

Applying to Medical School: The Undergraduate Timeline

Option A (Direct Entry)

FROSH

FALL/WINTER/SPRING	SUMMER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Take entry-level classes aligned with a Pre-Health Major. ❑ Make a four-year plan and ensure that all the pre-med pre-requisites will be met by graduation. ❑ Explore Pre-Health clubs, volunteer opportunities, and other student organizations at UCSC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Continue investigating entry-level medical opportunities by working or volunteering in the medical field. ❑ Begin looking into internships of interest for future summers. ❑ Take any necessary summer courses for staying on track with the four-year plan.

SOPHOMORE

FALL/WINTER/SPRING	SUMMER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Continue to pursue meaningful clinical experience and medically related activities/volunteer work. ❑ Begin developing positive relationships with faculty and professional mentors on campus for possible future LORs. ❑ Apply for summer internships in the medical field or in research. ❑ Begin to explore the med school application process online and which programs are of interest to you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Continue working or volunteering in the medical field, ideally in an internship. ❑ Investigate the medical school application process in more detail, and make a personal timeline and plan for applying during the next year. ❑ Study for the MCAT ❑ Take the MCAT if ready

JUNIOR

FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Take the MCAT if still needed ❑ Identify faculty/mentors who could write LOR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Retake the MCAT if needed (Jan) ❑ Begin securing LORs (collect letters via Interfolio) ❑ Begin drafting your personal statement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ AAMCAS opens (May) ❑ Retake the MCAT (Mar/Apr) (<u>only if necessary</u>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ SUBMIT APPLICATION (June) ❑ Secondaries (July)

SENIOR

FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Interviews 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Interviews ❑ Finish any Pre-Med classes ❑ Submit the FAFSA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Decision letters ❑ Graduate! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Prepare for medical school!

Option B (Gap Year)

FROSH

FALL/WINTER/SPRING	SUMMER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Take entry-level classes aligned with a Pre-Health Major. ❑ Make a four-year plan and ensure that all the pre-med pre-requisites will be met by graduation. ❑ Explore Pre-Health clubs, volunteer opportunities, and other student organizations at UCSC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Continue investigating entry-level medical opportunities by working or volunteering in the medical field. ❑ Begin looking into internships of interest for future summers. ❑ Take any necessary summer courses for staying on track with the four-year plan.

SOPHOMORE

FALL/WINTER/SPRING	SUMMER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Continue to pursue meaningful clinical experience and medically related activities/volunteer work. ❑ Begin developing positive relationships with faculty and professional mentors on campus for possible future LORs. ❑ Apply for summer internships in the medical field or in research. ❑ Begin to explore the med school application process online and which programs are of interest to you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Continue working or volunteering in the medical field, ideally in an internship, clinical experience, or research position. ❑ Investigate the medical school application process in more detail, and make a personal timeline and plan for applying during the next year.

JUNIOR

FALL/WINTER/SPRING	SUMMER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Complete third-year courses on par with four-year Pre-Med plan. ❑ Pursue leadership positions within Pre-Health extracurriculars/volunteer work, and consider getting into a research position on campus in a Pre-Health field. ❑ Make a personal timeline and plan for applying to medical school during the next year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Continue working or volunteering in the medical field, ideally in an internship, clinical experience, or research position. If you have no clinical experience thus far, <u>now is a good time to start!</u> ❑ If you plan to take the MCAT during the summer, prepare. ❑ Take the MCAT if ready.

SENIOR

FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Take the MCAT if still needed ❑ Identify faculty/mentors who could write LOR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Retake MCAT if needed ❑ Begin securing LORs (collect letters via Interfolio) ❑ Begin drafting your personal statement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ AAMCAS opens (May) ❑ Graduate! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ SUBMIT APPLICATION (June) ❑ Secondaries (July)

GAP YEAR

FALL/WINTER/SPRING	SUMMER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Interviews ❑ Continue clinical service and research experience ❑ Work, save money, travel, relax! ❑ Decision letters arrive (Spring) ❑ Submit FAFSA (Winter/Spring) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Prepare for medical school!