



PROFESSION OVERVIEW

Chiropractors are licensed healthcare professionals who treat conditions related to the nerves, bones, muscles, ligaments, and tendons. They use spinal adjustments and other manual techniques to manage issues such as back and neck pain.



LENGTH OF PROGRAM (depending on specialty)

- **Medical School:** Four Years
- **Residency:** Three - Seven Years
- **Fellowship:** One - Three Years

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Chiropractic prerequisites vary greatly between programs, but are often quite flexible. It's important that you refer to specific program websites or the Association of Chiropractic Colleges (ACC; www.chirocolleges.org). Below are a few courses that will provide a strong science foundation for Chiropractic programs.

***It is the applicant's responsibility to verify all prerequisite courses, requirements, and application deadlines for each school they plan to apply to.**

One year of general biology*	BIOL 101/BIOL 102 or BIOL 107/108
One year of general chemistry	CHEM 201/CHEM 202
Organic chemistry	CHEM 311/312
One year of physics	PHYS 101/102 or PHYS 105
Introductory psychology	PSYC 100

Schools may require English, additional social science, cell biology, genetics, math and/or other courses such as Medical Terminology

***ALL first year Biology students are required to complete Biol 101/102 instead of Biol 107/108**

KEY COMPONENTS OF A COMPETITIVE OT SCHOOL APPLICATION

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Overall and science GPA | • GRE scores |
| • Extracurricular activities | • Medically-related experiences |
| • Research experiences | • Community service |
| • Leadership experiences | • Letters of recommendation |
| • Strong Interview | • Personal statement |

APPLICATION TIMELINE

Your timeline for applying to chiropractic school should reflect your readiness: academically, personally, and professionally. While some students apply in the summer before senior year to start medical school right after graduation, others benefit from a more flexible timeline.

For students who need additional time to build a strong foundation in the sciences or adjust to college-level coursework, starting General Chemistry in the sophomore year and applying after senior year is an alternative timeline.

This approach may lead to stronger academic performance and a more confident CCAT preparation. Taking a gap year and applying in senior year does not put students at a disadvantage. Applicants may use that time to gain clinical exposure, develop professional skills, clarify their goals, and shore up weaker areas on their application.

For more information, visit [Make the Most of Your Gap Year](#).

APPLICATION SERVICE

The **Chiropractic Centralized Application Service (ChiroCAS)** is the application platform for most U.S. chiropractic programs. Applicants submit one primary application through ChiroCAS, which is then distributed to participating schools.

Please note that individual schools may have additional requirements or separate deadlines. Visit www.portal.chirocas.org for key dates and always verify timelines with each school.

STANDARDIZED TEST

Standardized tests are not commonly required for admission to chiropractic programs, though a few schools may require the **Chiropractic College Aptitude Test (CCAT)**. Students are encouraged to review program-specific requirements early in the application process, as testing policies vary by institution. For information on admissions requirements and whether the CCAT is required, visit individual chiropractic school websites.

There is currently no national standardized exam required across all chiropractic schools. If required, the CCAT may assess skills in the following areas:

- **READING COMPREHENSION**
- **QUANTITATIVE REASONING**
- **CRITICAL THINKING**

(SCORE FORMAT AND AVAILABILITY MAY VARY BY INSTITUTION.)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Association of Chiropractic Colleges (www.chirocollege.org)
- The Council on Chiropractic Education (www.cce-usa.org)
- American Chiropractic Association (www.acatoday.org)



Promoting Excellence and Assuring Quality
in Chiropractic Education



ASSOCIATION
OF
CHIROPRACTIC
COLLEGES



A M E R I C A N
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Handshake is your one-stop source for internship and job postings, campus recruiting, career fairs, and career center resources. Once you're on the login page, enter your iwu.edu email address and click next. If you are already in the system, then you can just select "IWU Single Sign-on" and enter your IWU net-ID and password.

Please visit www.iwu.edu/career-center/handshake for more information on Handshake.