

Allied Medical Professions General Information

The term allied medical (or allied health) professions describes a group of disciplines that assists and complements the work of physicians and other health care specialists. Allied health professionals work together to provide safe, timely, and effective patient care and related services. Many of the allied health professions have developed or expanded in the past 15 to 20 years in response to the rapid advancements in health care technologies.

Pursuing Allied Medical Professions at Ohio State

Students intending to major in one of the allied health professions may declare their intention on their Ohio State freshman application, or they may select "Allied Medical Professions Undecided." Such students are admitted to the university and enrolled in the School of Allied Medical Professions (AMP) for their preprofessional course work and may be considered for admission to their individual programs near the end of their freshman year. Students who wish to pursue the Doctor of Physical Therapy or Masters in Occupational Therapy need to select an undergraduate major and may receive guidance from AMP faculty and staff in making an appropriate choice. See the Pre-Physical Therapy or the Pre-Occupational Therapy major sheets.

Transfer students and those who have already completed a baccalaureate degree may complete prerequisite courses at their home institutions and apply for admission to the professional program.

Admission to all majors in allied medical professions is on a selective basis. A minimum 2.5 cumulative point-hour ratio (CPHR) is required for admission to any undergraduate allied medical professions program; however, overall CPHRs of students admitted are significantly higher for most programs. Due to space and clinical limitations, not all qualified students who apply can be admitted. The best applicants among all who apply for admission in a given year will be selected. There are no waiting lists for admission; students who do not gain admission may reapply the following year. Students seeking admission to the most competitive programs are encouraged to investigate alternative majors and/or programs at other institutions.

Freshman- and sophomore-level courses required for each allied medical professions major vary, so students must seek out the information specific to the major they intend to pursue. (This Major Series includes a one-page summary of each of the different undergraduate AMP majors, a Pre-Physical Therapy sheet, and a Pre-Occupational Therapy sheet, describing how a student may prepare to enter these graduate-level programs.) Because many of these programs are undergoing curriculum changes, students are strongly encouraged to look at the AMP web site from time to time at amp.osu.edu for complete, up-to-date information. Courses in chemistry, physics, biology, psychology, and anatomy are required for most programs.

For more information, check these web sites:

Allied Medical Professions: amp.osu.edu
College of Medicine: medicine.osu.edu
Ohio State: osu.edu

Allied Health Majors

The Ohio State University offers various undergraduate allied health majors that all lead to the Bachelor of Science in Allied Health Professions degree and two entry-level graduate programs (the Doctor of Physical Therapy and the Masters of Occupational Therapy). The different undergraduate majors in AMP and brief descriptions about each are listed below.

Athletic Training

Athletic trainers work with physicians to provide sports medicine care to athletes and the physically active. They focus on injury prevention and acute injury care as well as comprehensive rehabilitation and reconditioning.

Biomedical Science

Biomedical Science is a major for Honors students who have an interest in medical research and human diseases. These students intend to pursue graduate education in health care, medical research, biomedical engineering, or similar fields. Students are admitted into the major as incoming freshmen. For more details, visit medicine.osu.edu/bms.

Circulation Technology (Perfusion)

Circulation technologists operate the life-support equipment that sustains patients through open-heart, transplant, and bypass surgeries. They also monitor patients during various diagnostic procedures.

Health Information Management and Systems (HIMS)

Health information administrators work with health care data and information (computer) systems. HIMS professionals can be found in a variety of health care settings. They manage the people and information systems that support the appropriate use of health care data. Their work is vital to providing quality health care.

Health Sciences

Students majoring in Health Sciences receive a comprehensive background in health care and may elect concentrations in Health Management or Health and Wellness. They are prepared to enter a wide variety of entry-level positions in health care and are also well prepared for graduate-level education in health-related fields such as Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy, Optometry, and Medical School.

Medical Dietetics

Registered dietitians assess nutritional needs, provide nutritional intervention, and help individuals prevent disease through good dietary practices. They also manage food service in health care or commercial settings.

Medical Technology (Clinical Laboratory Science)

Medical technologists are part of the medical team of specialists who work together to diagnose and monitor diseases. They

Admissions: undergrad.osu.edu
Multicultural Center: multiculturalcenter.osu.edu
First Year Experience: fye.osu.edu

perform a full range of laboratory tests—from simple premarital blood tests to more complex tests used to detect cancer, AIDS/HIV, and diabetes.

Occupational Therapy

Occupational therapists develop and use treatment programs to help people with physical, emotional, and mental disabilities learn to perform the tasks of daily living.

Physical Therapy

Physical therapists help people overcome or adjust to physical disabilities caused by injury, illness, or birth defects. They use a variety of techniques to relieve pain, increase mobility, and improve function.

Radiologic Sciences and Therapy

Radiologic sciences and therapy professionals use radiation for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes. Radiographers, radiation therapists, and diagnostic medical sonographers are skilled in utilizing ionizing and nonionizing radiation to create images of the body's internal structures as well as provide clinically recommended treatments. These professionals utilize computerized images of tissue, organs, bones, and vessels of the body to monitor disease and the extent of pathology. Often these professionals interact closely with a variety of patients to provide them with associated primary health care.

Respiratory Therapy

Respiratory therapists are cardiopulmonary specialists who provide care to patients of all ages who have disorders such as asthma, emphysema, and trauma. Therapists work in home care, intensive care units, emergency departments, diagnostic laboratories, community hospitals, and clinics. They perform cardiopulmonary diagnostic tests, provide life support to premature infants, administer airway medications and medical gases, assure lung inflation and airway hygiene, monitor cardiopulmonary status, perform CPR, and apply ventilatory life support technology.

More About Allied Medical Professions

The School of Allied Medical Professions is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. In addition, individual programs are accredited by their professional accrediting bodies. All programs in the School of Allied Medical Professions feature the following:

- a personal approach to teaching and learning in small class sizes
- clinical affiliations with major medical centers throughout the eastern United States and the Midwest
- hands-on experience in the student's profession
- broad opportunities for research and honors projects
- class and school organizations as well as student chapters of professional organizations
- opportunities for leadership and growth in professional development
- nearly 100 percent graduation and placement rate

Co-Curricular Opportunities

Ohio State offers many opportunities for students to learn and grow outside of the classroom. More than 100 study abroad

programs in 40 countries around the world are available. In addition, there are hundreds of student organizations on campus to meet the interests of a diverse student population. These include the SAMP Student Council, student clubs for the various majors, and the Pre-DPT/MOT Club. In addition, students interested in the Allied Medical Professions may choose a living-learning environment specifically designed to meet their needs and interests. All programs in the Allied Medical Professions include internships and clinical experiences which are arranged individually with clinical sites experienced in offering the best clinical instruction available.

Honors & Scholars Programs

Ohio State offers the Honors & Scholars programs to create an environment of intellectual support and stimulation within a close-knit community of high-ability undergraduate students. Through these programs, students have access to smaller classes, undergraduate research opportunities, close working relationships with faculty, priority scheduling, and unique housing options. Students interested in the Allied Medical Professions may also choose to participate in the Health Sciences Scholars Program which brings together students with interests in all of the many health programs offered at Ohio State.

Honors & Scholars programs represent great opportunities to be part of a smaller community within a large university. Good candidates for these programs will receive additional information after admission to the university. Learn more about the Honors & Scholars program at honors-scholars.osu.edu.

Career Prospects in Allied Medical Professions

Recent reports by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor projects that the demand for health care professionals will increase by 30.3 percent from 2004 to 2014. Employment in health care and social assistance is projected to be the highest of all industries in the United States and there is an expected increase of 3.6 million jobs in health care by 2014. A college education in a health profession can lead to a career in a clinical setting, research, teaching, business, management, and other options. It is also excellent preparation for graduate and/or professional school.

Apply to Ohio State

Students wishing to apply to Ohio State may apply on-line by visiting undergrad.osu.edu/apply.html or by contacting Undergraduate Admissions at (614) 292-3980 or askabuckeye@osu.edu. Students may be admitted to the School of Allied Medical Professions as a pre-major.

Students who have met admission criteria (such as prerequisite courses) for their intended major and are ready to begin professional coursework will apply to their professional program online at professional.osu.edu/alliedmed.asp. For detailed information specific to all major programs in the School of Allied Medical Professions, visit amp.osu.edu.

Revised August 2008. For the most recent information on programs in the allied medical professions, visit amp.osu.edu.

Contact information:

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