# CHIROPRACTIC MEDICINE

Doctor of Chiropractic (DC)



#### **PROFESSION OVERVIEW**

Chiropractors treat patients with health problems with nerves, bones, muscles, ligaments, and tendons. They use spinal adjustments and manipulation, as well as other clinical interventions, to manage patients' health concerns, such as back and neck pain.

#### LENGTH OF PROGRAM

Typically, chiropractic programs are four year programs



#### **COURSE 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.

# Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the applicant to know the exact requirements and deadlines for each school to which they apply.

- One year of general biology\* BIOL 101/BIOL 102 or BIOL 107/108
- One year of general chemistry CHEM 201/CHEM 202

Other suggested, but not always required, courses:

- Organic chemistry CHEM 311/312
- One year of physics PHYS 101/102 or PHYS 105
- Introductory psychology PSYC 100
- Add'l courses in the social science or humanities

\*Only Biology majors should take BIOL 101/102; all others should enroll in BIOL 107/108.

#### **ADMISSION CRITERIA**

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

#### **APPLICATION TIMELINE**

The application timeline is unique depending on when you are prepared and ready to pursue chiropractic school. If you plan to apply directly after graduating from IWU, you'll want to complete the prerequisite courses by the end of your junior year and apply during the summer before senior year. If you choose to take a gap year, you should complete your prerequisites by the end of your senior year and can then apply the summer after graduation OR whenever you are ready.

Students today are often waiting a year or more after graduation before applying to a health professions school. This does not put the applicant at a disadvantage; many programs look favorably upon applicants who have taken an extra year or two to mature and gain work experience, and who can make a better decision regarding a career in health professions; see **"Make the Most of Your Gap Year"** (https://students residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/article/making-most-your-gap-year/).

### **APPLICATION SERVICE**

Chiropractic Centralized Application Service (ChiroCAS; www.portal.chirocas.org) outlines critical dates for the application cycle. However, check with the application service and chiropractic schools of interest for deadlines.

#### STANDARDIZED TEST

Many chiropractic schools do not require any standardized test for admission. However, depending on the school, the Chiropractic College Aptitude Test (CCAT) may be required. Be sure to consult the program website to determine if the CCAT is required.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

- Association of Chiropractic Colleges (www.chirocollege.org)
- The Council on Chiropractic Education (www.cce-usa.org)
- American Chiropractic Association (www.acatoday.org)
- Reference books at the Hart Career Center







Promoting Excellence and Assuring Quality in Chiropractic Education





Don't forget to check out Handshake!

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.

W ILLINOIS WESLEYAN For more information or to make an appointment contact the Pre-Health & Biology Career Advisor, Michele Darnell.

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