

# PODIATRY SCHOOL GENERAL TIMELINE



*This is a general timeline for traditional pre-podiatry students who plan to matriculate into podiatry school after graduating from a four-year university. It is to be used for general guidance and should not be used as an ultimate guide. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic counselors to map out a strategic academic blueprint.*

## YEAR 1

- Talk to your academic counselor and/or pre-health advisor to strategically plan out your college career.
- Try to gain some type of exposure to podiatric medicine.
- Join campus organizations that can help you develop leadership skills. If it exists, join a club that provides support to pre-podiatry students.
- Make sure to research into podiatry schools to learn about their specific requirements. There are nine total podiatry schools in the US.
- It will be important to develop relationships with your professors because you will need them to write you letters of recommendations.
- Make sure you are keeping up with pre-podiatry and school-related courses.

## SUMMER AFTER YEAR 1

- Take summer courses if needed and/or for enrichment. Talk to your pre-health advisor to determine the best way to take advantage of your summer. As a pre-podiatry student, you should use your summers productively to build up your resume.
- Try to obtain a position in a podiatry clinic.

## YEAR 2

- Continue talking with your academic counselor and/or pre-health advisor to make sure you are on track to get into podiatry school.
- If you have not done so already, obtain a volunteer, research, intern, or work position which will give you exposure to podiatric medicine. Talk to your counselors and/or advisors to see what the best opportunities available are for you.
- Continue to develop relationships with your college's faculty. Remember that you will need letters of recommendation from people who can comment on your academic abilities.
- Continue to partake in campus organizations that can help you seem like a well-rounded student.
- Make sure you are keeping up and doing well in your pre-podiatry and school-specific courses. Remember your GPA is one of the most important, if not most important, factor in your podiatry school admissions.
- All colleges of podiatric medicine require the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT). However, a couple of schools may accept the Dental Admission Test (DAT). Make sure to research into the standardized tests.
- Consider when you want to enroll in podiatry school. If you want to enroll soon after you graduate college, you need to start applying after your third year/fourth year. If you want to take a year off (called a gap year), you can apply after your senior year.

## SUMMER AFTER YEAR 2

- By now you should have had some exposure to podiatric medicine. Continue working, interning, or volunteering at your current position. You may also consider applying for a better position if one exists.
- Consider taking summer courses if needed and/or for enrichment. Make sure to take advantage of every summer.
- If you want to apply for podiatry school the summer after your third year/fourth year, you should know by now when you want to take the MCAT.

## YEAR 3

- Continue talking with your academic counselor and/or pre-health advisor to make sure you are on track to get into podiatry school. You should have determined by now whether you want to apply after your third year/fourth year or after your fourth year of college.
- Continue to gain experience working in a podiatric medicine setting.
- If possible, try to obtain leadership positions. Consider running for a leadership position of a campus organization or being part of your school's student body association.
- Think about which professors and/or professionals you want to ask for letters of recommendation. It is crucial that you consider this way before they are due.
- Make a list of all the colleges of podiatric medicine you are considering and make sure you have a good grasp on the specific requirements of all your potential schools.
- You should know when you want to apply for podiatry school. Plan your standardized tests accordingly.
- Make sure you are keeping up and doing well in your pre-podiatry and school-specific courses.

## SUMMER AFTER YEAR 3

- Continue working in a podiatric medicine setting.
- Make sure you are keeping up with your pre-podiatry and school-specific courses.

## YEAR 4

- Continue meeting with your counselor or advisor to make sure you are doing everything you need to get into podiatry school.
- If you applied for podiatry school already, start preparing for potential interviews.
- If you received acceptances, research the different schools to see which one fits you best.
- If you are applying for podiatry school after your senior year, make sure that you take the MCAT and start preparing your application materials. Make sure to ask for your letters of recommendations as early as possible. If there are any questions, consult your counselor or advisor.
- Continue your involvement in meaningful extracurricular activities.
- Make sure you are keeping up and doing well in your pre-podiatry and school-specific courses. Complete all your requirements and declare for graduation.

## SUMMER AFTER GRADUATION

- If you are enrolling in podiatry school in the fall, prepare for podiatry school by purchasing books, making living arrangements, talking with current students, etc.
- If applying during this time, make sure to collect all your application materials and apply. You want to apply as early as possible.
- Continue your involvement in meaningful extracurricular activities if possible.
- Talk to your counselor and/or advisor to make sure you have done everything you possible could do to succeed.