of Behavior, and Critical Analysis & Reasoning Skills.

COST and REGISTRATION: The exam costs over $300. If paying for the MCAT is beyond your means, look into the AAMC's Fee Assistance Program. The MCAT is offered about eight months out of the year. When you will take the exam depends on many factors. Register in October for Jan-June MCAT dates, and in February for July-September dates. Meet with a PPA advisor to discuss the best plan for you.

PREP and SCORING: There are a variety of ways to prep for taking the MCAT. You can purchase a test prep book, utilize free resources online, or purchase a study course through a test prep company. MCAT score ranges from 472-528. It takes about a month to receive your score.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Register and Study				**Take the MCAT**												
Request and Gather LORs																
						Apply										
	Ideal							**Interviews**								
	Possible								**Acceptances**							

APPLICATION DETAILS

Letters of Recommendation (LORs)

PLAN AHEAD: Podiatry schools require LORs as part of your application. Get to know the people you interact with (professors, supervisors, etc.) You're not looking for good letters; you need excellent letters. Get these by building and maintaining your relationships. Letters must be current, signed, dated, and on letterhead. To facilitate this process, use the free AACPMAS 'Letters by Liaison' letter service.

LETTER TYPES: AACPMAS allows students to submit a maximum of three letters; if you want to submit more, send those additional letters directly to your programs. The following are common types of letters required by podiatry most schools. However, requirements vary by school, so *do your research*.

- **Science Professor**
- **Science/Non-Science Professor**
- **Podiatrist**
- **Podiatrist/Supervisor**

WICHE: Western Interstate Commission of Higher Education

WICHE enables Utah residents to enroll in out-of-state professional programs at reduced tuition. For more information about WICHE, please visit wiche.edu. Apply to WICHE when you apply to podiatry schools.

POLICIES and CONSIDERATIONS

AP/IB CREDIT	Depends on program. If accepted, coursework beyond AP/IB required.
REPEATS	AACPMAS will count all courses in your GPA.
WITHDRAWALS	Although W's will not affect your GPA, W's should be used sparingly. Work with your advisor.
BACHELOR'S DEGREE	Not required; however must complete a minimum of three years or 90 credits.
COMMUNITY COLLEGE CREDIT	Many podiatry schools limit the credits taken at a community college to 60 credits.

Helpful Resources

- **American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine (AACPM): aacpm.org**
- **Western Interstate Commission of Higher Education (WICHE): wiche.edu**

PrePodiatry Prerequisite Course Guide

Requirements vary by school. **It is your responsibility to do your own research on each podiatry school you apply to.** AP coursework may or not be accepted. If accepted, coursework beyond AP is often required.

Shaded boxes indicate the classes most commonly required by podiatry schools.
Bolded classes may be taken at a community college. However, not all podiatry schools will accept community college prereqs.

MATH

MATH 1050 (4)
College Algebra
&
MATH 1060 (3)
Trigonometry
Can be substituted with MATH 1080, 1210, or higher

Please note: Consult both your major and PPA advisors to determine appropriate placement and course selection.

BIOLOGY

BIOL 1610 (4) **Fundamentals of Biology I** *Prereq: MATH 1010*	BIOL 2325 (4) Human Anatomy *Prereq: BIOL 1610*	BIOL 2420 (4) Human Physiology *Prereq: BIOL 1610 and CHEM 1210*	CHEM/BIOL 3510 (3) Biochemistry *PreReq: CHEM 2310 Recommended: CHEM 2320 and BIOL 2020*
*The following biology courses **may be** required or recommended, and any of these courses fulfill general biology requirements for podiatry school:* **BIOL 1620** *Fundamentals of Biology II,* **BIOL 2020** *Cell Bio,* **BIOL 2030** *Genetics,* **BIOL 2210** *Human Genetics,* **PATH 3100** *Medical Microbiology*			

BIOLOGY NOTE: *Most podiatry schools require two biology labs. BIOL 2325 (Human Anatomy) or BIOL 2425 (Human Physiology lab) can count for one lab at most schools. The second lab can be fulfilled by any other biology lab; BIOL 1615 is one recommended option.*

CHEMISTRY

CHEM 1210 (4) **CHEM 1215 (1)** **General Chemistry I and Lab** *PreReq: MATH 1050*	**CHEM 1220 (4)** **CHEM 1225 (1)** **General Chemistry II and Lab** *PreReq: CHEM 1210*	CHEM 2310 (4) CHEM 2315 (2) Organic Chemistry I and Lab *PreReq: CHEM 1220*	CHEM 2320 (4) CHEM 2325 (2) Organic Chemistry II and Lab *PreReq: CHEM 2310*	CHEM/BIOL 3510 (3) Biochemistry *PreReq: CHEM 2310 Recommended: CHEM 2320 and BIOL 2020*
Optional Chemistry Prep Courses • *CHEM 1208 (1): Intro to Periodic Table*		• *CHEM 1200 (4): Prep for College Chemistry* • *CHEM 2308 (1): Intro to Organic Chem*		

PHYSICS

PHYS 2010 (4) PHYS 2015 (1) General Physics I and Lab *PreReq: MATH 1060*	PHYS 2020 (4) PHYS 2025 (1) General Physics II and Lab *PreReq: PHYS 2010*	**OR**	PHYS 2210 (4) PHYS 2215 (1) Physics for Scientists & Engineers I and Lab *PreReq: MATH 1210*	PHYS 2220 (4) PHYS 2225 (1) Physics for Scientists & Engineers II and Lab *PreReq: MATH 1220, PHYS 2210*

Please note: Consult both your major and PPA advisors for the correct lecture and lab sequence.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Two Semesters Writing (**WRTG 2010** and CW) *PreReq: WRTG 1010*	One **Psychology** Course *Check with each program for specifics*

Updated: April 2025